

21/8.



25<sup>th</sup> August 2004

**Edge Special Event and Workshop**  
"This year, next year, sometime, never ...  
when will we get low-carbon buildings?"

**3 to 5 PM on Monday 13 September 2004 in the Palmer Room,  
Institution of Civil Engineers, 1 Great George Street, London SW1P 3AA**

On behalf of the Edge, I am writing to invite you to two important events on Monday 13 September:

2-5 PM                    A workshop on low-CO2 buildings at the ICE.  
6-8 PM                    Debate 21 on energy certification at the RICS next door.  
Details of both events are included at the end of this letter.

Buildings account for nearly half the UK's annual CO2 emissions. While there is scope for making many cost-effective improvements through design, technology and management, much of the market appears unconvinced.

The afternoon event will review short presentations on a wide range of opportunities, drawing on work by the Edge, nCRISP, the Sustainability Forum's Carbon sub-group and ICE and consider possible actions.

The evening debate will focus on building energy labelling, especially in non-domestic buildings. Labelling is about to happen, owing to the EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), which includes requirements for labels when buildings are completed, altered, sold or let; and for display of certificates in public buildings. Forming a background to the debate is ODPM's consultation document on revisions to the Building Regulations for 2005 and implementing the EPBD. This was issued in July and the consultation period ends on 22 October.

We would be delighted if you could join us at both events to discuss these important topics. I appreciate that you may not have time for both: if so, please come to one of them. Places are limited, so I would be grateful if you could let Jane Powell know as soon as possible whether or not you will be able to attend. Her email is [jane.powell@whitbybird.com](mailto:jane.powell@whitbybird.com) and fax 020 7462 5258. **Please be sure to state whether you will be able to come to the afternoon event at ICE, the evening debate at RICS, or both.**

I look forward to seeing you on 13 September. At the end of the evening debate, I also hope you will be able to stay on to continue discussion informally over a drink in the bar at the RICS.

Yours sincerely

Robin Nicholson

**ABOUT THE EDGE**

The Edge is an inter-institutional ginger group which promotes inter-disciplinary cooperation and has developed a particular interest in sustainability. It was launched in 1995 with sponsorship from the Arup Foundation and currently receives financial support from the Carbon Trust. Although not formally linked to the Institutions, the Edge is supported by of ICE, RIBA, CIBSE; and now RICS. The Edge holds regular invitation-only debates under Chatham House Rules and occasional special events such as this one). Synopses of the debates are available on our website [www.at-the-edge.org.uk](http://www.at-the-edge.org.uk).

**EDGE MEMBERS**

- Bill Bordass**  
William Bordass Associates  
BillBordass@aol.com
- Chris Colbourne**  
Masterworks Develop. Corp.  
Ccolbourne@clubquarters.com
- Frank Duffy**  
DEGW  
Fduffy@degw.com
- Garry Felgate**  
The Carbon Trust  
Garry.felgate@thecarbontrust.co.uk
- Max Fordham**  
Max Fordham & Partners LLP  
max@maxfordham.com
- Simon Foxell**  
The Architects Practice  
sf@architectspractice.com
- Kathryn Frith**  
London School of Economics  
K.Firth@lse.ac.uk
- Bill Gething**  
Feilden Clegg Bradley Architects  
wg@feildenclegg.com
- Peter Guthrie (Prof)**  
University of Cambridge  
Pmg31@eng.cam.ac.uk
- Jan Hellings**  
Dr Jan Hellings & Assocs. Ltd  
Jan@janhellings.com
- Paul Hyett**  
Ryder  
Phyett@ryder.com
- Paul Jowitt**  
Heriot-Watt University  
Paul.Jowitt@sisitech.co.uk
- Anthony Justice**  
The Carbon Trust  
Anthony.justice@thecarbontrust.co.uk
- Janet Kidner**  
Battle McCarthy  
jkidner@battlemccarthy.com
- Mike Murray**  
i to I Solutions Ltd  
Mikeann.murray@tesco.net
- Robin Nicholson**  
Edward Cullinan Architects  
Robin.nicholson@ecarch.co.uk
- Andy Parker**  
AMEC  
Andy.parker@amec.com
- Delva Patman**  
Delva Patman Associates  
Delvapatman.co.uk
- Adam Poole**  
Adam@engineeringrelations.com
- Andrew Ramsay**  
Engineering Council  
aramsay@engc.or.uk
- Yasmin Sharrif**  
Dennis Sharp Architects  
ysharrif@btopenworld.com
- Lorna Walker**  
Ove Arup & Partners  
Lorna.walker@arup.com
- Mark Whitby**  
Whitbybird Ltd  
Mark.whitby@whitbybird.com
- Terry Wyatt**  
Hoare Lea & Partners  
Terrywyatt@hoarelea.com

SUPPORTED BY  
Carbon Trust  
CIBSE  
ICE  
RIBA

**Edge Special Event and Workshop**  
“This year, next year, sometime, never ...  
when will we get low-carbon buildings?”

**3 to 5 PM on Monday 13 September 2004 in the Palmer Room,  
Institution of Civil Engineers, 1 Great George Street, London  
SW1P 3AA**

**BACKGROUND**

The Edge is hosting this special afternoon event on behalf of nCRISP - the Construction Research and Innovation Strategy Panel and the Carbon Sub-Group of the Sustainability Forum<sup>1</sup>. The meeting will review recent work on reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from existing and new buildings, widen out into a consideration of both physical and communications infrastructure, and finish by considering how the Carbon Sub-Group could help to speed up adoption.

**CHAIR**

Michael Dickson, Chairman, Buro Happold.

**PART 1: LOW-CARBON THINKPIECES**

Short presentations of the six “Thinkpieces” on low-CO<sub>2</sub> buildings commissioned by nCRISP last year in response to the Energy White Paper, followed by a discussion.

- Design Bill Gething, Chair, RIBA Sustainability Group
- Technology Professor David Fisk, Imperial College and ODPM
- The Credibility Gap Bill Bordass, Usable Buildings Trust
- Waste Not Uly Ma, Greenfile
- The Property Market Chris Morley, Construction Clients Group and BPF
- Corporate Accountability Peter Sharratt, WSP Group

**PART 2: CARBON SUB-GROUP - WORK IN PROGRESS**

A review or work in progress by the Carbon sub-Group on the importance of reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the built environment, together with and a proposal for a voluntary declarations of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from new designs and completed buildings.

- Introduction Dave Hampton, Chair, Carbon Sub-Group
- Carbon Awareness Antony Turner, CarbonSense
- CO<sub>2</sub> Declarations Bill Bordass

**PART 3: BUILDINGS, ENGINEERING AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

Led by Professor Paul Jowitt, Scottish Institute for Sustainable Technology.

**PART 4: CLOSING DISCUSSION**

Actions to help achieve the step-change.  
Where can the Carbon Sub-Group help?

---

<sup>1</sup> The Sustainability Forum was set up in 2004 to carry on the work initiated by the Sustainable Buildings Task Group following the Better Buildings Summit in 2003.