



**British
Geological Survey**
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

Geoscience for decision-making

British Geological Survey response to IPCC report

The British Geological Survey (BGS) welcomes the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change: The Physical Science Basis 4th Assessment Report published on 2 February 2007.

BGS recognises the major contribution that the world's scientists have made to the IPCC. BGS scientists note that it is indisputable that emissions of green house gases from fossil fuels need to be urgently reduced. BGS will continue to deliver the geoscience research and development required to help enable the world to move rapidly to low emission energy technologies especially with respect to CO₂ capture and storage from fossil fuels, nuclear and renewable energy.

Head of Sustainable and Renewable Energy at the British Geological Survey Dr Nick Riley MBE says: "*The IPCC report makes it clear that we have little time left to achieve deep cuts in greenhouse gas emissions. It is vital that the emphasis for R&D, technological deployment and intergovernmental agreements is one of avoiding further risk of damage from fossil fuel emissions to our global atmosphere and oceans, in this narrow time window of opportunity now left to the world. We must also continue to gain better knowledge of the future effects of climate change, so that we can plan ahead - but I doubt we will ever adapt to many of the consequences of global warming and ocean acidification that will arise should we fail to reduce emissions at the appropriate rate. This is, in my view, is the greatest global challenge society has faced. It demands urgent action by everyone*".

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