

CAMP FOR CLIMATE ACTION PRESS RELEASES

December 8 – announcing the camp

Media release - for immediate use

8/12/05

From: Camp for Climate Action, info@climatecamp.org.uk

DIY camp to take action on Climate Chaos

A DIY camp this summer will see thousands of people from all over Britain come together to learn about and take action on climate change. The Camp for Climate Action will run from 26th August - 4th September in the North of England and bring together people who believe that not enough is being done to stop climate chaos.

Judy Granton, one of the organisers believes "climate chaos is now the largest threat to the survival of our planet. We can't wait for governments or corporations to stop climate change. There's been lots of talk and too little action. Radical cuts in economic growth and consumption are required and it just isn't in the interest of big business and governments to tackle the root causes of climate change. It's up to all of us to take responsibility and massively reduce our energy consumption now as well as changing the way we are producing energy."

One of the aims of the camp is to demonstrate and experiment with ways we can take action - and anyone with practical ideas and skills in low impact lifestyle and alternative energy is being asked to get involved: "We will be bringing together all the campaigns, projects and people working on the different aspects of climate change - from compost loo builders to anti-roads and airports campaigners, from proponents of veganism to activists protecting peat bogs - all are needed to make this camp happen. We are inviting everyone to get involved in the organising and to come to a public meeting set for Saturday 14 January in the Manchester Environmental Resource Centre (MERCi)". The meeting will run from 11 - 6pm and more information is available on the climate camp's website: www.climatecamp.org.uk (1)

Campaigners involved in organising the camp are drawn from a wide range of climate campaigns and have been inspired by the self-organised eco-village created in protest against the G8 in Stirling July 2006. They aim to create a space that is organised and run by the participants, has a low impact on the environment, and above all, inspires people to take action in their own lives and in wider society.

The announcement of the camp coincides with UN climate talks in Montreal (2) and new scientific evidence that climate change is happening (3). Calls for drastic action are supported by Britain's leading scientist Lord May of Oxford, the president of the Royal Society, who argues that climate change will be as devastating as weapons of mass destruction (4).

For more information please contact Judy Granton or Michelle Harman at info@climatecamp.org.uk

Notes to the Editor:

(1) A public meeting for the Camp for Climate Action will be held at MERCi (Manchester Environmental Resource Centre), Bridge 5 Mill, 22 Beswick St, Ancoats, Manchester M4 7HR. More information is available on our website www.climatecamp.org

(2) World leaders are attending climate talks in Montreal, Canada from 28 November to 9 December, focussing on what happens after 2012 when the current Kyoto Protocol runs out. At present 36 countries are committed to reducing CO2 emissions by 5.2 percent below their 1990 levels by 2012. The US contributes 25% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions but is not part of the Kyoto Protocol and is set to continue pumping out high levels of CO2.

(3) According to research by scientists at the National Oceanography Centre at the University of Southampton published in the journal Nature the Gulf Stream has slowed by 30% since 1992. This could well mean that we will face a new ice age in Britain because the Gulf Stream brings warm water to our coasts and keeps Britain mild in winter. Climate models suggest that if this ground to a halt completely the average temperature in Britain could drop by 10 Degrees Celsius.

(4) Britain's top scientist Lord May, president of the Royal Society and former chief scientist for the Government said that climate change invites comparison with weapons of mass destruction and requires immediate action in an address to the Royal Society on 29 November 2005.

June 10 – first draft of location announcement (was never released)

PRESS RELEASE

EMBARGO: 00.01am Sunday 11th June 2006

Climate Change protest camp location announced.

Thousands of campaigners will gather at <LOCATION> for ten days of direct action targeting major climate criminals.

The Camp for Climate Action, to be held from August 26th to September 4th, will be the launch of a major grassroots movement to tackle climate change. The camp will feature workshops and education about the most important issue facing our society, demonstrations of sustainable ways of living, and direct action tackling the root causes of climate change.

Alison Templeton, from the Camp for Climate Action organising collective, said:

"Climate change is threatening catastrophe, and Government is not taking it seriously. We can't keep waiting until tomorrow, waiting for someone else to deal with this problem. We need to start getting in the way of the major polluters. Given the scale of disaster we are facing, this kind of direct action is as reasonable and as necessary as it gets."

