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Carbon offset projects to get code of conduct

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The Observer, Sunday February 17 2008

The government will announce details this week of a code aimed at ensuring the carbon offset industry is properly managed. Those running offset projects will have to agree to a voluntary code of conduct. The move follows recent reports of carbon offset projects that have failed because of poor financing and staffing. One forest plantation, for example, failed because no money was committed to its upkeep - as a result, its trees died. Individuals who had spent hundreds of pounds to pay for offsets wasted their money.

The Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs is to publish a consultation document about its plans for a voluntary code, a final version of which will be published later this year.

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