



Coal industry is ready to co-operate with others

Sir, We welcome the efforts being made to reduce global CO2 emissions from all fossil fuels ("Energy chiefs join climate change push; Oil & gas", October 8). The world's carbon intensive industries need to come together to develop the most cost-effective response to the challenge of climate change, including carbon capture and storage.

CCS is needed for coal and gas power plants. The world's first large-scale CCS project was launched in 2014 at SaskPower's coal-fired Boundary Dam power plant in Canada. This coal-fired CCS project is an example of what can be achieved, capturing 90 per cent of CO2, equivalent to taking 250,000 cars off the road each year.

For many countries the energy choice for years to come will be coal. The International Energy Agency last

week released its World Energy Outlook Special Report on Southeast Asia, which highlights the critical role coal plays in meeting energy needs in the region.

It's essential that we quicken the deployment of high efficiency, low emission coal technologies, alongside the development of CCS. Raising the average efficiency of the global coal fleet from the current level of 33 per cent to 40 per cent, achievable with off-the-shelf technology, would save two gigatonnes of CO2 emissions. This is equivalent to running the Kyoto protocol three times over.

Coal, oil and gas all have significant contributions to make in meeting global energy needs affordably and securely, while also reducing our CO2 emissions. The World Coal Association supports closer co-operation with other industries as we work together to

deliver a comprehensive response to the energy and environmental challenges the world faces.

Benjamin Sporton
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