



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

17 August 2009

Ecotricity boss slams Bristol airport expansion

Ecotricity CEO Dale Vince, has made public his concerns about Bristol airport's expansion plans in a letter published in The Guardian today.

Also signed by the Avon Wildlife Trust, World Wildlife Fund, Christian Aid and the Climate Outreach and Information Network (COIN), the letter expresses concern that BIA's plans will increase CO2 emissions by more than double at a time when the Climate Change Act commits us to cutting emissions to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.

Mr Vince also commented:

"We all need to be flying less not more. Bigger airports are just plain wrong."

Mr Vince and the letter's other authors go on to say that the £700 million annual tourism deficit to the UK economy, caused by six to ten times more tourists flying out of Bristol than visiting, far outweighs any jobs generated by the airport. They also say they believe the claimed economic benefits do not justify the damage that will be caused to the local environment by the physical impact of the expansion as well as to the global environment by the increased emissions.

Signing alongside Mr Vince were Steve Grainger, Chief Executive, Avon Wildlife Trust; Peter Lockley, Head of Transport Policy, World Wildlife Fund (WWF); Dr Alison Doig, Senior Adviser, Climate Change, Christian Aid; Tim Baster, Executive Director, The Climate Outreach and Information Network (COIN).

A public consultation on the airport's plans is ends today Monday, 17 August 2009. For more information on how to respond, visit www.stopbia.com or www.n-somerset.gov.uk

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For further information on SBAE visit: www.stopbia.com

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