

**Here are some more articles and replies. In order to simplify, our comments are written in Times New Roman and in block while the letters are in Arial.**

To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk  
From: messenger@truthout.org  
Sent: Sun, 16 Nov 2014 16:50:04 -0500  
Subject: Abundant Clean Renewables? Think Again!

# Abundant Clean Renewables? Think Again!

Sunday, 16 November 2014 00:00

By Rachel Smolker and Almuth Ernsting, Truthout | News Analysis



(Photo: Richard Brand / Flickr)

Although "renewable" energy is growing faster than ever before, it is neither carbon neutral, "clean" nor sustainable. **We need to transform into low-energy societies that meet human - not corporate - needs.**

Renewable energy is growing faster than ever before. Sure, some countries are lagging behind, but others are setting widely praised records.

Germany has installed over 24,000 wind turbines and 1.4 million solar panels, and renewables generate 31 percent of the country's electricity on average - and as much as 74 percent on particularly windy or sunny days. According to the German government, 371,400 jobs have been created by renewable energy. Norway generates 99 percent of its electricity from renewable energy. Denmark already generates 43 percent of electricity from renewables and aims to phase out fossil fuel burning by 2050.

Many view such news as rays of hope in a rapidly destabilizing climate. We all need some good news - but is renewables expansion really the good news people like to think? Can we really put our hopes for stabilizing the climate into trying to simply replace the energy sources in a growth-focused economic and social model that was built on fossil fuels? Or do we need a far more fundamental transition towards a low-energy economy and society?

Here's the first problem with celebratory headlines over renewables: Record renewable energy hasn't stopped record fossil fuel burning, including record levels of coal burning. Coal use is growing so fast that the International Energy Authority expects it to surpass oil as the world's top energy source by 2017.

Perhaps the 1,500 gigawatts of electricity produced from renewables worldwide have prevented a further 1,500 gigawatts of fossil fuel power stations? Nobody can tell. It's just as possible that renewables have simply added 1,500 gigawatts of electricity to the global economy, fueled economic growth and ever-greater industrial resource use. In which case, far from limiting carbon dioxide emissions worldwide, renewables may simply have increased them because, as discussed below, no form of large-scale energy is carbon neutral.

As long as energy sources that are as carbon-intensive and destructive as fossil fuels are classed as "renewable," boosting renewable energy around the world risks doing more harm than good.

Germany's Energy Transition illustrates the problem: Wind turbines and solar panels have certainly become a widespread feature of Germany's landscape. Yet if we look at Germany's total energy use (including heating and transport), rather than just at electricity, energy classed as renewable accounts for just 11.5 percent. The majority, 87.8 percent, of Germany's energy continues to come from fossil fuels and nuclear power (with waste incineration accounting for the difference of 0.7 percent). Coal consumption, which had been falling until 2008, has been rising again since then. Germany remains the European Union's (EU) top coal consumer. Net electricity exports are being blamed for the rise in coal burning and carbon dioxide emissions, yet they account for just 5 percent of Germany's electricity - and electricity accounts for less than half of the country's energy use.

The picture looks even worse when one examines the mix of energy classed as renewable in Germany: Solar photovoltaic (PV) makes up 11.5 percent of renewables, wind, 16.8 percent. The bulk of it - 62 percent - comes from bioenergy, much of which is far from low carbon or sustainable. It includes biofuels, many of them made from imported soya and palm oil that are being expanded at the expense of tropical forests and peatlands and that destroy the livelihoods of small farmers, indigenous and other forest dependent peoples worldwide. It includes biogas made from 820,000 hectares of corn monocultures in Germany - a key driver for biodiversity loss in the country. And it includes wood pellets linked to forest degradation across Central Europe. On closer examination, therefore, 24,000 wind turbines and 1.4 million solar panels have scarcely made a dent in Germany's fossil fuel burning and carbon emissions.

