Progress to date in cutting emissions within the sector/sectors of interest and implementing the proposals and policies set out in the RPP2;

Generally impressive though much more consideration needs to be taken of:

Public transport. Surely one of the best ways to cut transport emissions is to improve the quality and reduce the price of public transport. I am very environmentally aware but even I could not argue with taking a flight from Edinburgh to Bristol recently when the cost was £70 compared with £170 for the train, with speedy boarding and extra leg room included. If other nations can do it, I’m sure Scotland can.

The ludicrous over emphasis on Carbon Capture and Storage. I don’t know how much money needs thrown at one technology until we it’s seen it is little more than a half way house. Had all this investment been spent on renewables we would have been almost there by now. A carbon free energy sector is there for the taking; this sweeping our dirty secret under the carpet is just a waste of resources.

Farming intensification. Extensification is spoken about in romantic terms in the document noting the array of benefits on biodiversity, quality of produce etc. Yet the agriculture emissions have seen a decrease because of increased milk production per cow! How does this stack up? I have been vegetarian for a while and now will only use organic dairy and eggs from numerous conversations with older farmers who say the amount we expect from a cow these days is sad, that the creatures are wandering around with their udders full all the time and they have a life expectancy of a third of that of when they started farming.

Unconventional gas extraction. I HOPE the SNPs moratorium will remain and we will stand above our English neighbours on morality on this subject, for local safety based environmental reasons as well as wider climate considerations. This cheap fix is a HUGE retrograde step. However it is not mentioned. I have yet to read the Energy Strategy and strategy specifically dedicated to this subject so I will reserve judgement until I read that.

The scale of reductions proposed within their sector/s and appropriateness and effectiveness of the proposals and policies within the draft RPP3 for meeting the annual emissions targets and contributing towards the 2020 and 2050 targets;

See comments above.

The appropriateness of the timescales over which the proposals and policies within the draft RPP3 are expected to take effect

No real comment.
The extent to which the proposals and policies reflect considerations about behaviour change and opportunities to secure wider benefits (e.g. environmental, financial and health) from specific interventions in particular sectors.

See above comments.

Angela Lamont

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