

Welcome to Aardvark's environmental news briefing

- **Ofgem backs Shetland subsea power cable plans:** The energy regulator Ofgem has approved plans for a subsea power cable which would take energy from Shetland to the Scottish mainland. Ofgem have said that this would allow new wind farms on the island. (bbc.co.uk 23/04/2020)
- **Smog-free skies allow Germany to break Solar Power records:** Germany's solar panels have produced record amounts of electricity. With the photovoltaic plants producing 32,227 MW of energy, nearly 40% of Germany's power was supplied by the solar generated electricity. (Bloomberg.com 20/04/2020)
- **Orsted delays offshore wind farm over permitting issues:** Danish energy giant Orsted has put back the completion of its 120MW Skipjack offshore wind farm off the US east coast by a year due to permitting issues. They are delaying completion from 2022 to 2023. (renews.biz 23/04/2020)
- **Clean air during lockdown leads to 11,000 fewer deaths:** The improvement in air quality over the past month of the COVID-19 lockdown has led to 11,000 fewer deaths from pollution in the UK and Europe. The study also finds less asthma development and preterm births. (theguardian.com 30/04/2020)
- **Solar surge pushes coal from UK energy mix:** With maximised levels of solar generation, the UK grid has delivered a record coal-free period. With clear skies and cool temperatures, coal power has been offline since midnight Friday 10 April 2020. (renews.biz 28/04/2020)
- **£320m deal allows wind farm project to proceed:** A £320m deal has been agreed to allow a 50-turbine wind farm to be built in southern Scotland. Vattenfall has secured backing of infrastructure fund Greencoat to ensure the project proceeds for the South Kyle scheme near Dalmellington. (bbc.co.uk 27/04/2020)

and finally.....

- **Shoes replace protesters as Swiss activists obey virus curbs:** Green activists placed rows of boots and shoes in Zurich square to take the place of protestors who normally come out in person on Fridays to demand action on climate change. (uk.reuters.com 24/04/2020)

Latest news from the Aardvark team

Between March and April 2020, Aardvark EM Ltd succeeded in securing several years of outstanding RHI payments from Ofgem on behalf of four different Anaerobic Digestion operators in the UK. The payments totalled a net worth of £3.8 million, 3 of the operators produce biogas for upgrading to biomethane and injection into the National Gas Grid, whilst the 4th fuels a Combined Heat and Power system which supplies some heat-intense processes on site.

All the AD Plants are accredited to the RHI Scheme but had failed to receive any payments from Ofgem for over three years due to various non-compliance issues. Aardvark first resolved the non-compliance problems, then brought their RHI Accounts up-to-date and finally engaged with Ofgem on behalf of the clients, with the aim of obtaining the payments. After months of negotiations with Ofgem, and previous success in securing smaller payments for other heat generating installations, Aardvark secured all long-outstanding payments at the end of March 2020.

Aardvark AD team not only specialises in on site remedial work – we deliver compliance too.

For all the Aardvark news go to www.aardvarkem.co.uk.

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