Norway's situation is unique in that virtually all of the country's electricity is generated from hydro dams, which were gradually expanded over the course of more than a century. Fossil fuels (mostly oil) still surpass renewable energy in Norway's overall energy mix (with electricity accounting for less than half of the total), though only marginally so, and Norway's economy remains heavily dependent on oil and gas exports.

Norway's own hydro dams - many of them small-scale - have raised little controversy but the same cannot be said for Norway's efforts to export this model to other countries. The Norwegian government and the state-owned energy company Statkraft have been at the forefront of financing controversial dams and associated infrastructure in Laos, India, Malaysian Borneo and elsewhere. One example is Statkraft's joint venture investment in a new dam in Laos that has displaced 4,800 people and is causing flooding, erosion, and loss of fisheries and land on which people relied for growing rice.

Another example is Norwegian aid for transmission lines for mega-dams in Sarawak, a Malaysian province in Borneo which has seen vast areas of tropical rainforest - and the livelihoods of millions of indigenous peoples - sacrificed for palm oil, logging and also hydro power. One dam alone displaced 10,000 people and at least 10 more dams are planned, despite ongoing resistance from indigenous peoples. Far from being climate-friendly, hydro dams worldwide are associated with large methane emissions - with one study suggesting they are responsible for 25 percent of all human-caused methane emissions and over 4 percent of global warming. The disastrous consequences of Norway's global hydro power investment illustrates the dangers of the simplistic view that anything classed as renewable energy must be climate-friendly and merits support.

What about the much-heralded renewable transition of Denmark? There coal use is falling and around 21 percent of total energy is sourced from renewables. Denmark holds the world record for wind energy capacity compared to population size. Unlike many other countries where wind energy is firmly controlled by large energy companies, Denmark has seen strong support for locally owned wind energy cooperatives, widely considered an inspiring example of clean, community-controlled energy. Nonetheless, wind energy in Denmark accounted for just 3.8 percent of Denmark's total energy use in 2010.

Bioenergy accounts for a far greater percentage of Denmark's "renewable energy" than does wind - and indeed for a greater share in the country's overall energy mix than is the case in any other European country. As in Germany, Denmark's bioenergy includes biofuels for transport, which studies show tend to be worse for the climate than equivalent quantities of oil once all the direct and indirect emissions from deforestation, peatland destruction and other land use change associated with them are accounted for. And it includes wood pellets, with Denmark being the EU's, and likely the world's, second biggest pellet importer after the United Kingdom. Most of those pellets come from the Baltic states and Russia, from countries where clear-cutting of highly biodiverse forests is rampant. Studies show that burning wood from whole trees can be worse for the climate than burning coal over a period of decades or even centuries.

Thus, on closer inspection, many of the "great renewable energy successes" don't look so great after all.

Clearly, the current catch-all definition of "renewables" is a key problem: Defining methane-spewing mega-dams, biofuels, which are accelerating deforestation and other ecosystem destruction, or logging forests for bioenergy as "renewable" helps policy makers boost renewables statistics, while helping to further destabilize planetary support systems. As long as energy sources that are as carbon-intensive and destructive as fossil fuels are classed as "renewable," boosting renewable energy around the world risks doing more harm than good.

A saner definition of "renewable energy" clearly is vital but would it open the door toward 100 percent clean and plentiful energy? Comparing the rate of wind energy expansion in Denmark and wind and solar power expansion in Germany with the tiny contribution they make to both countries' total energy supply indicates otherwise.

Wind and solar power require far less land per unit of energy than biomass or biofuels, but the area of land needed to replace fossil fuel power stations with, say, wind turbines is vast nonetheless. According to a former scientific advisor to the UK government, for example, 15 offshore wind turbines installed on every kilometer of the UK coastline would supply just 13 percent of the country's average daily energy use. And offshore turbines are more efficient than onshore ones.

