

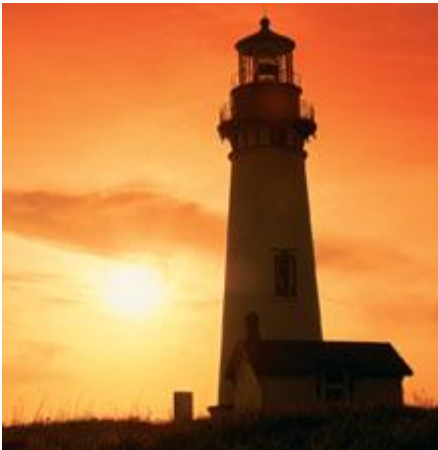
# Why Renewables



Renewables are key to addressing the fundamental energy challenges facing the UK. The energy model of the future needs to use all available technology in a way that maximises its strengths and compensates for its weaknesses. Renewables will be a major driver for reducing carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel resources; and contribute to meeting increased energy demand.

## **Fossil Fuels are running out**

The UK has been reliant on indigenous coal and gas to produce electricity for a number of years. Neither of which are now available as the staple for power generation. Beyond 2020 the UK will be dependent on imports for more than 80% of its gas needs. Investment in renewable sources of energy generation could help to conserve fossil fuels, as well as generating clean renewable electricity. (The Energy Challenge, July 2006)



## **The future power mix**

In the next ten to 20 years around a third of the UK's power stations will close as they reach the end of their working lives, or fail to meet new environmental legislation. With demand rising and power stations closing the UK is facing a very real energy gap. If its not taken seriously we are looking at the real possibility of the lights going out.



Renewable energy has an important part to play in the UK's future energy mix.

## **UK Climate Change Goals**

- Reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> by 26% by 2020
- Reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> by between 60-80% by 2050

## **Kyoto**

The UK has a legally binding commitment under the Kyoto Protocol to reduce emissions of six greenhouse gases by 12.5% below 1990 levels over the period 2008 – 2012.

## **EU Renewables Target**

The EU has set a 15% delivery target for total energy to be produced by renewable sources by 2020.