The Camp for Climate Action is inspired by environmental protest camps such as the Newbury Bypass campaign, and the eco-village in Stirling, which was a base for anti-capitalist protests at the G8 in 2005.

Powered by alternative energy, the camp will demonstrate practical solutions in action. A full programme of workshops will offer information and space for debate on the science and politics of climate change. There will also be practical skills to learn, from alternative technologies that can help eliminate household carbon emissions, to ideas for campaigning on climate change.

Eric Jamieson, another camp organiser, said:

"Climate Change casts a huge shadow over our society. Many people are scared, but it's not too late to act. The Camp for Climate Action will be a key moment in kick-starting radical action required to tackle climate change."

For a full outline of the camp visit: www.climatecamp.org.uk

ENDS

June 18 – location announcements that actually went out

National

Activists to shut down UK's largest power station

ACTIVISTS ANNOUNCE PLANS TO SHUT DOWN THE UK'S LARGEST POWER STATION

June 18th 2006: For immediate release

Thousands of climate change activists will converge on Drax power station - the single largest emitter of carbon dioxide in the UK (1) - for ten days of direct action this summer.

Alison Templeton from the Camp for Climate Action (2) said:
"The only solution to climate change is a drastic cut in our energy consumption. Drax continues to belch out emissions while we are staring catastrophe in the face. It has to go."

Activists are planning a Camp for Climate Action in 'Megawatt Valley', near Leeds, home of Drax, Eggborough and Ferrybridge power stations. The camp promises education about climate change, sustainable living, and direct action targeting those responsible for the worst emissions.

The Camp for Climate Action is inspired by environmental protest camps such as the Newbury Bypass campaign, and the Eco-village in Stirling, which was a base for anti-capitalist protests at the G8 in 2005.

The camp will be held from 26th August - 4th September. Powered by alternative energy, the camp will demonstrate practical solutions in action. The camp will offer information, education and space for debate on the science and politics of tackling climate change. There will be practical skills to learn, from ideas for sustainable living to strategies for taking action.

Activist Zoe Armstrong said: "Climate change casts a huge shadow over our society. Governments and corporations cannot solve this problem for us, it's up to us to act now. The Camp for Climate Action will be a key moment in kick-starting the radical action that is needed to tackle climate change."

For more information visit:

www.climatecamp.org.uk

Contact:

0794 458 6036

0790 180 2177

info@climatecamp.org.uk

1 – Drax burns more than 13 million tonnes of coal every year (Drax website <http://www.draxpower.com/about.php?page=fun>) and emits 20.8 million tonnes of carbon dioxide every year, making it the largest single emitter in the UK (Guardian, 16 May 06

<http://business.guardian.co.uk/story/0,,1775695,00.html>)

Drax is the UK's 4th most polluting power station per unit of electricity produced (WWF 'Dirty Thirty' report, October 2005

<http://assets.panda.org/downloads/dirty30rankingfinal260905.pdf>)

2 – The Camp for Climate Action is being organised through open public meetings. These meetings have taken place in Manchester, Nottingham, Oxford, Bristol, Leeds and London. The next meeting will be held in Scotland.

ENDS

Local Press Release

CLIMATE ACTIVISTS ANNOUNCE PLANS TO SHUT DOWN DRAX, THE UK'S LARGEST POWER STATION

June 18th 2006: For immediate release

Thousands of people will take part in climate change protests this summer against Drax power station - the single largest emitter of carbon dioxide in the UK (1).

Alison Templeton from the Camp for Climate Action (2) said:
"Climate change is already happening. We saw this with the massive floods in York in 2002. Drax continues to belch out emissions while we are staring catastrophe in the face. It has to go."

The Camp for Climate Action will be based in 'Megawatt Valley', near Leeds, home of Drax, Eggborough and Ferrybridge power stations. The camp promises education about climate change, sustainable living, and action targeting those responsible for the worst emissions.

The Camp for Climate Action is inspired by environmental protest camps such as the Newbury Bypass campaign, and the Eco-village in Stirling, which was a base for protests at the G8 in 2005.

The Camp will be held from 26th August – 4th September. Powered by alternative energy, the camp will demonstrate practical solutions in action. The camp will offer information and space for debate on the science and politics of tackling climate change. There will be practical skills to learn, from ideas for sustainable living to strategies for taking action.

