

**Thank you if you have supported this campaign – the Bill became law on 21 June 2006!**

Read the **Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Act 2006** in [pdf](#) or [html](#) format; the full text of its Third Reading debate in the House of Commons is available [here](#) courtesy of [TheyWorkForYou.com](#) – **note the contribution by Ann McKechin MP (Lab), whose constituency includes the university**. To find out more about these MPs, you can click on their names below to see how they have voted. [Stop Climate Chaos](#) is a coalition of charities, including [People & Planet](#), campaigning to stop climate change. See also the Government's [Climate Challenge](#) site.

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**On 9 March we asked** Scottish MPs to support the Climate Change Bill for the first time. You'll find that email and the responses we received below – just scroll down.

**On 25 and 26 April** we sent a second email asking Scottish MPs to support the Climate Change Bill again, in another debate on 12 May. We sent this one to most MPs, but the ones who replied to our email of 9 March got specially customised emails thanking them for taking the trouble to reply, and in most cases, to support the Bill.

**From:** SRC Environmental Officer (Duncan MacKenzie) <[environment@src.gla.ac.uk](mailto:environment@src.gla.ac.uk)>  
**To:** All Scottish MPs who did not reply to our email of 9 March (**CC:** Mark Lazarowicz MP)  
**Date:** Tuesday 25 April 2006 2:59pm  
**Subject:** From Glasgow students: Please support Climate Change Bill!

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From the Environmental Officer  
Students' Representative Council  
University of Glasgow

Tuesday 25 April 2006

To all Scottish MPs

Dear MPs,

I wrote to you on 9 March on behalf of the University of Glasgow Students' Representative Council, asking you to support the Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Bill. As you know, many of Glasgow's 23,000 students come from each of your constituencies to study here. The SRC has, at its 8th Statutory Meeting of Council on 20 April, asked me to urge you to support the bill's third reading on Friday 12 May. We are most concerned about climate change and fuel poverty, and we believe that renewable energy and energy efficiency must be a part of the solution. We believe that this Bill would be an essential step towards the reduction of carbon emissions to a sustainable level.

As Scottish MPs representing many students at Glasgow, please tell us if you will attend this debate on 12 May. We urge you again to support the Bill and any other measures which would contribute to the fight against climate change.

We look forward to your reply, which will be published on the SRC's web pages.

Yours,

Duncan MacKenzie, Environmental Officer  
On behalf of the Students' Representative Council

Kate Edwards-Kearney, Co-President  
On behalf of People & Planet, University of Glasgow

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**These responses were received to our second email of 25-26 April:**

**From [Mark Lazarowicz MP \(Lab/Co-op\)](#), Edinburgh North & Leith (25 April)**

Thank you. I am the MP promoting the Bill, so of course I will be present. I would like to thank the SRC for its support.

**From [Sandra Osborne MP \(Lab\)](#), Ayr, Carrick & Cumnock (25 April)**

Unfortunately I will be out of the country and unable to attend.

**From [Michael Moore MP \(Lib Dem\)](#), Berwickshire, Roxburgh & Selkirk (25 April)**

I hope to be there on 12 May to support this important Bill.

**From [David Cairns MP \(Lab\)](#), Inverclyde (26 April)**

***Mr Cairns is Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Scotland Office***

**» *information about the [Climate Change Programme from Defra](#)***

**» *Montréal Summit 2005: on the [UNFCCC](#) and [official Canadian sites](#)***

Thank you for your email asking me to support the Mark Lazarowicz's Private Members' Bill on climate change and sustainable energy which will receive its third reading on Friday 12th May. There is no doubt that climate change is urgent, and I would like to assure you that the Government is already working hard to reduce the emissions of harmful gases and promote the use of renewable energy. I realize that this is an issue which very many young people are interested in, and I know that a number of my constituents continue their education at Glasgow University.

