

DR. CAROLINE LUCAS

Green Party
for the South East of England

Justin King
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J Sainsburys plc
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Dear Justin,

As you will be aware, commentators are predicting that the peak of global oil production is imminent. Time scales vary, with the most optimistic concluding that the peak will happen in around 20-30 years time and some analysts saying the peak may already have occurred. Most experts concur that a 'gas peak' will happen 10 years after an 'oil peak'. Oil prices are already escalating and it is clear that they will continue to rise, albeit interspersed with periods marked by relatively low prices.

In light of this, I am writing to enquire about what work Sainsburys has done around future scenarios. Specifically:

Analysis of peak oil/gas impacts on food security and affordability, in particular any work to establish the relationship between oil and gas price and:

- a. transport fuel costs
- b. food system input costs - fertiliser, pesticide, plastics
- c. food prices

As well as detailing what work is being done on these issues, I would be most grateful if you would send me copies of any relevant reports, speeches or articles. The current government has always maintained that the best way to improve food security was through increased trade rather than self-sufficiency. I would be interested to learn if this is also your position, or if the advent of peak oil, together with the urgent need to address food system related greenhouse gas emissions, is encouraging Sainsburys to identify food chains in which energy use and carbon emissions are minimised.

Thank you, in advance, for your co-operation.

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Lucas - Green Party MEP for South East England.