

# Fifth of jobs will change if Britain is to hit net zero

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One in five people in Britain are employed by “carbon giants” and their jobs will have to change if Boris Johnson is to meet his net zero target, according to a report to be published today.

A cross-party review of the government’s net zero aims found that just 12 industries including steel, manufacturing and construction made up 62 per cent of UK carbon emissions.

These carbon giants are concentrated in the Midlands, the north and Scotland, with 51 per cent of jobs in these industries located in those regions.

The report said decarbonisation in line with commitments could lead to significant job disruption, but with investment 1.7 million green jobs could be created by 2030. It suggested that with

incentives half of these jobs could be in those areas that would be most affected.

The review, produced by Onward, a think tank, called on ministers to establish a net zero delivery task force to initiate trials of high-risk, high-reward green technologies.

Writing in *The Times* Red Box newsletter, Dame Caroline Spelman, a former environment secretary, said that Britain stood at the “precipice of another industrial revolution” but one that needed to be driven by government. “We need a plan to green the giants of the UK economy,” she said.

Caroline Flint, a former Labour minister who co-chaired the review, said: “If policymakers make the right calls these transformed industries can be located in the very same areas that right now are set to lose out.”