



10 DOWNING STREET

Message of Congratulations from the Prime Minister to the JET Anniversary Celebrations, 20 May 2004



“ It gives me great pleasure to send my congratulations to this celebration of the major achievements of JET. The UK is proud to host such an important European facility alongside its own fusion research programme at Culham. JET has shown what can be achieved through European co-operation; the sum is greater than the parts. I am delighted that fusion and JET have been “ahead of the game” in European collaboration, involving many of the new accession states in fusion research well before their actual accession earlier this month.

As you no doubt know, I take very seriously the problems of climate change and security of energy supply. These are global problems which need global solutions. Fusion is one of the most promising technologies that could help solve these problems, one which could generate electricity cleanly on the large scales that we in Europe, and the rest of world, need if our aspirations for economic growth and a sustainable environment are to be met.

The Government’s Chief Scientific Adviser, David King, and I are both convinced that ITER, the next step in fusion, is an essential international endeavour and we hope to see the siting issue resolved in the next few months.

I repeat my congratulations to all concerned on the achievements with JET and wish all involved in fusion development well in their task, as we head towards the first active fusion power station.”