

Welcome to Aardvark's environmental news briefing

- **'Cheapest option': South Australia reveals plan for world's largest solar thermal power plant:** The largest solar thermal energy plant in the world is set to be built in South Australia, after the state government declared that it represented the "cheapest option" available. ([businessgreen.com](http://businessgreen.com) 01/01/2018)
  - **Shoppers could have to pay 5p tax on a bottle of water to tackle plastic waste crisis, says Theresa May:** Shoppers could be forced to pay a 5p tax on single use plastic bottles to help clean up the environment, Theresa May has said. ([telegraph.co.uk](http://telegraph.co.uk) 07/01/2018)
  - **North Sea Wind Power Hub to supply renewable energy to 80 million:** The North Sea Wind Power Hub, an artificial island in the North Sea that could supply renewable energy to 80 million people in Europe is set to open in 2027. The hub will send electricity via long-distance cables to six European countries. ([digitaljournal.com](http://digitaljournal.com) 06/01/2018)
  - **Pollution hotspots revealed: Check your area:** Marylebone Road and Hyde Park Corner, both in central London, have the most polluted postcodes in Britain, says a new study on air quality. The data comes from a project to map concentrations of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) across the country. ([bbc.co.uk](http://bbc.co.uk) 10/01/2018)
  - **Coffee chains under growing pressure to reveal true extent of plastic pollution:** Leading high street coffee chains have been urged to come clean about the amount of plastic waste they produce after they refused to release details about the number of throwaway cups sold in their shops. ([independent.co.uk](http://independent.co.uk) 07/01/2018)
  - **UK's largest battery storage portfolio unveiled:** The UK's biggest portfolio of utility-scale enhanced frequency response battery storage sites has been completed. ([edie.net](http://edie.net) 08/01/2018)
  - **Plastic microbeads ban enters force in UK:** Manufacturing ban means the tiny beads which harm marine life can no longer be used in cosmetics and personal care products. ([theguardian.com](http://theguardian.com) 09/01/2018)
  - **Northern Forest: Plan to plant 'ribbon of woodland' across England:** Plans to create a new Northern Forest stretching from Liverpool to Hull have been kick-started by the government. It is providing £5.7m to increase tree cover along a belt spanning Manchester, Leeds and Bradford. ([bbc.co.uk](http://bbc.co.uk) 07/01/2018)
- and finally...**
- **Loud orgies of Mexican fish could deafen dolphins, say scientists:** A species of Mexican fish amasses in reproductive orgies so loud they can deafen other sea animals, awed scientists have said, calling for preservation of the "spectacle" threatened by overfishing. ([theguardian.com](http://theguardian.com) 20/12/2017)

Latest news from the Aardvark team

Ofgem have released new guidance relating to how to ensure the integration of energy storage into existing ROC and FiT accredited schemes. This comes at a great time for owners of operational renewable assets who are looking to increase revenues, as it makes provision for intermittent renewable energy sources to supply targeted energy when demand exists. Click [here](#) to view the full story. For all the Aardvark news go to [www.aardvarkem.co.uk](http://www.aardvarkem.co.uk).

