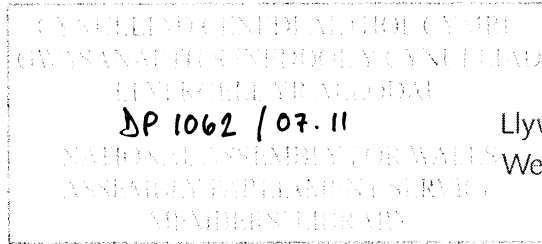


**Jane Davidson AC/AM**

**Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynaliadwyedd a Thai  
Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing**



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Eich cyf/Your ref  
Ein cyf/Our ref JD/00191/08

Mick Bates AM  
National Assembly For Wales  
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February 2008

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR WALES SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE'S FINAL REPORT  
ON THE COMMITTEE'S SCRUTINY OF THE UK CLIMATE CHANGE BILL:  
IMPLICATIONS FOR WALES**

Thank you for your letter of the 4 February, enclosing a copy of the final report produced by the Sustainability Committee on the UK Climate Change Bill and its implications for Wales.

I note the recommendations in your report and I am content to raise the issues that you have identified with the Secretary of State for the Environment as part of our ongoing work with the UK Government on the Bill.

I agree that reducing the emissions from international aviation and shipping are important areas that need to be addressed. As I mentioned in during the Committee meeting, I attended the recent Environment Council where the inclusion of aviation in the EU Emission Trading Scheme was considered. The UK Government has been at the forefront of promoting its inclusion and in pressing for international agreement on a methodology for dealing with aviation and shipping emissions and I support the proactive approach that they have adopted.

A target range was included for the 2020 target, rather than a specific percentage, as it was felt that this was more realistic than predicting the exact trajectory that UK emission reductions would take. This is a matter which has been raised in the Parliamentary scrutiny of the Bill and the UK Government has agreed to consider this clause and I would support any decision to remove the perceived 'upper limit'.

I recognise that that, in the light of the latest scientific evidence, a 60% emission reduction target may not be sufficient. The UK Government also recognises this and the Prime Minister has already made a commitment that the UK Climate Change Committee should be asked to review the 60% target contained within the Bill as a priority.

I understand the Committee's concerns regarding the need for additional enforcement mechanisms on the face of the Bill, but I also recognise that there are limited realistic options available. The threat of judicial review is a strong driver for action, as is the political pressure that a Secretary of State would face should they fail to achieve their duties under the Bill. Compliance and enforcement is an area that has attracted much discussion and I will explore with the UK Government what further measures could be considered.

I am copying this letter to the Secretary of State for Wales, all Welsh MPs, Welsh Peers and the Members of the relevant Westminster Committee.

I will write to the Secretary of State for the Environment drawing his attention to the report of the Committee and the Assembly Government's response to the report as set out in this letter.

**Jane Davidson AM**

Y Gweinidog dros yr Amgylchedd, Cynaliadwyedd a Thai  
Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Housing