Researchers agree that the life-cycle impacts of wind and solar power on the climate and environment are definitely smaller than those of fossil fuels, as long as turbines and panels are sensibly sited (not, for example, on deep peat). But this doesn't mean that the impacts are benign. Generating that 13 percent of UK energy from offshore wind would require wind turbines made of 20 million tons of steel and concrete - more than all the steel that went into US shipbuilding during World War II. Steel manufacturing is heavily dependent on coal, not just as a fuel for the furnaces but because it is needed to enrich the raw material, iron ore, with carbon to make it stable. And concrete is hardly "carbon neutral" either - cement (a key component) accounts for 5 percent of global carbon dioxide emissions.

Solar PV panels are up to four times as energy and carbon-intensive to produce as wind turbines: Aluminum - used to mount and construct solar panels - is about as carbon and energy-intensive as steel. Silicon needs to be smelted at 2,000 degrees Celsius and materials used to replace silicon have an even higher environmental footprint. Then there's an array of highly toxic and corrosive chemicals used during manufacturing. Yet with regards to pollution, building wind and marine turbines is likely worse than making solar panels, because efficient and lasting turbine magnets rely on rare earth mining and refining. One 5-megawatt turbine requires a ton of rare earths, the mining and refining of which will leave behind 75 cubic meters of toxic acidic waste water and one ton of radioactive sludge. Two-thirds of the world's rare earths are refined in one town in China, where people have become environmental refugees and virtually all who remain suffer from ill health associated with toxic chemicals and radiation. In the quest for "clean energy" rare earths mines are being sought and opened around the globe. The only US rare earths mine, Molycorp's in California, has been reopened, after having been shut down due to a long history of repeated spills of toxic and radioactive waste. Since reopening, the operators have already been fined for spilling yet more hazardous waste.

Zero-carbon, clean energy? Well, no. And yet, there are no large-scale energy sources with lower carbon emissions and less harmful environmental impacts than wind and solar power. As one scientist argues from the perspective of thermodynamics: "To talk about 'renewable energy' or 'sustainable energy' is an oxymoron, as is 'sustainable mining' or 'sustainable development.' The more energy we use, the less sustainable is humanity."

We certainly need to swiftly end fossil fuel burning and the destruction of ecosystems and that will require us to rely on the least harmful energy sources such as wind and solar power. But the myth of plentiful "clean" energy stops us from focusing on the far deeper changes needed - a transformation toward a low-energy society. A depressing conclusion? Not necessarily. As UK climate change campaigner and author George Marshall has pointed out, we could cut flights (and probably all transport emissions) and slash energy used for home heating by 80 percent overnight by going back to the way people used to live as short a time ago as 1972, provided we used home insulation and efficient boiler technology developed since then. Instead, 40 years of efficiency gains have been wiped out by ever-greater consumption. Yet UK "personal satisfaction" surveys show that people's sense of satisfaction or happiness peaked in 1970. Once people's basic needs for energy are met, rising energy use remains vital for corporate profits and economic growth, but not for people's quality of life.

Most readers will have never lived in a low-energy society. Imagining what such a society might look like and how to move toward the transformation required to get there, and to overcome the corporate interests that depend on profits from ever rising energy use, must be priorities for anyone aware of the seriousness of climate change. Daunting no doubt, but once we've abandoned faith in plentiful "clean" energy, we can finally make a start.

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<http://www.truth-out.org/news/item/27392-abundant-clean-renewables-think-again>

**No mention of bird-deaths but an extremely insightful report nonetheless. The need to transform into low-energy societies that meet human and not corporate needs is something many of us have thought for decades. Birds being chopped in half so that office buildings can have their lights left on all night or for those sitting in their overheated flats can wear just a t-shirt is just plain wrong.**

**Challenging too this over-simplistic view that any renewable energy must be climate-friendly and therefore merit support is also given. RSPB., public enemy number one, may like to make a special note of this.**

**In the meantime, as we ponder about the rights and wrongs of using too much energy, birds are dying and many with no doubt at all will go extinct, it's just the matter of time and more wind-farms I guess. And this is what everyone's oblivious to.**

