

Labour's net zero disaster

Labour's big difference with the Conservatives was going to be a big programme of net zero state investment and subsidy. This would be backed up by stricter targets to be enforced by tougher and earlier regulation to force us out of our cars and into our heat pumps. How they complained when the PM made a speech favour of a slower and less regulated pathway to low carbon. Conservatives want the PM to do more to show he has turned away from unrealistic targets, dirigiste regulations and wasteful subsidy.

The Labour approach was full of lies and implausibilities. Where did they get £28 bn a year from to pay for the programme? They now admit there was no £28 bn and they cannot find it.

They say they will have moved over from fossil fuel electricity by 2030. No way. We still cannot store much wind and solar for wind and sun free hours and still lack grid to handle so much more interruptible power.

They say many more people will insulate, buy heat pumps and switch to electric cars. You cannot achieve that by just spending more taxpayer money on subsidies and tax cuts. Half the country will not even accept a "free" smart meter let alone have their homes made into a building site for a heat pump.

Maybe they would get us to deindustrialise at a faster pace to make us ever more dependent on imports whilst cutting CO₂ produced here. As for the favoured green jobs they would create plenty of those in China. No sign of realistic plans to wrestle the manufacture of solar panels, wind turbines, big batteries or electric cars away from now well established Chinese dominance.