

DR. CAROLINE LUCAS

Green Party
for the South East of England

Rt Hon Des Browne MP
Secretary of State for Defence
MOD Ministerial Correspondence Unit
5th Floor, Zone A
Main Building
Whitehall, London
SW1A 2HB

July 18th 2006

Dear Des,

In the Energy Review's conclusions, published early in July, the Government pledged, among other things to:

change the way Government procures buildings, goods and services in order to reduce energy use across the central Government estate. We aim to make the central government estate of buildings carbon neutral by 2012, with any shortfall to government targets 'offset' by payment into a central fund and ploughed back into sustainable energy projects.

Whilst applauding the Government's commitment to 'getting its own house in order', I also note that no mention is made of any measures designed to reduce the impact on the climate of specific activities taken across government departments. I am raising this particularly in reference to the Ministry of Defence because some of its core activities, by their very nature, are responsible for high CO2 emission levels. As the rapporteur for a series of proposals to curb the impact of aviation on the climate, recently adopted by the European Parliament, I have a special interest in the airforce and measures being taken to reduce the environmental footprint of this branch of the military.

I would, therefore, appreciate the Minister advising me of the following:

- Does the Ministry of Defence record and monitor the CO2 and other greenhouse gas emissions of its departmental activities, with specific reference to aviation?
- If yes, are copies of this data available to the public?
- What procedures, if any, are in place for the Ministry of Defence to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions, with specific reference to aviation?
- Please would the Minister provide targets and information about progress to date?

I very much look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Lucas - Green Party MEP for South East England.

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