

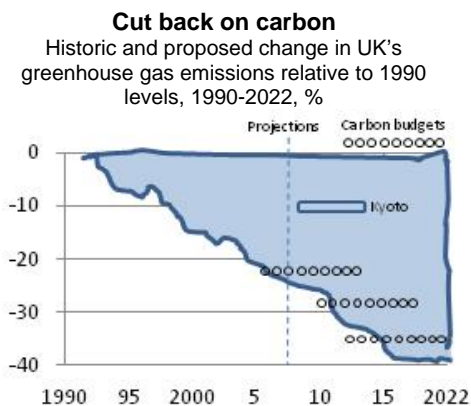
# EEnergy Informer

The International Energy Newsletter

## Britain Unveils Plan To Curb Carbon Emissions

After a number of false starts, UK appears determined yet hurdles loom

Barely a week after the inconclusive G8 summit in Italy, British secretary of state for energy and climate change, **Ed Miliband**, released a white paper that spells out a path to cut UK's greenhouse gas emissions by 34% by 2020 relative to 1990 levels. This represents an 18% reduction from current levels, not an insignificant feat if it can be accomplished. A big if.



Source: Dept Energy & Climate Change

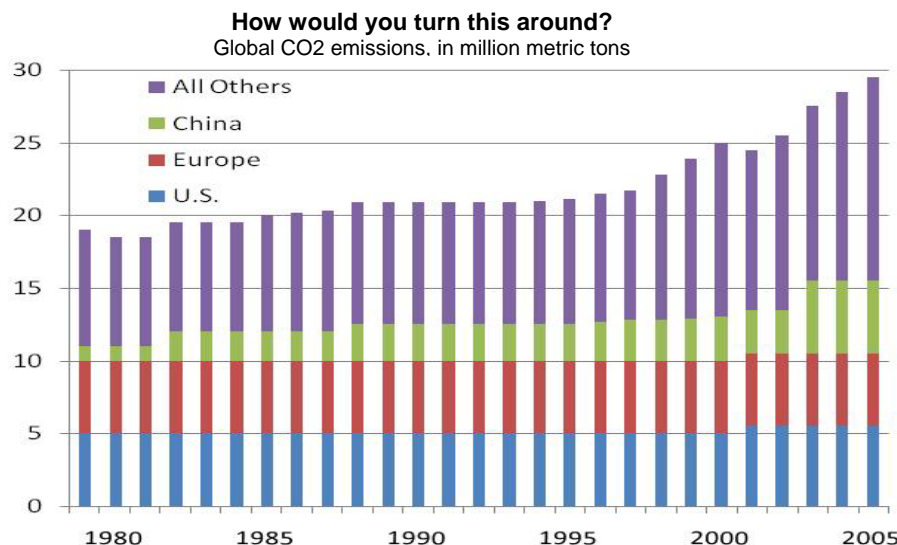
The plan envisions a massive change in electric power generation mix by 2020 – increasing the role of renewables from 6% to 31 while reducing coal's share from 32% to 22. Nuclear, while heavily favored by the current UK government, will not have sufficient time to grow in this time frame, actually falling in relative terms. The plan calls for “up to” 10 new nuclear power plants, but their long construction time means that even if built quickly, they will barely make up for those expected to retire by 2020.

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## G8 Summit: An Event In Search Of A Purpose

The leaders of world's biggest economies failed to agree in Italy, making it so much harder to reach consensus at Copenhagen

Over time, we have been trained not to expect much from frequent summits of the leaders of the world's greatest economies. But even measured against this low standard, the latest G8 summit in Italy was a failure and a wasted opportunity to make progress on climate change.



Source: Energy Information Administration

The only thing on which the G8 leaders could agree was to set an *aspirational* goal that earth's ambient temperature should not be allowed to rise by more than 2 degrees Celsius without specifying how this would be achieved. They also agreed to cut their greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050 – thank you – but failed to set any short-term measurable targets. It would be as if an obese

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