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Resource efficiency - Greening the workplace

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Sustainable Work – a union issue

- Roles
- *Workplaces burn energy ...*
- Actions
- *Policy and in the workplace*
- Expectations
- *Education and governance*



Role

- Lead in tackling climate change
- Transform challenge to opportunity
- Engage in policy and workplace initiatives



Policy engagements

- Through ITUC
- Through ETUC – *EU ETS & social dialogue*
- *Energy efficiency target*
- *EU/US dialogue*
- *Carbon leakage*
- *A Just Transition model*

Greening the Workplace

- 9 joint pilot projects
- SCP goods and services
- Key activities
- Key outcomes



Activities

- **Staff training** – use energy auditing tools, audits, raise awareness.
- **Green reps**
- **Open days** –
 - “The most interest we’ve ever had in a union event, people were queuing 5 deep throughout lunchtime”
 - 1 in 3 staff at events (5-10% for management-led ‘green’ events); courses oversubscribed
- **Staff surveys** – only 25% of staff knew of company’s sustainability or energy policy
- Negotiating agreements (fresh or existing)
- **Joint** environmental committees
- **Policy feedback** – eg UK CRC project



Key outcomes

- **British Museum:**

7% of electricity 11% of gas 301 tonnes CO2*

- **Scottish Power (Alderstone):**

4% of electricity 22 tonnes CO2*

- **TUC**

halved night-time electricity 142 tonnes CO2*

- **Friends Provident (4 sites)** 184 tonnes CO2 pa**

- **Corus (W Midlands)** 1216 tonnes CO2 pa**

- **DEFRA (Yorks)** 58 tonnes CO2 pa**



In summary:

- In pilot projects, unions have...
 - Played leading role in behavioural change as 'trusted friend'
 - Delivered joint training on workplace energy efficiency
 - Supported quality accreditation
 - Negotiated for –
 - 'Green' capital investment
 - New joint procedures for SCP
 - Transparent reporting
- Potential for Carbon Reduction and wider energy & resource efficiency projects



Expectations

- Engagement at all levels
- Innovations in education and governance
- Access to time off and training