Campaigner Zoe Armstrong from Leeds said: "Climate change casts a huge shadow over our society. Governments and corporations cannot solve this problem for us. Climate change is everyone's issue, it's up to us to act now. The camp is a chance for everyone who is concerned to come together and take action."

For more information visit:

www.climatecamp.org.uk

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1 – Drax burns more than 13 million tonnes of coal every year (Drax website <http://www.draxpower.com/about.php?page=fun>) and emits 20.8 million tonnes of carbon dioxide every year, making it the largest single emitter in the UK (Guardian, 16 May 06 <http://business.guardian.co.uk/story/0,,1775695,00.html>)

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2 – The Camp for Climate Action is being organised through open public meetings. These meeting have taken place in Manchester, Nottingham, Oxford, Bristol, Leeds and London. The next meeting will be held in Scotland.

ENDS

July 15 – Didcot power station banner drop

Climate change activists occupy Didcot power station
July 5th 2006: For immediate release

Early this morning activists from climate change pressure group Reclaim Power occupied a lighting tower at Didcot power station in Oxfordshire. Three climbers scaled the tower and unfurled a 50-foot orange and black banner with the words 'Climate Crime'. They plan to remain there for several hours in a peaceful but visually dramatic action to highlight the role of coal-fired power stations in climate change.

Lyn Barth from Reclaim Power said, "This is a shot across the bows for the coal industry. Coal produces more greenhouse gases than any other form of electricity generation. The future isn't in fossil fuels or nuclear. The future is in reducing our energy consumption and sustainable alternative energy. Otherwise we leave a legacy of destruction to our children."

Campaigners are concerned that the government and companies like the owners of Didcot power station, RWE/npower, are failing to take serious action on climate change.

Ms Barth continued: "It is up to individuals to force them to stop their emissions before the planet reaches a catastrophe."

This is not the first time Didcot has been targeted by protestors against climate change. The action against Didcot is part of a series of actions, which include the publicly announced occupation planned for Britain's largest coal power station, Drax in Yorkshire, during the Camp for Climate Action.

-END-

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOS AVAILABLE. Contact us for further details

NOTES:

1. This action was carried out by autonomous activists in support of climate campaign group Reclaim Power (www.reclaimpower.org.uk).

For further information contact: 0794 458 6036 or ✉ reclaimpower101@yahoo.co.uk

The climbers may be reached on the following mobiles: 07856 551 479 & 07856 551 480.

2. Didcot A power station (owned by German transnational RWE who also own npower in the UK) burns around 3.7m tonnes of coal a year (from company leaflet 'Didcot Power Stations') and produces around 4.9m tonnes of CO₂ (Friends of the Earth, 2004). Recently Didcot A power station came under fire for seeking to disposing of ash by-products from coal burning in environmentally sensitive areas – in particular from Save Radley Lakes campaigners (www.saveradleylakes.org.uk). For more information see http://www.abingdonherald.co.uk/search/display.var.724320.0.council_joins_lake_protest.php and http://www.abingdonherald.co.uk/search/display.var.831559.0.protest_pledge_despite_verdict.php

3. Reclaim Power is calling for mass direct action at Drax power station in North Yorkshire on 31st August. Drax is the largest single emitter of greenhouse gases in the UK

4. Reclaim Power is part of the Camp for Climate Action (26th August-4th September), creating grassroots solutions to climate change through ten days of actions, education, networking and skill-sharing. For more information see www.climatecamp.org.uk

5. On 10th July activists in the USA blockaded a coal power station in Clinch River, Carbo, Virginia. For more information see http://www.chesapeakeclimate.org/news/news_detail.cfm?id=121 & <http://www.katuaearthfirst.org/>

August 16 – the camp is approaching

The Camp for Climate Action : The Time to Act is Now!

MEDIA ADVISORY 16/08/06

The Camp for Climate Action, to be held from 26th August to 4th September in Megawatt Valley near Leeds, promises 10 days of direct action and inspiration on the biggest threat humanity has ever faced. The Camp will bring together thousands of people from across the UK to act to stop climate change before it's too late.

Chris Davis of the Camp for Climate Action said:

“The facts about climate change are common knowledge. We can all see through the corporate greenwash and Tony Blair’s empty slogans. We know we’re pumping dangerous amounts of CO2 into the atmosphere from fossil fuel use and its got to stop. All that’s needed now are practical visions of the future and the will to take action. Come to the camp and be one of the people that helps to bring us back from the cliff edge.”