**Also anyone wishing to drop Statkraft a line, please do. Thank you.**

jane.edwards@statkraft.com; knut.fjerdningstad@statkraft.com; yngve.froshaug@statkraft.com;  
victoria.bodak@statkraft.com; kjetil.forfang@statkraft.com; ssee.info@statkraft.eu; uk-post@statkraft.com;  
dragan.vignjevic@statkraft.com; bredo.erichsen@statkraft.com; france@statkraft.com; daniel.pintilie@statkraft.com;  
Bjorn.luell@statkraft.com; Torbjorn.Steen@statkraft.com;

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From: ferguson@maspin-house.co.uk>  
To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk  
Sent: Mon, 10 Nov 2014 19:26  
Subject: FW: Good news on the wind farm front - but there is danger ahead !

It might appear that the wind farm problem has gone quiet - but that does not mean it has gone away !

Spaldington appeal - River valley wind farm refused.

You may remember that on 7 May I told you that the Spaldington / River Valley wind farm public inquiry was starting. It went on for one week and it wasn't until mid October that the result was announced. River Valley wind farm ( 6 x 128 metre turbines ) between Spaldington and Holme on Spalding Moor was refused. Grounds for refusal were cumulative impact with other wind farms, impact on the landscape and impact on heritage assets. Great news and you can read all about it here

<http://stopwoodlanewindfarm.co.uk/page%2091%20news%20river%20valley%20pickled.html>

The web page also contains links to two videos where David Davis talks in the first about the way in which policy towards wind farms is changing, and in the second about subsidies and the way the Conservatives would eliminate them if re-elected. The appeal was fought by Spaldington Parish Council who acted as the Rule 6 party and brought in their own planning team and barrister.

Lumby turbine appeal

You may also remember the August bulletin which included information about the 87 metre turbine proposed in Green Belt near to the village of Lumby. The application was refused by Selby District Council but the decision has been appealed by the developer - a haulage company from Newark. Villagers in Lumby commissioned Cunnane Planning consultants to help and they have submitted a substantial case against the appeal. Cllr John Mackman also submitted written evidence to the planning inspector. The village also asked Nigel Adams MP for his support and as a result of his raising the matter with the minister the appeal has been called in. This does not mean that it will be refused, but what it does mean is that the recommendation put forward by the Planning inspector will be scrutinised for compliance with latest policies, especially concerning Green belt. This appeal looks all set to become a test case for a large turbine in Green Belt. Full details on the appeal can be found here - where there are also links to the latest Green Belt announcements.

<http://stopwoodlanewindfarm.co.uk/page92%20lumby%20turbine%20called%20in.html>

## Other single turbines

In addition to the Lumby turbine there is also concern about the turbine at Riccall which was refused by Selby Council and the applicant is appealing. There are also applications for turbines at Newton Kyme and Womersley which have yet to be decided by Selby Council. The threat will not go away until the huge subsidies are cut - as David Davis comments on in his video.

## Twitter

For updates on local wind farms follow @bestenergy\_ ( note the underscore) - if you are into twitter it would be good if we establish links by using #noturbines This could be a great help in establishing better links between the 2200 groups worldwide who are fighting plans to industrialise a large part of our countryside by erecting turbines and building associated infrastructure of roads and power lines. With a subsidy of about £200,000 per year for a turbine of the size of the one proposed at Lumby, even if it puts no power into the grid - the whole proposition has not much to do with Green, but a lot to do with Greed.

Howard Ferguson

We value our countryside.

<http://www.stopwoodlanewindfarm.co.uk>

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From: info@theblackfish.org  
To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk  
Sent: Sun, 9 Nov 2014 00:46:37 +0000  
Subject: Taking the ocean fight to the skies



**the black fish**  
working for the oceans

Read up on all the latest news from The Black Fish's work to expose and halt illegal fishing in our oceans.

