

**Tubeworker is produced by Tube workers and published by Workers' Liberty, an organisation fighting as part of the labour movement for a socialist alternative to both capitalism and Stalinism, based on common ownership and democracy.**

**We want one democratic, fighting union for all railworkers. We reject artificial divisions between workers of different grades. We oppose racism, sexism, homophobia and all prejudice that divides us. Only our bosses benefit from a divided workforce.**

## **TUBEWORKERS' CLIMATE ACTION**

**T**he struggles on the underground are not just about workers rights, but also defending the principle that transportation should be a public service under control of workers and passengers. Any future environmentally sustainable transport system, must involve a massive expansion of public transport. We argue for cheap or free public transport and a massive expansion of rail infrastructure to meet the increased need. The need to get from "a to b" is integral to our lives, it should not be viewed as a business opportunity, still less with taxpayers' subsidising the profit margins of the rail bosses.

## **CLIMATE CHANGE IS A CLASS ISSUE**

**C**limate change is not simply a question of carbon emissions. The depletion of water, soil and mineral resources and decimation of biodiversity and ecosystems now being experienced across the planet are the result of an utter bankruptcy in the relationship between human economic activity and the rest of life on earth.

It is now clear that if this relationship is not drastically altered in the coming years the consequences will be, to say the least, disastrous

What is this borne of? The very language we use and metaphors we draw upon to describe the ecological crisis; that of exhaustion, degradation and exploitation are all familiar to us as trade unionists and working class activists.

The world over, workers are subject to overwork and exploitation to the point of physical and mental collapse. The reality we face now is that the planet itself faces such a collapse. The force that drives the stripping of rainforests and the poisoning of the atmosphere is the same that drives the exploitation of one human being by another; the logic that profit should be the basic imperative of human activity, the logic of capitalism. We should draw no distinctions between it's willingness to wreck human life or that of any other living thing. Capitalism is and will always be hostile to all life.

We are creative and dynamic enough to be able to build a society that does not put itself in a state of perpetual warfare with the other living things we share a planet with. But right now we are not the ones in control to our own creativity or dynamism; our capacity to produce. The basic question of who decides what people's work and efforts are applied towards is the key to understanding environmental damage. Wrestling back the control of our own work from the class of bosses who have squandered and wasted generation upon generation of both people and resources must be fought for with a fire and passion that reflects the knowledge of the fact that in this struggle, everything is at stake. Revolutionary change and the adoption of a new set of imperatives for our labours is needed to create any sort of genuine sustainability.

So what? It is easy enough to say that you won't ever get a sustainable capitalist society. We cannot be part of a movement that is happy to say 'we'll sort out the environment after the revolution,' no. This counter posing of the two is just as philistine as those who say 'forget the revolution; we need to save the planet.' Any analysis of both the already happening and likely future impact of climate change makes it clear that more and more, it will start to have massive implications for the daily lives of huge sections of the world's population.

*(excerpt from our recent leaflet – for more visit [www.workersclimateaction.co.uk](http://www.workersclimateaction.co.uk))*

**Tubeworker's weblog - daily updates**  
[www.workersliberty.org/twblog](http://www.workersliberty.org/twblog)

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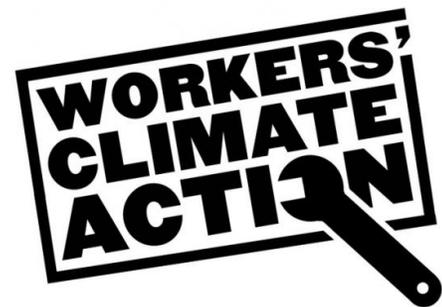
## **WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

Working class people will be most affected by climate change and have the power to stop it from happening. Get along to your union branches and discuss ways that you can bring solidarity to the Vestas workers (if you want a WCA speaker get in touch). We argue for active, participative, rank-and-file led trade unionism. The current dispute on the Underground over pay, jobs and conditions is a major battle – Mayor Johnson and management at LUL/TfL want to break the union so that they can continue their privatisation agenda. They want a demoralised, ununionised workforce that will be profitable for any future investors.

Solidarity between workers at the Vestas plant and on the Underground would strengthen both struggles. It would be a start in creating a working-class movement that can wrest control of the economy out of private hands and start a workers' led just transition to an ecological future.

**Check out the Save Vestas website for updates:**

[www.savevestas.wordpress.com](http://www.savevestas.wordpress.com)



**Workers' Climate Action Conference**

**19<sup>th</sup> September. Venue tbc.**

**More details to follow on blog.**

**More info: Stuart 07817595626**

**Vestas Solidarity will be discussed at the next Tubeworker meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> August. Phone Bob on 07843945005 if you want to attend.**