The Camp has three main aspects:

Educating ourselves:

The Camp represents the pooled knowledge of thousands of people on climate change. The programme covers all aspects of climate change and how we can confront it, practically and politically. Participants will be able to choose from over 150 workshops, from the science of climate change, to the dangers of aviation, to how to make biodiesel or grow your own food under environment-friendly conditions, or wind power for kids.

Building a positive, low energy future:

The camp will demonstrate how we can all live more sustainably, cutting fossil fuel use by living practical alternatives. We are sourcing our food locally, composting and reducing our waste, and using renewable energy.

Taking action to stop climate criminals:

On 31st August, thousands of people will converge on Drax power station, for a day of creative mass action to shut down the UK’s largest single emitter of CO2.

Anna Harrison of Reclaim Power said:

“When considering the scale of the disaster we are facing, direct action against the worst emitters of carbon dioxide is a proportionate response. It’s not enough simply to change our own lives, we need to take collective action. Either we all get out of this or none of us do.”

Notes for editors

1. The Camp for Climate Action runs from 26th August – 4th September in Megawatt Valley, near Leeds, nearest train station Selby.
2. The full workshops programme for the Camp for Climate Action is available at www.climatecamp.org.uk/programme.htm. Workshop providers range from grassroots community activists to internationally-known academics, MPs and representatives of environmental NGOs.
3. For more information on Drax, coal and the day of action see www.climatecamp.org.uk/reclaimpower.htm
4. 'Drax the Destroyer' started life as a Marvel Comics baddie and went on to become a Bond villain in the 1979 film 'Moonraker'.
5. More information is available from www.climatecamp.org.uk, info@climatecamp.org.uk, For press enquiries only, call 07772861099
6. Press are invited to attend tours of the site on each day of the Camp from 11am - 12am. Call 07772861099.
7. Images of the Camp and direct action on climate change will be available to picture desks. Call 07772861099

Friday, August 25 – occupation of the site

Climate Change Activists Occupy Site Near Drax.

Climate change activists have occupied a site 1.5 miles from Drax coal power station.

They are busy preparing for Saturday, the 26th of August, when thousands of people from across the U.K. will converge there, kick-starting the Camp for Climate Action. The camp threatens to shut down the power plant -- the U.K.'s largest single emitter of carbon dioxide.

This is an unprecedented event with up to two thousand people coming together for 10 days of direct action and inspiration on the biggest threat humanity has ever faced.

Anna Harrison of the Camp for climate action said:

'We can't ignore taking action on this issue any longer. No one else is going to stop climate change for us. We have to do it ourselves. The Camp is for everyone who can see that the endless quest for a bigger and bigger economy is driving us towards catastrophe, who knows how urgently action is needed on climate change, and who wants to be part of a mass movement to turn this situation around.'

The Camp has three main aspects:

Educating ourselves:

The Camp programme covers all aspects of climate change and how we can confront it, practically and politically. Participants will be able to choose from over 150 workshops: from the science of climate change, to the dangers of aviation, to lessons for sustainable living, to wind power for kids.

Building a positive, low energy future:

The camp will demonstrate how we can all live more sustainably, cutting fossil fuel use by living practical alternatives. We are sourcing our food locally, composting and reducing our waste, and using renewable energy.

Taking action to stop climate criminals:

On 31st August, thousands of people will converge on Drax power station, for a day of creative mass action to shut down the UK's largest single emitter of CO2.

Drax has so far refused to engage in an open public debate with people from the Camp, pulling out of a public meeting in Selby last week.

Notes for editors

- 1- Directions to the site are available at www.climatecamp.org.uk/location
- 2- The full workshops programme for the Camp is available at www.climatecamp.org.uk/programme.htm
- 3- More information is available from www.climatecamp.org.uk and info@climatecamp.org.uk, For press enquiries only, call 07772861099.
- 4- Press are invited to attend tours of the site on each day of the Camp from 11am - 12am. Call 07772861099.
- 5- For more information on Drax, coal and the day of action see www.climatecamp.org.uk/reclaimpower.htm
- 6- Images of the Camp and direct action on climate change will be available to picture desks. Call 07772861099.