Climate change is one of the major issues facing the planet today, and our Labour Government has a record second to none in tackling the issue at home and abroad. You may be aware the Rt Hon Margaret Beckett MP, Secretary of State for the Environment, recently launched the Climate Change Review which sets out our plans for tackling climate change at global, national and individual level. And the policies already introduced will mean that the UK should achieve twice the reductions in greenhouse gas emission required under Kyoto, and carbon emissions will also fall by 7-12 million tonnes by 2010, 15-18% below 1990 levels.

As you may know, the Prime Minister made climate change a top priority during the UK Presidencies of the G8 and the European Union. And it's thanks to pressure from the United Kingdom that the G8 supported a package of actions to combat the problem, including increased dialogue with emerging economies such as China and India, whose emissions of greenhouse gases are increasing rapidly as their economies expand. In December 2005 when Britain still held the European Union Presidency, we led the EU delegation in the negotiations at the Montreal summit on climate change. The conference reached agreement on a number of issues such as adopting a draft rule book detailing the operation of the Kyoto Protocol, strengthening the Protocol by providing additional support for the improvement of the Clean Development Mechanism and establishing a five year Adaptation Work Programme, all of which will move the debate forward and help keep climate change to a minimum.

We should never lose sight of the fact that Britain is one of the very few countries in the world that will meet its Kyoto targets, in fact we will not merely meet our Kyoto targets, we will double them. So we will be reducing greenhouse gas emissions by in the region of 23-25%. For CO2 emissions we will set a separate target. It is going to be hard to reach the 20% reduction we were aiming for, and the Government believes it will get to 15-18%, although obviously we are still going to try and reach the full target. One reason for not reaching our target is that our economy has been growing strongly over the last few years and, while this is good, it does mean that CO2 emissions increase.

I am not sure if you are aware of this but, as part of the Government's drive to reduce emissions they have set a target of 10% renewables for our energy supply by 2010, and they have placed an obligation on energy suppliers to ensure an increasing portion of energy comes from renewables. Our Government takes the issue of climate change very seriously indeed, and this is why we have also introduced a number of other measures to reduce greenhouse gases and tackle carbon emissions. These include introducing a climate change levy which will save around 3.7 million tones of carbon by 2010, establishing the Carbon Trust to work with businesses on reducing energy use and changing the tax regime for company cars to encourage businesses to use vehicles emitting low levels of carbon.

You also ask if I will be in Westminster when the Bill receives its third reading on Friday 12th May. I am not sure if you are aware of this, but after the General Election in May 2005 I was appointed as a minister at the Scotland Office and, as I am sure you will understand, ministers' diaries fill up well in advance. Looking at my diary for that day I can see that I already have a number of engagements to undertake for the Scotland Office, and it is not possible for me to change the arrangements at this late stage.

Thank you for taking the time to contact to me about this very important subject and I would like to assure you that, although I will not be there when this Bill is debated, I fully understand the importance of climate change and increasing the amount of renewables in our energy mix.

**From [Michael Weir MP \(SNP\)](#), Angus (26 April)**

I continue to support the bill and will be present on 12th May

**From [Ann McKeichin MP \(Lab\)](#), Glasgow North (26 April)**

Many thanks for your email. I am pleased to confirm that I will be attending the next sitting of this Bill on 12th May and hopefully it will then complete its Commons stages. You may be interested to know that I have arranged a special meeting in the constituency on Saturday 20th May at the STUC offices in Woodlands Road which will be addressed by my colleague, Mark Lazarowicz M.P. who is promoting the Bill. I will send details to you shortly re time and hope that you will encourage your colleagues to attend and support this vital legislation.

**From [Eric Joyce MP \(Lab\)](#), Falkirk (26 April)**

***Mr Joyce is Parliamentary Private Secretary to Margaret Hodge, Minister of State, Department for Work and Pensions***

Thanks for this. I'll be there. Er, 'people and planet'? No, you're right. It's a good look, but if I said it here I'd be a dead duck.

Very best wishes, and your campaigning effort is the very best from an HE institution I've come across.

