



Network of Regional Governments
for Sustainable Development

nrg4SD Infoflow

n. 38 – 24/05/2011

ENERGY

[Germany nuclear shutdown by 2022 may mean blackouts, Merkel warned](#)

The Guardian

As chancellor mulls Germany's nuclear future, energy firms say solar and wind power may not make up shortfall in winter.

[Germany copes without bulk of nuclear power](#)

Reuters

Germany is coping without about three quarters of its nuclear power capacity by burning more climate-warming coal, reaping the rewards of renewables investments, and importing more French atomic energy.

[Electricity from microbes a step closer: study](#)

Reuters

Microbes may be harnessed more easily to generate energy after a finding about how they naturally let off tiny electrical charges, scientists said on Monday.

[Japan's TEPCO admits further reactor meltdowns](#)

AFP

Japan's Tokyo Electric Power Company said Tuesday it believed most of the fuel had melted at two more reactors at its tsunami-stricken nuclear power plant.

[Philips unveils new LED bulb](#)

The °Climate Group

Royal Philips Electronics - the industry leader in LED lighting solutions – helped accelerate a Clean Revolution in the lighting sector this week with its new Philips EnduraLED A21 17-watt light bulb, which boasts energy consumption reduction of 80% and lasts 25 times longer than incandescent bulbs.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

[UK Green Investment Bank to start lending Apr 2012](#)

Reuters

Britain's Green Investment Bank (GIB) will start lending money to fund low-carbon energy projects from April 2012, a year earlier than initially planned, Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg said on Monday.

[Green investment bank: coalition puts its money where its mouth is](#)

The Guardian

The coalition has resolved many of the issues dogging the green bank. That's more important than you may think if you want to see a cleaner, greener future.

[Dr Arun Majumdar: America's green power broker](#)

The Independent

Yesterday, Nick Clegg announced the creation of the UK's first green investment bank. In the US, one man is already pumping money into hi-tech clean energy ideas.

[Special Report: Solar plane drives electric car](#)

EurActiv

The first solar-powered aeroplane to fly day and night is forming a centrepiece to showcase renewable technology – chiefly of use to the electric car market – to European policymakers over the next few days as part of Green Week.

[German Greens deal Merkel party another election blow](#)

The Guardian

Green party beats CDU for first time in state elections after coming second to Social Democrats in Bremen.

BIODIVERSITY

[Soil sealing in the EU threatens the availability of ecosystem services](#)

EU

Every year in Europe, soils covering an area larger than the city of Berlin are lost to urban sprawl and transport infrastructure. This unsustainable trend threatens the availability of fertile soils and groundwater reservoirs for future generations. A new report made public today by the European Commission recommends a three-tiered approach focused on limiting the progression of soil sealing, mitigating its effects and compensating valuable soil losses by action in other areas.

[Whales face mass beaching off Ireland after two found dead](#)

The Guardian

Animal welfare experts braced for major rescue operation after 60-strong pod of pilot whales leaves Loch Carnan for Irish coast.

[El bosque mediterráneo amenazado por el "cambio global"](#)

EFEverde

El bosque mediterráneo, considerado un foco mundial de biodiversidad, es uno de los ecosistemas más amenazados por el 'cambio global', según han coincidido hoy los expertos participantes en una mesa redonda sobre los desafíos a los que se enfrentan los bosques, organizada por la Fundación BBVA.

CLIMATE CHANGE

[Climate change warnings add heat to Australia CO2 price](#)

Reuters

A team of Australia's top scientists warned on Monday of dire climate change in calling for the nation's carbon-dominated energy sector to turn green, as the government struggles to win support for a carbon price to cut pollution.

[No link between tornadoes and climate change: US](#)

AFP

The United States is experiencing the deadliest year for tornadoes in nearly six decades, but top US weather experts said Monday there is no link between the violent twisters and climate change.

WATER

[Sècheresse : levée de contraintes pour venir en aide aux exploitants](#)

Le Monde

Alors que le secteur agricole est en crise, le ministre de l'agriculture, Bruno Lemaire, a annoncé la levée de certaines contraintes "qui pèsent" sur les exploitants, notamment la levée de "l'autorisation de faucher".

