### News story: UK-India Energy for Growth Dialogue

The second UK-India Energy for Growth Dialogue took place in London on 13 September 2018, hosted by the Secretary of State for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy. The Dialogue was part of a wider visit made by Indian Minister for Power and New & Renewable Energy, Raj Kumar Singh.

The Energy for Growth Dialogue focused on the shared commitments of both Prime Ministers to clean and green supplies of energy. Both countries are also committed to reducing the cost of developing and deploying clean energy projects.

Minister Singh and Secretary of State Clark celebrated progress on collaboration between both countries since the <u>first Dialogue in 2017</u>, particularly on power sector reform and the development of renewable energy.

The ministers endorsed a forward action plan for collaboration, and agreed to develop a proposal for a joint programme on Clean Energy for Growth to support the rapid and sustainable growth of India's energy sector. In addition to key actions to accelerate energy efficiency, this programme may include elements on renewable energy, power sector reform and elements of green finance.

They discussed the recent launch of the joint UK-India Centre for Energy Regulation, as well as India's leadership of the International Solar Alliance.

Minister Singh's visit was set against successful international summits held this week in India on Future Mobility and in the UK on Zero Emission Vehicles, demonstrating continued global leadership by both countries to make transport cleaner and greener. The Minister engaged with industry in business roundtables and visited an offshore wind farm, to see first-hand the steps that the UK has taken to install the largest operational offshore wind capacity in the world.

# Press release: Heathrow and Arora admit to anti-competitive car park agreement

The fine to be imposed by the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA), comes after its investigation into the airport's agreement with the Arora Group for

the lease of Arora's Sofitel hotel at Terminal 5. This included a clause restricting how parking prices should be set by Arora for non-hotel guests.

The CMA investigated whether the pricing restriction prevented the Arora Group from charging non-hotel guests cheaper prices than those offered at other car parks at the airport.

Following its investigation, the CMA has provisionally found that Heathrow and the Arora Group breached competition law. Both parties have formally accepted that this was a breach of competition law and have removed the pricing restriction, with Heathrow agreeing to settle the case and pay a £1.6m fine.

The Arora Group will not be fined, as it was granted immunity for coming forward under the CMA's leniency programme. The programme is designed to encourage companies to co-operate if they think they might be involved in wrong-doing.

As part of its work, the CMA has sent letters to other airports and hotel operators warning against similar anti-competitive agreements.

This is the first time the CMA has taken competition law enforcement action in a case involving a land agreement.

Ann Pope, the CMA's Senior Director for Antitrust, said:

Airport car parking charges are paid by millions of people and any agreements to restrict price competition are not acceptable.

Competition law applies to land agreements at airport car parks in the same way as any other type of business arrangement.

This fine should act as a strong warning to all companies that the CMA will take action to make sure businesses are free to compete on price.

The CMA has a dedicated reporting hotline for cartels (020 3738 6888) and recently launched a <u>campaign</u> to encourage more people to come forward with information about suspected illegal behaviour.

### Notes for editors

- 1. "Land agreements" refer to agreements between businesses which create, alter, transfer or terminate an interest in land. This case involved written agreements between a freeholder (Heathrow) and its leaseholder (Arora Group).
- 2. Heathrow's fine was reduced by 20% from £2 million to £1.6 million because Heathrow voluntarily entered into settlement with the CMA.

- 3. The <u>Civil Aviation Authority</u> is a concurrent competition authority in relation to Airport Operation and Air Traffic Services. It assisted the CMA in its investigation and will be issuing an Open Letter to airport operators and other relevant parties.
- 4. Under the CMA's leniency policy, a business that has been involved in a cartel may be granted immunity from penalties or a significant reduction in penalty in return for reporting cartel activity and assisting the CMA with its investigation. Individuals involved in cartel activity may also in certain defined circumstances be granted immunity from criminal prosecution for the cartel offence under the Enterprise Act 2002. Visit our <a href="Leniency Guidance">Leniency Guidance</a> for more information.
- 5. The CMA operates a rewards policy under which it may pay a financial reward of up to £100,000 in return for information which helps it to identify and take action against cartels.
- 6. An overview of the investigation can be found on the <u>case page</u>. The investigation was opened on 7 December 2017. The CMA has issued a statement of objections to both companies and has reached a settlement with Heathrow.
- 7. The anti-competitive behaviour outlined in this press notice is covered by the Chapter I prohibition of the Competition Act 1998.
- 8. For more information on competition law, see our <a href="https://www.nee.gov/homepage">homepage</a> and our competition law <a href="guidance">guidance</a>. People can also follow us on <a href="mailto:Twitter">Twitter</a>, <a href="LinkedIn">LinkedIn</a> or sign up to our <a href="mailto:emailto:
- 9. Media enquiries should be directed to <a href="mailto:press@cma.gov.uk">press@cma.gov.uk</a> or journalists should call 020 3738 6460. Non-media enquiries should be emailed to <a href="mailto:general.enquiries@cma.gov.uk">general.enquiries@cma.gov.uk</a>

# News story: £3m support scheme launched to reduce air pollution from farming

A scheme, backed with £3m of funding, to help farmers reduce ammonia

emissions from agriculture has been officially launched today (18 September, 2018).

The <u>Catchment Sensitive Farming</u> partnership between Defra, the Environment Agency and Natural England will support farmers to take action to reduce harmful ammonia emissions.

Farming is responsible for 88 percent of all UK emissions of ammonia gas which can travel long distances, be damaging to the environment, and combine with other pollutants to form particulates, which are harmful to human health.

The money will fund a team of specialists who will work with farmers and landowners to implement the measures to reduce their ammonia set out in the new <a href="Code of Good Agricultural Practice">Code of Good Agricultural Practice</a> (COGAP) for Reducing Ammonia Emissions.

The team will provide training events, tailored advice, individual farm visits and support with grant applications, all funded by the programme.

Bob Middleton, Programme Manager, Catchment Sensitive Farming said:

As custodians of the land, farmers have an important role to play in protecting the environment. But reducing ammonia emissions can also bring real business benefits.

The UK loses £138m of nitrogen per year from ammonia emissions, so by taking action to reduce them, farmers can get more value from their manure and fertiliser and save money.

This new initiative adds to the existing, popular programme of advice to improve water quality and prevent flooding from farmed land and a new guidance video which sets out simple steps all farmers can take to reduce ammonia emissions, such as the way they handle livestock feed, and manure and fertiliser spreading.

Farming Minister George Eustice said:

There is growing evidence that ammonia emissions can have significant impacts to parts of our environment so we want to help farmers play their part in reducing them.

The specialist team of advisers leading this project can advise farmers on steps they can take, such as improved slurry handling facilities, and grants are available where investment is required.

Reducing emissions from farming is a key element of the government's ambitious new Clean Air Strategy, which has been welcomed by the <u>World Health Organization</u>.

The announcement comes less than a week after the introduction of the government's landmark <u>Agriculture Bill</u> which sets out ambitious proposals to protect and enhance our environment.

To replace the Common Agricultural Policy, a new system will reward farmers for "public goods", which includes taking action to improve air and water quality and soil health.

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