

Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP
Leader of the Liberal Democrats
House of Commons
Westminster
London SW1A 0AA

18 September, 2009



Dear Nick,

We are writing with regard to the Liberal Democrats' new policy paper 'Our Natural Heritage' which is to be presented to, and we hope, adopted by the membership at this year's annual conference. As a group of NGOs campaigning on the natural environment, we would like to warmly welcome this paper, and congratulate the party for the vision and work that has gone in to its development.



Although the Green Standard Report in 2007 did give a poor rating to the Liberal Democrats, along with the other two main parties, the response from your party has been impressive. We believe 'Our Natural Heritage' provides a coherent and credible set of policies on the natural environment; drawing together policies on the landscape, biodiversity, environmental protection and the growing threat that we face from the depletion of natural resources.



The publication of this paper provides an opportunity to open up the public policy debate in this area, and puts pressure on other parties to develop their ideas and provide plans to tackle these challenges that are as wide-ranging as 'Our Natural Heritage' sets out.



We would particularly like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to Martin Horwood and his team, who took great trouble to consult with the NGO community throughout the development of these policies, and were receptive to many of the issues we raised with them.



We hope that 'Our Natural Heritage' is adopted by the Party, and look forward to working with you to bring the policies it expresses to life.

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Andy Atkins in black ink.

Andy Atkins
**Executive Director,
Friends of the Earth**

Handwritten signature of John Sauven in black ink.

John Sauven
**Executive Director,
Greenpeace**

Handwritten signature of Stephen Hale in black ink.

Stephen Hale
**Director,
Green Alliance**



Handwritten signature of David Nussbaum in black ink.

David Nussbaum
Chief Executive, WWF

Handwritten signature of Shaun Spiers in black ink.

Shaun Spiers
Chief Executive, CPRE

Handwritten signature of Sue Holden in black ink.

Sue Holden
**Chief Executive,
Woodland Trust**



Handwritten signature of Graham Wynne in black ink.

Graham Wynne
Chief Executive, RSPB

Handwritten signature of Stephanie Hilborne in black ink.

Stephanie Hilborne
**Chief Executive,
The Wildlife Trusts**

