

ESG RADIO BROADCAST THURSDAY 25TH JANUARY 2007

The ESG wishes to bring you up to date with a number of important events we think you will find of interest.

On our Bay Petition

In our last newsletter we advised that the cut-off date for collecting signatures for the petition calling for health studies to be done in the Bay was the **15th January**. However, after our group met with all other members of La Plataforma Por el Estudio Epidemiológico last week, it was decided that a further push was required to significantly increase the **10,000 or so signatures** we currently have. Also that we would keep the petition going up to mid-April so we invite anyone interested in continuing their invaluable help in collecting signatures, to please contact us for more forms. **Please call tel. numbers 43156 or 71020.**

On Climate Change

Another subject very close to people's hearts and minds these days is **Climate Change**. You rarely hear a news bulletin or pick up a paper where environmental pollution or greenhouse gases are not mentioned. It is important indeed that finally such crucial issues are taking centre stage. Still, we can't help being concerned that the writing is firmly on the wall and that already consequences of inaction on these matters in the past are now being felt throughout the world. Look at the freak storms and sudden temperature change! Intense heat waves and freak tornadoes, increasingly violent hurricanes, intense flooding and drought and many other such examples. It could be assumed that many of the predictions made by the world's leading scientists are coming to pass. Surely, then, the warnings of greater consequences happening in the next 50 - 100 years by these very same scientists should be heeded! and **all** efforts made to alter the course of humanities apparent collision with planet earth!!!

To continue this debate you may like to know that GBC plans a televised debate on the **1st of February** on Climate Change and the ESG will be participating. Beyond this we also plan to hold a series of public debates on this subject and explore how climate change could affect Gibraltar and southern Europe in general: the first of these is planned for the **21st February**.
Venue: Sacarello Time: 6- 8.30pm

Refinery Campaign

We would also like to reiterate our commitment towards seeing a clean-up of the Bay Refinery given the unrealistic option of its closure. We continue lobbying the European Commission who is currently studying the last file we submitted before Christmas highlighting the flagrant breach of the so-called Grandfather Status shielding the Refinery from complying with tighter and more stringent environmental regulations. The latest information came from a detailed report prepared by our Refinery technical advisor, **Denny Larson**, who accompanied **MEP Neil Parish**, on a visit to the plant. We now await a response from the Commission and will make public any details we receive on this matter.

ESG AGM

Finally, to close we would also like to advise on preparations being made for an AGM for both ESG members and anyone interested to hear about the groups work and interests. Several Committee members will give a short presentation on different aspects of the groups work. The date earmarked for this is **the 21st March** but this shall also be confirmed with details of the agenda closer to the time. Thanks for listening.....