Welcome to The Black Fish e-newsletter #27 - Nov 2014 - Your monthly digest from the world of marine activism

Taking the fight for the oceans to the skies

The ocean is the largest common on Earth. Covering the majority of the planet's surface, the seas are so huge, they are almost impossible to police. With growing problems of illegal overfishing and related organised crime, the ability to monitor what happens at sea is an increasing problem. The Black Fish develops cost-effective ways to address this problem.

Our volunteer Citizen Inspectors help investigate and expose wrongdoing in the fishing industry by monitoring fishing ports and markets. We use small boats to patrol coastal areas and deploy drones to realise quick and cheap monitoring from the skies. The Black Fish is now joining forces with the newly founded Wildlife Air Service, an organisation that will start air patrols in Europe with small, private aircraft from next year, flying over marine protected areas to ensure we can catch illegal operators.

It is thanks to YOUR support that The Black Fish has been able to grow around Europe since 2010. Our movement is growing and with your continued support we can make illegal overfishing a thing of the past. Consider making a donation or see how you can get more actively involved. Thank you!

Wietse van der Werf

Founder, International Director

New air patrols to keep eye on European seas

In cooperation with the newly established Wildlife Air Service, The Black Fish will start air patrols over European fishing grounds from next year. Follow progress on one of the most exciting new partnerships in conservation. Connect with the Wildlife Air Service on Twitter or Facebook.

How drones help to fight fishing crime

Since 2013 The Black Fish has worked with ShadowView to operate drones in the search of illegal fishing vessels. Check out this video, which gives an inside look into how our unmanned helicopters have been used to expose illegal driftnet fishing in the Mediterranean Sea.

<http://www.shadowview.org/>

Apply to be a Citizen Inspector

Get actively involved in our undercover work to expose illegal fishing by being trained as a Citizen Inspector. Apply now and you might be joining our trainings in one of many countries as early as spring 2015.

New hardship fund launched

A new fund initiated by The Black Fish supports conservationists facing personal hardship by giving back to those active in conservation work when help is most needed. Learn more about how it works.



We are recruiting in the UK

Our growing movement needs Volunteer Coordinators in the UK. There are four positions which have opened up so see what's involved and consider applying. Read about the roles and submit your CV.

follow us on Twitter | like us on Facebook | forward this to a friend

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This newsletter is sent out regularly to members and supporters of the marine conservation organisation The Black Fish.

The Black Fish

Postbus 3329, 1001 AC, Amsterdam, Netherlands

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From: info@oregonrighttoknow.org  
To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk  
Date: Wed, 15 Oct 2014 16:15:33 -0400  
Subject: This is bad: EPA approves toxic 2,4-D/glyphosate combo

The Environmental Protection Agency just issued final approval to Dow Chemical to sell a new toxic weedkiller combo for use on generically engineered crops. The pesticide, called "Enlist", is made of 2,4-D and glyphosate. 2,4-D was one-half of the herbicide Agent Orange that Dow manufactured and wrongly claimed was safe, and is highly toxic in itself.

Dow plans to sell Enlist alongside corn and soybeans that have been genetically engineered to survive high doses of this toxic chemical cocktail – which makes our fight for GMO labeling more important than ever.

My friends at the Yes on 92 campaign are fighting to make Oregon the first state ever to pass a ballot initiative requiring labels on genetically engineered foods like Dow's pesticide-drenched corn and soy. But they're under heavy attack from big pesticide companies – and with ballots already in the mail to Oregon voters, they're running out of time to fight back.

Click here contribute \$25 to Yes on 92 and help make GMO labeling a reality in Oregon.

When genetically engineered crops first came on the market, the agrochemical companies that produced them promised everything, from higher yields and drought resistance. But it turns out we were sold a bill of goods. Today's GMO crops are engineered to tolerate more and more toxic chemical pesticides, which are sold and sprayed in ever greater volume. These contaminate our food and water and pose significant risk to developing infants and children.

