

Catherine tackles tar sands trade



Catherine Bearder, South East Lib Dem MEP, has challenged the European Commission over the EU-Canadian Free Trade Agreement and the potential trade of oil from Canadian tar sands.

Leaked documents have suggested that the European Union has given way to Canadian demands that the EU remove possible trade barriers to Canadian tar sands.

“Scientific studies have clearly shown that extracting oil from tar sands releases three times as much CO2 as standard oil production”, said Catherine. “As a member of the Committee on International Trade, I want to know how the Commission proposes that trade relations between the EU and Canada in no way promote the development of this highly pollutive industry.”

“We must ensure that the European Union’s environmental commitments are not forgotten in their trade deals and negotiations with others.”