**From [Katy Clark MP \(Lab\)](#), North Ayrshire and Arran (27 April)**

Thank you for contacting me again regarding the above Bill. It is my intention to be in Parliament on Friday 12 May for the Third Reading of the Bill. As you will be aware several MPs have attempted to drag proceedings out for as long as possible and prevent this Bill advancing. Despite their efforts the Bill has managed to reach Third Reading Stage and deserves to reach the statute book. The UK Government has made commitments regarding levels of carbon emissions and this Bill will help to reach those targets.

I believe that there is widespread support for this Bill throughout the House of Commons and that has been reflected in the previous votes where only a handful of MPs have opposed it as a wrecking measure.

**Tom Harris MP (Lab), Glasgow South (27 April)**

***Mr Harris is Parliamentary Private Secretary to Patricia Hewitt, Secretary of State, Department of Health***

**Note:** In my email to Mr Harris I took the liberty of suggesting that he might consider using the [Caledonian Sleeper](#) overnight rail service ("the most civilised, romantic and time-effective way from central London to the heart of Scotland": [seat61.com](#)): "You said ... that you would be unable to attend the debate because you had already arranged to attend an AGM the night before. You might like to consider using the ScotRail Caledonian Sleeper train; you would be able to depart Glasgow Central at 11.40pm, arrive in London at 7am, sleep well (although I would recommend using earplugs), minimise your contribution to climate change by using the train, and support Mr Lazarowicz's bill!"

**Mr Harris replied:** Thank you for your email, and for your advice on travel between London and Glasgow. Although I have been an MP for five years and travel between these two cities every week, it was fascinating to learn from you about this "sleeper". I wonder why I had never heard of this innovation before?

I have organised an AGM - this time for anyone who lives in my constituency to come along and ask me any question at all - on the evening of Thursday 11 May. I therefore won't be in London on the following day (and no, I don't intend to catch the sleeper back to London afterwards). However, I'm sure the Bill will have enough support on the day.

**From [Anne McGuire MP \(Lab\)](#), Stirling (27 April)**

***Ms McGuire is Parliamentary Under-Secretary (Disabled People), Department for Work and Pensions***

Thank you for your further email. Unfortunately, I will not be able to be in the Commons on 12th May as I already have various engagements in my constituency that day.

**From [Jim Sheridan MP \(Lab\)](#), Paisley & Renfrewshire North (28 April)**

***Jim Sheridan is Parliamentary Private Secretary (Team), Ministry of Defence***

Thank you for your e-mail dated 26th April 2006 requesting I attend the Third Reading of the Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Bill on 12th May. I have rearranged my diary and will be happy to support the Bill in Parliament for its third reading.

**From [Pete Wishart MP \(SNP\)](#), Perth & North Perthshire (dated 28 April)**

Thank you for writing to me about the above Bill, which I have been supporting all along the way. ... The Third Reading of the bill is due on Friday 12 May and I fully intend to be there, since I consider this to be such an important issue.

**From [Jo Swinson MP \(Lib Dem\)](#), East Dunbartonshire (2 May)**

Yes, I'll be there next Friday!

**From [John Barrett MP \(Lib Dem\)](#), Edinburgh West (8 May)**

I can confirm that I have been in the chamber to support this Bill on two previous occasions and that I will be there again to support it on 12th May.

The reduction of carbon emissions and the protection of the environment are climbing up the political agenda. These issues should not be political footballs as they have in the past and it is now time for politicians of all parties to recognise that the long term future of the planet is not something that can be dealt with by any one party in any one Parliament. It is time for politicians in all parties to show they are prepared to take the lead in working together to tackle what is the greatest risk to the future of the planet and all those who live on it.

**From [Angus Robertson MP \(SNP\)](#), Moray (17 May)**

In relation to Friday's reading of the Climate Change Bill I was unable to attend the debate as I was accompanying a number of local activists to a major meeting in Geneva with the United Nations where the plans for a UNITAR (United Nations International Training and Research) Centre were finalised.

