

## Micro-generation initiative launched

*A return to the dark ages ... and all based on the myth of any human effect on a normal global warming cycle. It's disturbing to feel rational thinkers can believe the lunatic fringe.*

The Scotsman  
March 29, 2006

Rooftop windmills and solar panels could help turn every home into a power station and play a key role in beating global warming, **experts (!!!!!)** said on Wednesday.

They were speaking at the launch of the government's new strategy to boost microgeneration as part of the fight against cutting carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions.

The initiative will use 80 million pounds over the next three years to develop and promote microgeneration from solar to wind, water and combined heat and power.

The Energy Saving Trust (EST), **a set of professional green activists**, funded by government and the private sector, said microgeneration could supply more than one-third of energy needs within a few decades. The technology was available. What was needed, said EST's strategy director Nick Eyre, was investment to get production rolling and bring prices down, along with a tearing down of bureaucratic barriers and a clear demonstration of the benefits. **"By 2050 all these microgeneration technologies will be cost-effective** and delivering a very large contribution," he said. "Every home could be a power station, not only providing all its own electricity and heat but selling the surplus."

Energy Ministry Malcolm Wicks said home power generation was a potent weapon against global warming. "This is a technology whose time has come -- it is a revolution that has now started," he said. **It has hardly come if it relies on promises in 2050.**

The launch came a day after the government admitted that while it would hit its Kyoto target of cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5 percent by 2012, it would miss its own, tougher goal of cutting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 20 percent by 2010.

The government is in the middle of a six-month review of its energy sources.

The nuclear lobby, which says microgeneration is only part of the solution, is pushing hard for a major new building programme, saying that nuclear power is carbon free and therefore holds the answer to the conundrum.

The coal industry -- noting that coal is in plentiful supply worldwide and can be burnt without seriously polluting the atmosphere by capturing and storing the carbon emissions -- says it should be the natural choice.

Environmentalists on the other hand say a combination of energy efficiency and technologies like combined heat and power plants and renewables like wave, wind, solar and biomass are clean and can solve all the problems at a stroke.