

## **EPP Pushes for Two-Year Freeze on CBAM to Safeguard EU Industries Amid Climate Policy Challenges**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: The European People's Party has requested a two-year freeze on the implementation of the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, alongside a delay for the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive and Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive. The party argues these climate measures could place undue pressure on small and medium-sized enterprises, hinder competitiveness, and fuel deindustrialization within the EU. The EPP's proposed delay aims to allow businesses more time to adjust without compromising economic growth or sustainability.*

## **EU Announces €175 Million Funding for Breakthrough Innovation in Steel & Coal Sectors**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: The European Commission has set aside €175 million for the 2025 Research Fund for Coal and Steel. The funding aims to support the development of innovative technologies in steel production and sustainable practices in the coal industry, helping Europe meet its climate neutrality goals by 2050.*

## **RMI: Ironing Out Steel Emissions: Accelerating the Near-Zero Iron Revolution**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: The future of the steel sector's decarbonization hinges on transforming iron production, which accounts for over 80% of emissions in the steel supply chain. A shift to clean iron, iron made with near-zero emissions, is essential for the global steel industry to meet climate goals. This article explores the critical role of direct reduced iron, hydrogen-based technologies, and market mechanisms like book and claim, which will help incentivize investments in clean iron technologies and create a near-zero emissions iron market. By defining a clear emissions threshold and advancing procurement strategies, we can accelerate the steel sector's transition to sustainability.*

## **Wexiödisk Leads the Charge with 'Green Stainless Steel' in Commercial Dishwashing**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: Wexiödisk, a leader in commercial dishwashing equipment, is taking a giant leap towards sustainability by adopting Aperam infinite™ stainless steel for its dishwashers. This collaboration marks a significant milestone, as the new material, made from recycled stainless steel, offers a 47% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions compared to standard stainless steel. With this change, Wexiödisk is set to reduce its own emissions by over 650 metric tons annually, aligning with its ongoing commitment to eco-friendly manufacturing.*

### **Aeron Secures Green Steel Ventilation Project in Sweden with Stegra for NOK 200 Million**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: Aeron, a subsidiary of AF Gruppen, has signed a contract valued at approximately NOK 200 million with Stegra, a green steel producer, to provide ventilation systems for their new facility in Sweden. The agreement includes engineering, design, procurement, and assembly of the HVAC systems. The project aligns with Stegra's commitment to producing green steel using green hydrogen and fossil-free electricity, significantly cutting carbon emissions. The new facility aims to produce 5 million metric tons of green steel annually by 2030.*

### **Green Steel Dreams Stall in South Africa as High Costs & Shifting Priorities Halt Key Projects**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: South Africa's ambitious green steel project, intended to be powered by green hydrogen, has been delayed due to high costs and shifting business priorities. The initiative, initially planned by Sasol and ArcelorMittal, was expected to drive sustainable economic growth in the Freeport Saldanha Industrial Zone but is now on hold. This setback raises concerns about the future of green hydrogen in South Africa.*

### **Ondatherm®: Revolutionizing Sustainability with XCarb® Steel for Eco-Conscious Construction**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: Ondatherm® is a sustainable building material made from XCarb® recycled and renewably produced steel. Offering up to 43% lower embodied carbon, it supports green building certifications like BREEAM and LEED. This product combines*

*environmental benefits with top-notch performance, making it ideal for eco-friendly construction projects.*

### **SteelAsia's P30-Billion Investment: Transforming the Philippine Steel Industry**

*Updated on:Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: SteelAsia Manufacturing Corp is set to invest P30 billion in a new plant in Candelaria, Quezon, designed to produce heavy structural steel products currently imported into the Philippines. With a planned start in 2027, the plant will save the country \$1.2 billion annually, create 7,000 jobs, and significantly reduce carbon emissions. The project will utilize advanced European steel technology and improve delivery times for construction projects.*

### **Fortescue Fuels Sustainable Progress with A\$123,000 Innovation Grants for Pilbara Communities**

*Updated on:Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: Fortescue Metals Group has launched its inaugural round of Innovation Grants, allocating A\$123,000 to support seven impactful, sustainable initiatives across the Pilbara region. These projects include a traditional bush medicine pharmacy, green power solutions, and school upgrades. Fortescue's Director of Approvals, Communities, and Environment, Warren Fish, praised the creative and community-centered solutions presented, aiming to foster long-term positive impacts on both the environment and local communities.*

### **Trump's First-Day Executive Orders: A Bold Attempt to Derail US Climate Progress**

*Updated on:Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: On his first day in office, President Donald Trump signed a series of executive orders that aim to dismantle US climate efforts, focusing on boosting fossil fuel extraction, withdrawing from the Paris Agreement, and limiting clean energy initiatives. These actions reflect his administration's environmental priorities, significantly impacting both domestic and international climate strategies.*