We have a right to know whether the food we're buying and eating has been genetically engineered to withstand a tremendous amount of toxic pesticide. Passing Measure 92 in Oregon wouldn't just be a huge victory for Oregon consumers – it would also be a vital step forward for labeling advocates nationwide.

This is urgent: Voting on Measure 92 begins TODAY in Oregon.

Contribute to Yes on 92 right now: Your gift will immediately be put to work fighting Big Ag's massive disinformation campaign and setting the record straight about GMO labeling.

Thank you for being a part of this movement,

David Bronner

[https://oregonrighttoknow.ngpvanhost.com/form/-3932197337485211904?ms=E.FR-O-SEIDLER.ND.NAT.MAIN\\_CONTRIBUTE-DONATE&AM=35](https://oregonrighttoknow.ngpvanhost.com/form/-3932197337485211904?ms=E.FR-O-SEIDLER.ND.NAT.MAIN_CONTRIBUTE-DONATE&AM=35)

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**Here now is a statement concerning the disappearance of the Willow Tit. The issue for me is gross, either deliberate or unintentional, misinformation. Please take a look at the link, **to skip the rest of the programme move the slide at the bottom of the screen to 45.40.****

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b04tr3ln/countryfile-lancashire>

**'What's the cause of the Willow Tit's disappearance?' 'Oh, probably global warming and then goes on with other perhaps more relevant thoughts.' Just misinformed? Who knows. But anyway, it immediately let's Defra. and the chemical companies nicely off the hook and at the same time calls for more and more bird-killing machines to be installed. Drip drip drip drip drip the nations around the world with enough misinformation, often without it being realised, and eventually everyone will believe it.**

<http://www.lancswt.org.uk/news/2014/11/07/lwt-welcomes-countryfile-wigan>

**I absolutely know what the problem is. Nearly forty years ago now organophosphate insecticides were brought into use. Willow Tits yes, along with Marsh Tits, Turtle Doves, Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers, Lapwings, Grey Partridges, Bullfinches and Linnets and many others all co-incidentally disappeared about then and the Wryneck and the Red-backed Shrike both went UK. extinct. I wrote several papers on the subject at the time. No-one wanted to know, least of all the RSPB.**

**Worst still perhaps is all of this misinformation about global-warming they're spewing out every time they open their mouths. 'Let's forget about scallop dredging, the Sandeel fisheries and the thousands of tons of dioxins being dumped by Swedish paper mills as to why it is seabird chicks are starving, let's blame it on warming seas. Forget about all these birds that disappeared decades ago, we need more wind-turbines to kill those birds we have left.**

**A few years ago now they were temporarily removed from use for a few years whilst awaiting EU. approval and at the same time I noticed birds like Linnets and Marsh Tits were both picking up. UKs. Defra. along with Spain were both very keen to see this legislation go through, the RSPB. never offered any evidence and then surprise surprise these compounds were reinstated for full legal use once again. These people make me want to vomit. They're taking the world down entirely the wrong path of doom and destruction, pussy-footing around instead of saying what needs to be said.**

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## **Blaenau Gwent farmer fined for leaving livestock carcasses**

**A BLAENAU Gwent farmer has been fined £7,163 for leaving 40 sheep carcasses and five cattle carcasses** the way he treated, stored and failed to notify authorities about the welfare and condition of his livestock.

Howell Jukes, 66, of 44 Stanfield Street, Cwm, appeared in court earlier this month (September 12, 2013)

Jukes owns Hafod y Dafal farm in Cwm, Ebbw Vale. **In January** officers from Powys County Council, who carry out animal welfare work under a joint working initiative with Blaenau Gwent, were alerted by the RSPCA to a number of sheep carcasses that had been discovered at the farm and concerns about the welfare of the animals being kept there.

During inspections which took place on January 22 and 24, 40 sheep carcasses and five cattle carcasses were found across the farm.

