

Climate Change for Trade Unionists

Spring 2009 Workshop Series

PCS is hosting five courses on climate change, created specially for trade unionists by the **Climate Outreach and Information Network (COIN)**, working with **Ruskin College**. COIN is the leader in the field of communicating climate change and Ruskin College is recognised nationally for its track record of education for trade unionists.

These workshops are open to any trade unionist. Workshops are free and are available on a 'first-come-first-served' basis. Please register immediately to avoid disappointment (there are only 25 places on each course).



'How to win the climate change argument in a 15 minute tea break'

(2.5hrs) 5pm, Thursday 7th May 2009

This is for activists who want to overcome colleagues' denial and evasion of climate change.

How do you overcome denial and mobilise action among colleagues? This workshop arms you with ways to respond to viewpoints like "China builds a new coal-fired power station every week – anything we could do in the face of

useless"... "They just want to put up taxes"... "I saw that programme last year - climate change is a load of rubbish". During this workshop, you'll work together to develop powerful arguments for action in the workplace and in the community. You'll look at what kinds of people respond to different types of argument. Also, what not to say!



Climate Change Condensed

(2.5hrs) 5pm, Thursday 23rd April 2009

"All you need to know about climate change" in just three hours with plenty of discussion and debate along the way. This is for people who are new to climate change.

The workshop covers the causes and impacts of climate change, the need for adaptation, the scientific and political viewpoints, the international carbon budget, large-scale solutions and carbon emissions. It also asks questions like: "Could a low carbon world be a better world?" and "Is climate change a trade union issue?"



A Green New Deal?

(2 hrs) 5pm, Thursday 21st May 2009

This workshop is for any active trade union member who wants to get their head around the big issue – what does a low carbon society mean for trade unionists?

'Just Transition', 'The Green New Deal', 'The Apollo Alliance' – these are all policies and campaigns for arriving at a low carbon society in a just way. During this workshop, you'll work in groups around the big ideas for the future. What kind of policies should trade unionists be fighting for? How do we retain jobs in industries which are high energy?

What are the benefits of a low carbon society? Is climate change about social justice? Come along and decide for yourself, which policies you think work for trade unionists and which do not.



The venue:

**PCS Learning Centre
Douglas Houghton
House
231 Vauxhall Bridge
Road
London
SW1V 1EH**

Nearest tube / rail: Victoria

Bookings:

Please complete the booking form (attached DOC file) and return it to Catrina Pickering by email (catrina@coinet.org.uk) or by post (COIN, the Old Music Hall, 106 - 108 Cowley Road, Oxford, OX4 1JE.) or download a booking form from www.COINet.org.uk

**Want to have a COIN workshop at your branch or at regional level? We can do shortened versions of these courses.
Email: info@coinet.org.uk**

Climate Change Negotiation

(2.5hrs) 5pm, Monday 8th June 2009

This is for reps, branch officials and negotiators. As trades unionists, we always have to be one step ahead. Working together in groups, this workshop will help you to tackle questions like: *"How do I mobilise members around climate change action?" "What kind of things are members going to be asking me to negotiate about?" "How do I approach management about climate change issues?"* The workshop will also look at laying the negotiating groundwork for the future, role-play negotiations and the technical stuff such as the UK Climate Act and the Carbon Reduction Commitment.

Trade Union Climate Action Groups

(2.5 hrs) 5pm, Monday 15th June 2009

This workshop is for trade unionists who want to discuss and work on a climate change issue that interests them. The groups that are set up at this workshop, agree to meet once a month for 6 months with a view to taking action on a particular climate change issue. The idea is to build up rank and file discussion and action on climate change.

How it works: You come to this workshop with some thoughts for working and campaigning on climate change. You listen to other peoples' thoughts and ideas. Out of this, COIN facilitates groups of participants who want to work on similar issues. You discuss your ideas with others. You can then collectively set up and be a part of a 'Climate Action Group'. Climate Action Groups meet at least once a month over a 6 month period. At the end of the 6 month period, you meet one final time to find out about what other groups have been doing and to evaluate your own group.

For further information please visit our website:

www.coinet.org.uk