



# Anglesey Against Wind Turbines

## Energy & Climate Change Policies Drive Up the Cost of Electricity and Destroy Jobs.

Secretary of State for Business Innovation and Skills, Vince Cable, will have had an enlightening but alarming read after his department received the latest independent report which examined the impact of the UK Government's Energy and Climate Change Policies on energy intensive industries in the UK.

The alarming conclusion of the 232 pages of evidence is that compared with China, India, Japan, Russia, Turkey, US, Denmark, France, Germany and Italy, electricity prices in the UK are forecast to be vastly more expensive for industries such as Aluminium, Iron and Steel manufacturing. This is the result of the UK's policies to subsidise renewable energy and tax fossil fuel use. [See Figure 1-2a from page 18 of the report, 'Indicative incremental impacts in 2011, 2015 and 2020 on electricity price (£/MWh, 2010 prices) of energy and climate change policies'. The largest impact, shown in purple, is from renewable energy costs].

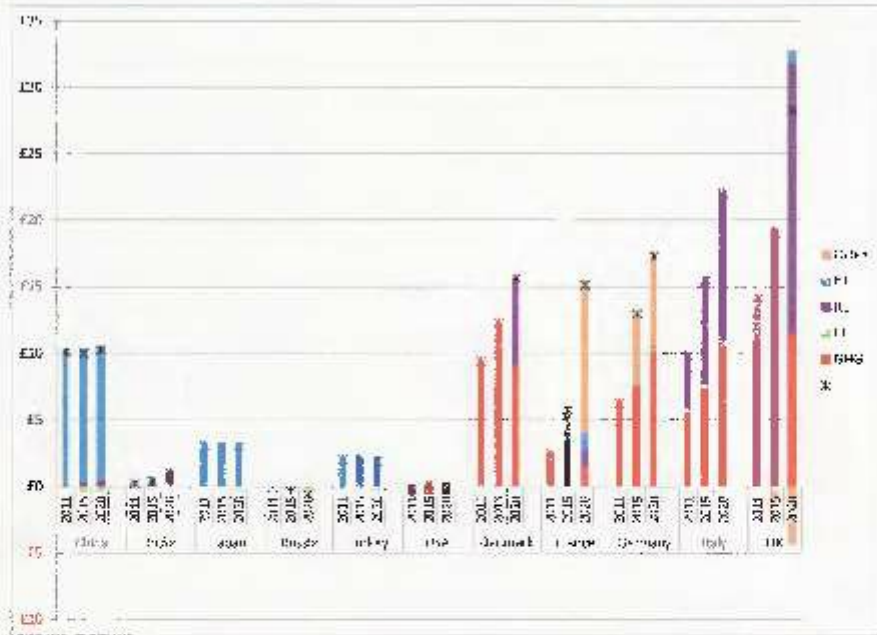
When the owners of Anglesey Aluminium announced the plant's closure, the issue of where a reliable source of affordable electricity would come from without Wylfa B was raised. Last week Tata Steel's European Chief Executive, Dr Kohler, said the company faced higher energy costs in the UK "due to Government levies and fees" than competitors overseas. This throws into question the future of the Number 4 Blast Furnace at Port Talbot, part of the state of the art £240 million investment in plant that Tata has committed to in South Wales. First Minister Carwyn Jones has written to Vince Cable about the effect of energy prices on big industrial manufacturers.

The irony is that Wales sits on 200 years worth of coal according to Energy Minister, Charles Hendry.

Of course higher electricity prices do not only threaten thousands of jobs in north and south Wales they also affect households up and down the country. Mr Cable should have a word with Liberal colleague Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, Mr Ed Davey, and explain to him why it is so important to stop subsidising expensive unreliable onshore wind turbines and adopt instead a sensible energy policy that will bring down the cost of energy for households, businesses and industry. Only then will we have a stable basis for an economic recovery where jobs will be created and where the natural beauty of the countryside on Ynys Mon, which is so important for businesses on this island, will not be destroyed in vain.

Mairede Thomas, 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2012

Figure 1-2a: Indicative incremental impacts in 2011, 2015 and 2020 on electricity price (£/MWh, 2010 prices) of energy and climate change policies<sup>15</sup>



<sup>15</sup> Corresponds to the top end of renewables costs paid by E.ON in UECG's *Estimated impacts of energy and climate change policies on energy prices and bills, 2011*.