In conjunction with a veterinary inspector, it was determined that animals at the farm had been caused unnecessary suffering under the Animal Welfare Act 2006.

Jukes was charged with two offences under Section 9 (2) of the Act and received a £1000 fine for each of the offences.

The inspection also found Jukes had committed a further four offences in relation to the storage and disposal of animal by products, known as Category 2 material, under the Animal By Products (Enforcement ) (No2) (Wales) Regulations 2011.

The correct storage, transportation and disposal of this material is important in preventing the spread of disease. Jukes was fined £250 for each of these four offences, related to sheep carcasses and a further £1000 for a cattle carcass.

Jukes also committed two offences under the Cattle Identification (Wales) Regulations 2007 which relate to the notification of cattle deaths to the Welsh Government and was fined £500 for each of these offences.

In addition to the charges above - which Jukes pleaded guilty to at Magistrates court - he also admitted 88 other offences relating to the above. The local authority was awarded £2,043 costs and Jukes had to pay a £120 victim surcharge, bringing a total of £7,163.

Councillor Keith Hayden, Blaenau Gwent council's executive member for waste management and environment, said: "I hope this sends out a strong message to farmers and livestock owners that the welfare of their animals is paramount. We will not hesitate to work with organisations such as the RSPCA to bring about court proceedings and secure a conviction."

**Whilst we don't condone animal cruelty in any form, the leaving of carcasses out around the farms is something we've been campaigning on for some years now. They're a particularly vital food source for an entire range of scavenging species such as Ravens, Kites and Buzzards etc. In countries like Spain and Turkey this clearing away policy for incineration has caused huge problems for Vultures and Eagles which has driven them to the point of collapse and this is especially acute in the middle of winter. With wind-farms and diclofenac both taking their toll they've now got this added threat of starvation.**

**This again was an EU. directive that was originally brought in to combat Mad-Cow and Creutzfeldt-Jakob Diseases which was brought about in the first place by yet again Defra's own filthy policies of allowing sheep's brains to be added to cattle feed. As far as I know they've since been eradicated but these insane overly zealous hygiene laws still exist.**

**Please write to:**

Keith.Hayden@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk; environmental.health@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk;

**Perhaps we can send him a strong message.**

**The Wexford wildfowl killers in Ireland. With bird numbers ever decreasing there are still those whose purpose in life is to kill them. Please write to the contacts below and let them know what you think. Thank you.**

info@activehuntingireland.ie; komoran@wexfordfarms.com; paulwhitley44@gmail.com; kmoran6159@charter.net; crowpigeondecoying@gmail.com; sales@michiganoutdoorproperties.com; info@hiddenireland.com; theteam@gunsonpegs.com; tomadams@itapgroup.com

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To: cates1980@hotmail.co.uk  
From: info@responsibletechnology.org  
Sent: Fri, 31 Oct 2014 10:39:25 -0400  
Subject: More highly toxic compound superweed-killers on the way!

**Monsanto's new GMO cotton will unleash a triple whammy of toxic herbicides**

If you are still reeling from the news of the latest round of approvals for "Agent Orange" corn and soy, please sit down. More hopped up toxic combinations are on the way. Monsanto has a new "triple stack" GMO cotton up for deregulation with tolerance to dicamba, glyphosate, and glufosinate herbicides. They call it another "tool" for fighting superweeds. These glyphosate-resistant weeds have more than doubled since 2009 and are currently spread over 70 million acres.

Dicamba is a strong herbicide that has been associated with a number of health and environmental effects including reproductive effects, neurotoxicity, kidney/liver damage, not to mention that dicamba, like 2,4-D, is toxic to fish, toxic to birds, and harmful to pets.

People are becoming increasingly alarmed about the escalation to greater and greater amounts of toxic chemicals, and what appears to be an extraordinary insensitivity to public opinion. Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR), Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-Maine), and other members of Congress are speaking up. "Right now we are witnessing agribusiness attempt to wield its powerful influence over federal regulators. They want EPA and USDA to rubberstamp another set of genetically engineered crops rather than listen to the scientific community," says Rep. Peter DeFazio, (D-Oregon).