It was highly likely that the bill would pass unanimously and I felt that, on balance, my time would be more useful in helping to secure the UNITAR project for Moray. This important facility will provide training on sustainable development issues to policy influencers from around Europe. The facility will also be the only one of its kind in the UK and, indeed, in Western Europe.

Going back to the energy bill I am pleased that it was in fact unanimously accepted as I thought and therefore Friday was something of a double victory on issues of sustainability.

**From [Jo Swinson MP \(Lib Dem\)](#), East Dunbartonshire (18 May)**

I was in Parliament last Friday for the Third Reading of this Bill, and I was delighted that the Bill passed this reading, and that it will now progress to the House of Lords. Traditionally, it is unlikely for a Private Member's Bill which has made it through the Commons to be amended by the House of Lords, and I would hope therefore that this Bill will receive Royal Assent and become law. I do feel that this Bill will make a valuable contribution to the fight against Climate Change. ... I will of course [continue] to press the Government for further action on the issue of Climate Change.

## Here's our first email of 9 March:

**From:** SRC Environmental Officer (Duncan MacKenzie) <environment@src.gla.ac.uk>  
**To:** All Scottish MPs  
**CC:** Mark Lazarowicz MP  
**Date:** Thursday 9 March 2006 11:22pm  
**Subject:** From Glasgow students: Please support Climate Change Bill!

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From the acting Environmental Officer  
Students' Representative Council  
University of Glasgow  
Thursday 9 March 2006

To all Scottish MPs

Dear MPs,

The Students' Representative Council of the University of Glasgow has today, at its 7th Statutory Meeting of Council, asked me to urge you to support Mark Lazarowicz MP's Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Bill at its third reading in the Commons tomorrow (Friday). As you know, many of Glasgow's 23,000 students come from each of your constituencies to study here.

We are most concerned about climate change and fuel poverty, and we believe that renewable energy and energy efficiency must be a part of the solution. We believe that this Bill would make real progress towards cutting greenhouse gas emissions and that it is an essential step towards the reduction of these emissions to a sustainable level. It is also essential that we, as a developed country, take such measures to show large developing states such as China and India that we, too, are prepared to change to address the threat of climate change.

As Scottish MPs representing many students at Glasgow, please tell us if you will attend the third reading of this Bill tomorrow (Friday). We urge you to support the Bill and any other measures which will contribute to the fight against climate change.

We look forward to your reply.

Yours,  
Duncan MacKenzie, acting Environmental Officer  
On behalf of the Students' Representative Council

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**These responses were received on 10 March unless otherwise stated.**

**From [Michael Connarty MP \(Lab\)](#), Linlithgow & East Falkirk (12:25am)**

I am back in Scotland for an important industrial employment meeting and will not be able to be in the Commons to support Mark's Bill, as I did on 2nd Reading. Sorry, but we cannot be everywhere at the same time.

**From [Ann McKechin MP \(Lab\)](#), Glasgow North (8:44am)**

Thank you for your email. I am in the House as I write to support the Bill's third reading this morning.

**On behalf of [Anne McGuire MP \(Lab\)](#), Stirling (9:48am)**

***Ms McGuire is Parliamentary Under-Secretary (Disabled People), Department for Work and Pensions***

Mrs McGuire has asked me to reply to you in response to your email regarding the Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Bill. Unfortunately, she will not be in the Commons today but she knows that Mr Lazarowicz has a great deal of support for his bill from all sides of the Commons and has had a positive response from the Government. He also knows that he has Mrs McGuire's support even though she is unable to be in London on that day.

It may interest you to know that Mrs McGuire and her Scottish Parliamentary colleague, Dr Sylvia Jackson, held a seminar for constituents last weekend on Climate Change and Renewable Energy, with Mark Lazarowicz being one of the speakers.

She thanks you for contacting her on this important issue.

**From [Eric Joyce MP \(Lab\)](#), Falkirk (10:14am)**

***Mr Joyce is Parliamentary Private Secretary to Margaret Hodge, Minister of State, Department for Work and Pensions***

Thank you for this. I am at Westminster today to support Mark's bill. Thank you for your interest - I couldn't agree more with your sentiments.