August 29 – Hartlepool nuclear blockade

Climate change activists blockade Hartlepool nuclear power station

For immediate release: August 22nd 2006

from Reclaim Power: <http://www.reclaimpower.org.uk>
Email: reclaimpower101@yahoo.co.uk
On-site mobile: 07856 551479
Stills/footage: 07984 128905

Early this morning, activists from climate change pressure group Reclaim Power (1) blocked the main entrance of Hartlepool nuclear power station, Teesside (2). Using locks and other equipment six activists successfully closed the main entrance and unfurled a large banner with the words 'No More', in response to government and nuclear industry plans to build a new generation of nuclear power stations (3).

Darren Lockefrom Reclaim Power said, 'Nuclear power is not a solution to climate change. Whilst it may be true that nuclear power results in fewer greenhouse gas emissions than burning fossil fuels, nuclear power produces deadly waste which remains radioactive for thousands of years. We have no way to get rid of it. The nuclear industry has had almost 50 years to find a solution to the nuclear waste problem and has failed to do so.'

'The government says that our only option is to accept nuclear power with all its health and environmental problems,' continued Darren. But we do have another option: to reduce our energy consumption, and to get the power we do need from clean, safe renewable sources like wind and solar.'

This action is part of a series of actions by Reclaim Power highlighting our reliance on fossil fuels and the need to replace them with clean, safe renewable energy sources (4).

-ENDS-

Contact Reclaim Power activists on site on 07856 551480 or 07856 551479
Stills/footage: 07984 128905

NOTES:

1. This action was carried out by autonomous activists in support of climate campaign group Reclaim Power <http://www.reclaimpower.org.uk>
2. Hartlepool nuclear power station (owned by British Energy) is due for decommissioning in 2014, but it's likely that the site will be proposed as a site for building a new nuclear power station. According to the nuclear lobby the most viable sites for new nuclear power stations are likely to be adjacent to existing nuclear power plants (see the Government's Energy Review 2006 for more details <http://www.dti.gov.uk/files/file32007.pdf>)
3. See the Energy Review 2006. British Energy is likely to be part of any consortium building and running the new generation of nuclear power stations.
4. Reclaim Power is calling for mass direct action at Drax power station in North Yorkshire on 31st August 2006. Drax is the largest single emitter of greenhouse gases in the UK. Reclaim Power is part of the Camp for Climate Action (26th August-4th September 2006), creating grassroots solutions to climate change through ten days of actions, education, networking and skill-sharing. For more information see <http://www.climatecamp.org.uk>

Wednesday, August 30 – Announcing the day of action and press briefing

NEWS RELEASE FROM CAMP FOR CLIMATE ACTION: 07772 861099

Climate Activists Hit Drax, 31.8.06

Onsite press briefing: 8 a.m.

Mass actions will take place on Thursday, targeting Drax, the UK's largest coal-fired power station. The actions, launched from the Camp for Climate Action, aim to disrupt the station to the maximum extent possible. Drax is the largest single emitter of carbon dioxide in Europe, and a leading perpetrator of global warming.

This is one of a number of actions launched from the camp, which has already caused Drax and the police to spend millions in extra security.

"Many of us are prepared to break the law, because the powers-that-be are addicted to planet-trashing economic growth. Shutting down a power station isn't enough to stop climate change but it's a start." said Michelle Bernstein, 28, from York. Protesters like Michelle believe they can be effective, while respecting the safety of all participants.

The actions will involve a diversity of tactics, this is likely to include marches, blockades and attempts to get into the site. Marches will leave the camp at 9 a.m., as will a troop of 'clowns for climate justice' and a giant ostrich, (the unofficial camp mascot).

A blockade of the Hartlepool nuclear power station, launched from the camp on Tuesday, lasted the entire day, and activists hope that Thursday's action will be just as successful.

Meanwhile, the camp and much of the area surrounding Drax has been put under section 60, giving the police authority to conduct random searches in and around neighbouring villages.

Notes for editors

Contact: 07772 861099

More information about the climate camp is available at <http://www.climatecamp.org.uk>

To find the camp, visit <http://www.climatecamp.org.uk/location.htm>

Drax power station is located 1.5 miles from the camp.

Media are invited to tour the camp between 11 and 12am on Friday and Saturday, but please ring first to confirm.

On Thursday, the media briefing will be at the gates of the camp at 8 a.m.