
The Association of Drivers against Daytime Running Lights

Prime Minister Anthony Blair
10 Downing Street,
London
SW1A 2AA

31 March 2005

Dear Mr. Blair,

Vehicle Daytime Running Lights (DRL)

Yesterday the BBC reported that Dr. Pieter Tans director of the US government's Climate Monitoring Diagnostics Laboratory, part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Noaa) at Mauna Loa Hawaii has found that World Carbon Dioxide levels have risen from 315 to 378 parts per million (ppm), a 20% increase since 1990.

We note your excellent commitment to the Kyoto Protocol and your intentions to persuade the USA to participate.

However you may not be aware of the counter efforts of the EU Commission to negate all the annual CO² savings achieved by the UK's Carbon Trust. This is because the EU are intent on forcing the use of vehicle headlights in good daylight upon an unwitting population. This will add about 1.85 million tonnes of CO² into the UK's atmosphere (annually the UK emits around 560 MtCO²). Tom Delay the Chief Executive stated that during 2003/2004 the Carbon Trust helped to save 0.9 to 1.8 million tonnes of CO².

There is no safety benefit from using DRL, only dangers to vulnerable road users, for example when the USA started to use DRL, injuries increased by 3.7%. We have sent documentation proving this to the DTLR Road and Vehicle Safety Division and Jacques Barrot Vice-President of the European Commission and Commissioner for Transport; this is also published on our website www.dadrl.org.uk.

We are writing to you personally as we observe that your own (and other ministerial vehicles) use DRL unnecessarily in good daylight. We submit that this is setting a bad example not just to the UK, but the whole World; just consider the resultant unnecessary pollution from India and China if they decide to use DRL.

We appreciate that you need special priority but could this be provided by the usual police escort? It is significant that Police grade 1 drivers who are trained to the highest of standards, normally disable DRL on their vehicles.

To aid road safety and reduce CO² emissions perhaps you would be good enough to consider not using headlights in good daylight on your vehicles.

We would value your response.

Yours sincerely,

Roy Milnes	Campaign Co-ordinator	for an on behalf of:
<i>The Association of Drivers against Daytime Running Lights</i>		<i>DADRL</i>
<i>The British Motorcyclists Federation</i>		<i>BMF</i>
<i>The Motorcycle Action Group</i>		<i>MAG</i>
<i>The Federation of European Motorcyclists Associations</i>		<i>FEMA</i>
<i>Living Streets – The UK Pedestrians Association</i>		
<i>Federation of European Pedestrians Associations</i>		<i>FEPA</i>
<i>Cyclists Associations</i>		

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