

# Air Pollution UK since 2010

**Clean air and fresh water are essential  
to ALL life on Earth.**

**The United Nations defines these  
elements as a Basic Human Right for  
every human being.**

- Since 2010 the UK has regularly breached EU and WHO safe pollution limits.
- Lethal air pollution causes 400,000 deaths in Europe every year and of these:
  - ***40,000 deaths (i.e. 10%) occur in the UK.***
- Toxic emissions can be ingested both through the lungs and the skin.

# THE CAUSES of TOXIC AIR POLLUTION

- **Diesel powered vehicles** are currently the main sources of the most dangerous particulate PM2.5 and nitrogen oxide (NO2) pollution in our towns and cities.
- However, the case for non-polluting energy does not end with vehicles.
- We need to end our dependence on **hydrocarbon polluting energy in our homes and factories too.**

# THE CAUSES of TOXIC AIR POLLUTION

- Energy currently produced in our power stations using coal, oil and gas pollutes large areas throughout the country.
- In future, these lethal emissions together with many other dangerous gases, will also be emitted during oil/gas mining, (including fracking and acidisation) throughout England – in towns and our countryside.

# THE CAUSES of TOXIC AIR POLLUTION

**Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Eire have now banned unconventional oil/gas mining, together with many countries throughout the EU and among others, New York State in the US.**

Currently, toxic air levels are concentrated in London and other major cities, like Greater Manchester, Leeds, Southampton and Birmingham, all of whom have now set emissions standards for all vehicles, to control the escalating levels of air pollution and the (avoidable) death rate.

However, other cities have yet to react.

# **THE CAUSES of TOXIC AIR POLLUTION**

**UNICEF has now called on the government to produce a national plan to protect our children from the lethal effects of toxic air.**

# THE RISKS to HUMAN HEALTH

- **In the unborn child**, some particulates cross the placenta and harm the foetus, causing premature birth and birth defects.
- **Infants** suffer damage to their lungs and brains, with dangerous nano particles occurring in brains, even when pollution occurs below EU safe limits.
- **Children** suffer significantly reduced cognitive function, asthma and stunted lung growth.
- **Adults and children** both develop lung and brain cancers

# THE RISKS to HUMAN HEALTH

- **Adults** also develop mouth cancer, respiratory disorders, strokes, cardio-vascular diseases, neurological disorders, (e.g. MS and MND), increased mental illness, including dementia and diminished cognitive functioning, which degrades our ability to process new information, change our minds, or formulate complex thoughts.

# THE SOLUTION

- **Renewable energy is clean!**

Public health will be greatly improved - and with a healthier population, the bill for the NHS will be radically reduced.

- **Renewable energy is cheaper both in production and supply**

It requires far less infra-structure and transport, both in production and supply to consumers.

- **Renewable energy will power-up our economy.**

- Lower energy costs will enable our industries and businesses to be more competitive. Transmission of electricity will be greatly reduced thereby minimising damage to our roads, infrastructure and natural environment. There will be no pollution of our air and soil enabling our farming and livestock industry to thrive.
- It will reduce fuel poverty for low-income families

# THE SOLUTION

**So, we need to harness all our natural resources in solar, wind and hydro power, to preserve our lives and health in England and help to stabilise our climate on Earth**