**From [David Mundell MP \(Con\)](#), Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale & Tweeddale (10:19am)**

I support Mark's Bill.

During the past eight years, our Government, despite its good intentions, has failed to make progress on carbon reduction. It is quite clear that a new approach is required, and I believe we can make real progress if we take this issue to a higher plane, above the fray of normal party politics. Conservatives at Westminster would like to see an independent committee established to set greenhouse gas emission targets and demand that the Government ensures its other policies, in all areas, are in line with efforts to meet the targets.

**From [Jo Swinson MP \(Lib Dem\)](#), East Dunbartonshire (10:23am)**

Thank you for taking the time to write to me regarding Mark Lazarowicz's Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Bill, which has its third reading today. I share your concerns about the problem of climate change, and agree that renewables and energy efficiency are an important part of the solution.

I firmly believe in the importance of increased action to tackle the problem of Climate Change, and I was present in Parliament to support both the Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Bill, and the Management of Energy in Buildings Bill, at their second readings in November. The extent of the support for these Bills was demonstrated by the presence in the House of well over 100 MPs – an extraordinarily large number for a Friday.

I believe that dealing with the threat posed by climate change is one of the greatest challenges we face today. We in the UK must take a leading role on environmental issues and set an example to other countries by supporting legislation that will reduce CO2 emissions. I feel that one of the vital parts, in both bills, is the provision made for microgeneration. This means giving people incentives to put up their own wind turbines and solar panels for personal use.

By doing this, people will provide their own alternative, renewable energy sources. At the same time, the link between the energy people produce, how much they use and the bills they pay will be much more apparent. This will encourage energy conservation, which is as important a part of the drive for sustainability as energy efficiency.

The purpose of the Management of Energy in Buildings is extending energy efficiency in domestic buildings through the reporting of progress towards targets and through facilitating the development and installation of microgeneration, or by using external power in a sustainable way.

I am pleased to inform you that I am in Parliament today to support these bills at their third readings, and I hope that they will be successful. I also recently attended a Stop Climate Chaos lobby of Parliament, where I added

my name to a petition to encourage the Prime Minister to take action to cut greenhouse gas emissions. You can find out more about this project by logging on to [www.stopclimatechaos.org](http://www.stopclimatechaos.org)

Please rest assured that I will continue to dedicate time to campaigning for increased government action to tackle the problems and causes of climate change, to enhance the UK's role in tackling climate change, and for the achievement of the UK's goal of a 20% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2010.

Thanks again for getting in touch. If there are any other issues you would like to bring to my attention, or concerns with which you would like my assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me again.

***A further response was received from Jo Swinson MP dated 14 March:***

I was present in Parliament on Friday for the report stage and third reading of this Bill, where eight different groups of amendments to the Bill were tabled. Unfortunately, as feared, due to long speeches and interruptions by a number of Members, only four of these groups of amendments were fully debated and decided, and the time ran out during the debate over the fifth.

One of these amendments which was brought to the vote was a provision to extend the time limit within which local authorities may bring prosecutions for breaches of building regulations designed to conserve fuel and power. I feel that these kinds of regulations are particularly important in tackling climate change, and therefore I voted for this amendment, details of which you can view by clicking on my voting record at [www.theyworkforyou.com](http://www.theyworkforyou.com)

As the report stage was incomplete at the end of Friday's session, the Bill will return to Parliament to be debated again this Friday. Unfortunately, as I am scheduled to be in the constituency this Friday, I will be unable to attend this further debate myself, but I will do my best to encourage my colleagues to attend in support of the Bill. Hopefully, the debate will progress more swiftly on this occasion, and prove successful in its third reading.

**On behalf of [Gordon Banks MP \(Lab\)](#), Ochil & South Perthshire (12:16pm)**

Thank you for emailing Mr Banks urging him to attend the third reading of the Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Bill.

