

RURAL ECONOMY AND CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

SUBMISSION FROM ALAN BROWN

THE DRAFT CLIMATE CHANGE PLAN (RPP3)

1. Scotland has enormous oil and gas reserves. If the Scottish Government believes that climate change is a threat then we have to do one of two things;

- Leave the hydrocarbons where they are
- Develop and deploy carbon capture and storage in order to mitigate the effect of their extraction and burning

1. Your document makes little mention of our reserves. All of the measures in the document are utterly pointless unless the carbon in the existing hydrocarbon reserves stays under the ground. It's futile reducing our use of fossil fuels if the reserves we control are instead sold to someone else to burn. There is only one atmosphere and we all share it.

2. I'm aware that this is currently outside the remit of the Scottish Government, but we cannot ignore it. The carbon in our oil and gas needs to stay under the earth. Until viable CCS systems built that means not extracting oil and gas.

3. There's a bicycle in the nice graphic on page one, which is nice. There's a vision of 10% of journeys in Scotland being by bike in 2020. This is laudable for five main reasons;

- Reduced fossil fuel use
- Better mental health
- Better physical health
- Retain money in the Scottish economy
- Make our cities better to live, work and play in

4. As things stand, this 'vision' will simply not be delivered. Most Scottish cities are very unfriendly places to cycle and most journeys are impractical except for the young, fit and assertive.

5. We need to divert money from road building (M8 renewal and A9 dual carriageway, I'm looking at you!) in a massive way or we will see transport emissions rise and our fellow citizens get fatter, sadder and poorer.

6. We need to make walking and cycling the normal, default ways for Scots of all ages and genders to get to work, school and the pub.

Alan Brown

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