

Welcome to Aardvark's environmental news briefing

- **Climate change tipping point could be coming sooner than we think:** A new study confirms the urgency to tackle climate change, this study is the first to quantify the effects through the 21st century and demonstrates that wetter-than-normal years do not compensate for losses in carbon uptake during dryer-than-normal years, caused by events such as droughts or heatwaves. (sciencedaily.com 23/01/2019)
- **UK team drills record West Antarctic hole:** UK scientists have succeeded in cutting a 2km hole through the West Antarctic Ice Sheet to its base. It's the deepest anyone has gone in the region using a hot-water drill. (bbc.co.uk 24/01/2019)
- **North Sea rocks could act as large-scale underwater renewable energy stores, study finds:** 'This method could make it possible to store renewable energy produced in the summer for those chilly winter nights'. (independent.co.uk 22/01/2019)
- **Every bottle of prosecco may erode 4.4 kilograms of Italian hillside:** The exquisite sloping hillsides of Italy's north-eastern wine region are where some of the world's best prosecco is made. But a big problem is fermenting at the heart of this stunning place. Soil in the vineyards appears to be washing away at an enormous rate. (newscientist.com 19/01/2019)
- **France is doubling down on renewables:** In a plan published on Friday, France said it aims to double its renewable energy capacity in the next decade. It is also doubling down on a promise it made last year to shutter four to six nuclear reactors by 2028. (grist.org 30/01/2019)
- **Fast food giants under fire on climate and water usage:** More than 80 investors have signed a letter to the fast food giants asking them to "enact meaningful policies and targets" to reduce the carbon footprint of their meat and dairy supply chains. (bbc.co.uk 29/01/2019)

and finally...

- **'Amazing' 4,500-year-old stone circle was actually built in 1990s by farmer, admit archaeologists:** When archaeologists announced the discovery of an 'amazing' 4,500-year-old stone circle on an Aberdeenshire farm in December they admitted it was odd that it had remained hidden for so long. (telegraph.co.uk 21/01/2019)

Latest news from the Aardvark team

Aardvark has submitted the last Wind Farm application to the Renewables Obligation scheme, The RO scheme closed to onshore wind on 13th May 2016 but have been accepting applications from wind farm developers that qualify to the applicable Grace Periods until the end of January 2019.

The 6.9MW wind farm is located in Kintyre, Scotland, and had to demonstrate that its late commissioning was caused by involuntary delays in the completion of the Grid Connection works and by temporary investment freeze due to the enactment of the Energy Act 2016. The wind farm meets all three Grace Periods criteria at the same time and the application was successfully submitted before the cut-off date. The application is currently being assessed by Ofgem. For all the Aardvark news go to www.aardvarkem.co.uk.

Click [HERE](#) to view the list of Aardvark technical services and team contacts.