Due to prior commitments with constituents, he will be unable to attend the reading today in the House. He does however fully support the Bill and has made careful note of your concerns.

You may wish to take a look at Mr Banks' contribution during PMQ's on Wednesday in which he raises an important point regarding renewables.

**From [Ian Davidson MP \(Lab/Co-op\)](#), Glasgow South West (5:09pm)**

I was unable to attend Parliament today because of a long standing engagement with John Hutton MP, who was visiting Glasgow to discuss Welfare Reform and Invalidity Benefit changes with Glasgow City Council, Voluntary Organizations in the city and employers, as well as making a visit to Silverburn development in my constituency, which is potentially creating up to 3,000 jobs, many of which will go to people living in the area.

In the circumstances, I thought that since I was Mr Hutton's direct host it was more appropriate and more immediately relevant to my constituents, to be in Glasgow today.

I will however support Mark's Bill should a further opportunity arise.

**From [Nigel Griffiths MP \(Lab\)](#), Edinburgh South (6:57pm)**

***Mr Griffiths is Parliamentary Secretary, House of Commons***

Thank you for your email. I was there on Friday to support Mark's Bill. Sadly, Eric Forth MP led a Tory fillibuster and seems determined to talk the Bill out. I am working with Mark to see how we might counter this. I am grateful to you for your support.

***A further response was received from Nigel Griffiths MP on Thursday 16 March at 4:30pm:***

I am a strong supporter of Mrk's Bill and I welcome the work you are doing on campus to promote it.

**From [Pete Wishart MP \(SNP\)](#), Perth & North Perthshire (dated 14 March)**

Thank you for writing to me about the above Bill's parliamentary debate on Friday 10 March, which I had thought I would be unable to attend, since I was out of the country last week.

However, I felt that the third reading was very important and therefore made sure I was back in time to be present.

**From [Jim Sheridan MP \(Lab\)](#), Paisley & Renfrewshire North (dated 15 March)**

***Mr Sheridan is Parliamentary Private Secretary (Team), Ministry of Defence***

Unfortunately, due to parliamentary business I was unable to attend the third reading of the Climate Change

and Sustainable Energy Bill as I was out of the country.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your correspondence and to guarantee my support for this bill.

**From [John Robertson MP \(Lab\)](#), Glasgow North West (dated 17 March)**

***Mr Robertson is Parliamentary Private Secretary to Kim Howells, Minister of State, Foreign & Commonwealth Office***

Unfortunately, due to long-standing engagements in my constituency, I was unable to remain in London for the Bill.

It was, however, good of you to contact me in relation to this issue and let me know your views.

**From [Katy Clark MP \(Lab\)](#), North Ayrshire and Arran (dated 23 March)**

Thank you for taking the time to contact me on 9 March regarding the Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Bill. I am a strong supporter of this Private Members Bill and have attended all of the sittings in the House of Commons when this Bill has been discussed. Unfortunately the Bill was obstructed by several MPs on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March and Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March as they made lengthy interventions and speeches which were designed to talk the Bill out. As such the Bill did not go through on this occasion but will return to the floor of the House of Commons on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May.

You may also be interested to know that I am a member of the [All Party Parliamentary Group on Climate Change](#) and have signed [Early Day Motion](#) 178 entitled 'Climate Change' which has been signed by 349 MPs making it the highest supported Early Day Motion this parliamentary session with over half of the House of Commons putting their name to it.

**From [Tom Harris MP \(Lab\)](#), Glasgow South (dated 23 March)**

***Mr Harris is Parliamentary Private Secretary to Patricia Hewitt, Secretary of State, Department of Health***

While I share your concern about climate change I was unable to attend the Report Stage of Mark Lazarowicz MP's Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Bill because I had prior commitments in the constituency. As you may be aware, the Bill successfully completed its Report stage and will now return to the House of Commons for its Third Reading on Friday 12 May. Unfortunately, I am also unable to attend this debate because I have already arranged to hold an AGM in the constituency the night before. However, I broadly support this Bill and I hope that it reaches the statute book.