### **Trump's Quick Paris Exit: Why It Might Not Be Official Until 2026**

*Updated on:Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: Although President Trump's executive order aims to withdraw the US from the Paris Agreement immediately, legal complexities could delay the formal exit until 2026. The intricate process of withdrawal raises significant questions about timing and compliance with the treaty's terms.*

### **HRW: US Paris Agreement Withdrawal Undermines Global Climate Action Efforts**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: President Trump's decision to withdraw the US from the Paris Agreement threatens global climate efforts, urging countries to prioritize domestic climate actions and international cooperation to mitigate the climate crisis.*

### **Greenpeace: COP29: Broken Pledges and Lofty Rhetoric Amid Urgent Climate Crisis**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: The COP29 summit held in Baku, Azerbaijan, has been criticized for its disappointing outcomes despite the growing urgency of the climate crisis. The event, dubbed the "finance COP," failed to deliver the financial commitments needed to adequately address climate change. While some progress was made on carbon market regulation and adaptation finance, the outcomes were largely underwhelming. Developing nations, once again, were offered insufficient support, and the conference's inability to meet the demands of vulnerable communities highlights the continued divide between the Global North and South.*

### **Greenpeace Activists Disrupt Davos Summit, Demand Tax on the Super-Rich to Tackle Climate Crisis**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: Greenpeace activists staged protests at the 2025 World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, urging leaders to impose higher taxes on the super-rich to fund climate action and address growing inequality. The protests included blocking a heliport, targeting private jets, and staging demonstrations in the main conference hall.*

### **The Titanic Drift of A23a: Antarctica's Ancient Iceberg Faces South Georgia**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: The world's largest iceberg, A23a, is heading toward South Georgia, a remote British territory rich in wildlife. This iceberg, which broke off from Antarctica in 1986, is slowly decaying but still massive, with towering cliffs that could wreak havoc on local wildlife like penguins and seals if it collides. As A23a inches closer, experts, sailors, and scientists anxiously track its movements, hoping for a near-miss while fearing the inevitable dangers it poses.*

### **Revitalizing Fusion: The UK's Path to Becoming the Global Powerhouse of Nuclear Innovation**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: The UK has the potential to lead the world in commercial nuclear fusion energy. With growing global demand for clean energy, fusion offers a transformative solution. However, the UK must take decisive steps to solidify its place as a fusion superpower by leveraging its existing strengths and fostering new innovations in the field.*

### **JBS Walks Back on Climate Pledge: Net-Zero Emissions Goal Labeled 'Aspiration' Rather Than a Promise**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: JBS, the world's largest meatpacker, has clarified that its 2021 pledge to reach net-zero emissions by 2040 was never a binding promise. Despite claims of tackling deforestation and reducing emissions, the company faces criticism for its lack of concrete action and insufficient investor pressure to meet environmental goals.*

### **Microsoft's \$200M Amazon Carbon Credit Investment Faces Hurdles from Growth in Data Centers & Fossil Fuel Focus**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: Microsoft's \$200 million deal to purchase carbon credits for restoring Brazil's Amazon and Atlantic forests aims to offset its growing carbon footprint. However, increasing energy demands from expanding data centers and the US's shifting focus on fossil fuels could complicate the company's climate goals.*

### **Bezos Backing Manchester Project to Harness 'Super Species' Moss for Climate Action**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: Jeff Bezos is funding a groundbreaking project in Manchester to restore a “super species” of moss, known as sphagnum, to combat climate change. This moss has the ability to capture carbon and reduce methane emissions, offering a natural solution for global warming.*

### **Decoding Paris Climate Pledges: A Computational Linguistic Approach to NDCs**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: Using computational linguistics, researchers analyzed the full textual content of Nationally Determined Contributions to understand the themes, targets, and policies that shape climate action. The study highlights the evolution of these pledges and differences between high-income and developing countries in terms of focus and policy detail.*

### **Transforming Rice Farming: Cost-Effective Climate Adaptations for Increased Yields & Reduced Pollution**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: A study reveals that implementing 49 cost-effective climate adaptation practices in rice farming can boost global production by 36% while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and nitrogen pollution by 23% and 32%, respectively. This strategy promises a \$117 billion global benefit.*

### **Sediment, Energy, & Wildlife: Navigating Scotland’s Hydropower Challenges in a Changing Climate**

*Updated on: Jan 23, 2025*

*Synopsis: A new report urges Scotland to improve hydropower resilience in the face of climate change by managing sediment buildup at dams and weirs. Recommendations include tree planting and peatland restoration to maintain river health and protect wildlife, while reducing costs for hydropower operators.*