

Welcome to Aardvark's environmental news briefing

- **UK pilot project mixes “green” hydrogen with natural gas:** A project at Keele University is pumping out a mix of 80% natural gas and 20% hydrogen made by electrolysis from renewable electricity in a shipping container unit. (treehugger.com 06/01/2020)
- **Australian bushfire crisis continues:** With the fire season continuing well into late February the devastation of the fires will continue for a few more months to come. The capital, Canberra, has been left the most polluted city in the world after the knock-on effect from the smoke pollution. (telegraph.co.uk 07/01/2020)
- **Greta Thunberg and extinction rebellion defined a year in climate change:** Recently named Time magazine's Person of the Year, Greta has been making headlines for her recent influence on changing the cultural psyche within climate change. (nbcnews.com 30/12/2019)
- **Despite everything, US emissions dipped in 2019:** Total emissions fell approximately 2% from 2018 according to the Rhodium Group, a research firm that frequently crunches climate numbers. (grist.org 07/01/2020)
- **Wildlife is thriving in Fukushima evacuation zones:** Populations ranging from the wild boar to the red fox and the Japanese hares have soared since the natural disaster. Scientists believe the disappearance of humans from the area has played a major role. (treehugger.com 06/01/2020)
- **Wind power could meet entire world's electricity needs 18 times over:** With bigger turbines, floating platforms, cheapening technology and green policies the wind revolution appears to be growing into a trillion-dollar industry. (independent.co.uk 25/10/2019)
- **Plastic packaging ban ‘could harm environment’:** From glass bottles increasing pollution through transport, to paper bags having higher carbon emissions than plastic bags, the change in packaging laws may not have the desired effect that the public were aiming for. (bbc.co.uk 09/01/2020)

and finally.....

- **Trump claims he never understood wind:** Although the president claims he “knows windmills” and that “[he has] studied it better than anyone [he] knows”, he stated that he never understood wind. This follows from his March interview where he claimed that turbines caused noise cancer. (theguardian.com 24/12/2019)

Latest news from the Aardvark team

Aardvark has expanded their professional team in response to seeing growth in planning consultancy enquiries for large scale infrastructure projects and clients wanting proportionate planning, environmental and consultation advice for all scales of project. An immediate piece of work is advising on the DNS consenting process for a number of solar PV projects in Wales. These Developments of National Significance (DNS) are specific to Wales and are essentially “DCO Lite” planning applications that require a proportionate approach as the DNS process captures energy projects as small as 10MW. For all the Aardvark news go to www.aardvarkem.co.uk.

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