**EPA Approves Dow's new Super Toxic Superweed Cocktail over Protests from 50 Federal Lawmakers**

Oct 15 - In spite of an outpouring of public concern including a strongly worded letter signed by 50 members of Congress, the Environmental Protection Agency gave final approval to Dow Agrosiences' new Enlist Duo herbicide, a double whammy combination of glyphosate plus 2,4-D aimed at knocking down the onslaught of superweeds that have grown resistant to glyphosate alone, the active ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup. The approvals of Dow's "Agent Orange" crop system with resistance to 2,4,-D escalates the "war" on superweeds to a new level of chemical warfare.

50 congressional members – led by Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Oregon, and Chellie Pingree, D-Maine – expressed a chilling concern:

“We are also concerned that EPA failed to thoroughly examine all of the significant health and environmental risks of 2,4-D including that of inhalation and aggregate exposure; the risks of 2,4-D exposure to threatened and endangered species; and the risks posed by shifts in use patterns of 2,4-D as a result of the GE cropping systems. Most alarming is EPA’s failure to apply the additional safety factor of 10x, as mandated under the Food Quality Protection Act, to protect children, who are especially susceptible to harm from pesticide exposure. The 10-fold safety factor is required by law to safeguard against the potential health risks for young children and infants that would result from the widespread use of 2,4-D on GE crops.” The 10-fold safety factor refers specifically to cumulative risk assessments which may be required to take into account potential pre- and postnatal exposure. Detailed information is available from the EPA Office of Pesticide Programs.

Reach out to these legislators if you know them and thank them, or send a letter to your representative if not a part of this group and urge their further investigation.

Please send the full letter to EPA and USDA.

<http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome>

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**Finally, I'll now hand you over to the Reverend.**

From: revbilly@revbilly.com  
To: h.pagan.pla@aol.co.uk  
Sent: Wed, 19 Nov 2014 14:24  
Subject: Monsanto is the Devil

## **Reverend Billy & the Stop Shopping Choir**

Our 35-voice Stop Shopping Choir and the feral televangelist take the stage at Joe's Pub at New York's Public Theater, Sunday the 23rd at 2 PM EST. Please buy your tickets today for one of our five shows.

<http://joespub.publictheater.org/en/tickets/?SiteTheme=JoesPub>

We will livestream the performance on the Joe's Pub YouTube channel. You might consider the spiritual entertainment value of our baffling version of a church service. Your response may be somewhere between laughing your ass off and getting on your knees in prayer to our activist ancestors.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/JoesPubNY>

Here we are in the middle of WAY TOO MUCH. The fundraising benefit for Ferguson tonight with Joan Baez is going well. Our bus trip to Monsanto starts next Tuesday. Eat Organic on Thanksgiving with us! Here's a Village Voice piece.

[http://www.revbilly.com/thanksgiving?  
utm\\_campaign=monsanto\\_joes2&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=revbilly](http://www.revbilly.com/thanksgiving?utm_campaign=monsanto_joes2&utm_medium=email&utm_source=revbilly)

[http://blogs.villagevoice.com/runninscared/2014/11/reverend\\_billy\\_talen\\_monsanto\\_knows\\_everything.php?](http://blogs.villagevoice.com/runninscared/2014/11/reverend_billy_talen_monsanto_knows_everything.php?)

And, with Ferguson happening now, we feel sorrow, anger, determination, and admiration for the courage the activists have shown. We wish all the them safety as the grand jury's decision is handed down.

Peace-a-lujah!

Reverend Billy Talen



**Concluding:** We print any letters here from all sides of both arguments. So long as it's relevant to subject matters, and provided it's not obscene, we will print it. If you disagree with anything that's said, please write in. This is a public arena so please feel free to have your say.