

Chaddesley cares about Planet Earth

I wonder if this will work..... and soon? The trouble with most climate change “solutions” is that they are years away. *Which is why we all have to do everything, however small, to help **now**.* So, what am I talking about??

Some researchers are suggesting that greenhouse gases, as produced by coal fired power stations, can safely be buried in the ground. It is called carbon capture and sequestration (CSS) – must we always have such complicated names, that are then reduced to another set of initials? This means that coal-fired stations, or any burning fossil fuels, might in future be able to trap the carbon dioxide produced, before it gets into the atmosphere. Then it would be buried deep underground, where it will mix with water and dissolve.

Can we believe this any more than any other “solution”? Well, it was not in the paper on April Fool’s Day, so there is some hope! The researchers have investigated known pockets of carbon gas buried naturally under the earth. Some are thought to have been there thousands, if not millions, of years and have not let the gasses out. So the implication is that we could store man made gas in the same sort of way.

Obviously the main implication for the UK is that we would have longer to find a good reliable source of clean energy. But think of the benefit to the world if China adopted such technology – China, one of the worst polluters, currently brings one fossil fuel power station on stream each week!

Sadly I do not suppose for one minute that this will be a quick solution. The underground bit seems relatively easy; trapping the gases before they reach the atmosphere, is much more complicated and expensive. But the good news is that there do seem to be people all over the place looking for potential solutions

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For the Working Group set up by the Parish Council