

EU Opens Door to Dirty Fuel Imports for Pembroke Refinery

The European Commission has dropped plans aimed at regulating the import of so called 'dirty fuels' into the EU, following intense lobbying by the Canadian and US governments and major oil producers.

Pembrokeshire Friends of the Earth has been campaigning with UK Tar Sands Network over its concern that diesel derived from Canadian tar sands bitumen will find its way into the UK via Valero's Pembroke refinery.

Eleanor Clegg, spokesperson for Pembrokeshire Friends of the Earth, said:

“This capitulation by the EC is a tragedy as it will contribute to further climate change. Oil companies have now been given the go ahead to increase CO2 emissions at a time when all efforts should go into decreasing them by developing cleaner and more efficient forms of energy.

James Hansen, one of the world's top climate scientists, has said that fully exploiting tar sands would effectively mean game over for the climate. Extracting oil from Canada's vast reserves of tar sands is 20 per cent more polluting than from conventional forms of crude oil and devastates vast areas of pristine wilderness.”

<https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/articles/news/eu-accused-caving-fossil-fuels-lobby-over-tar-sands-u-turn>