# Dame Mary Archer's dismissal highlights Labour's intolerance to Net Zero dissent



Dame Mary Archer has been ousted from her role on Ed Miliband's Net Zero board, a move that underscores the increasingly dogmatic nature of the current administration's approach to environmental policy. The 80-year-old scientist, a non-executive board member since February 2022, learned of her dismissal during a meeting at the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero on Friday, a decision that can only be seen as an attempt to silence anyone who questions the government’s aggressively pursued strategies.

Dame Mary, known for her keen intellect and her connections—including her marriage to novelist Jeffrey Archer—had previously echoed the sentiments of former Prime Minister Tony Blair, who lambasted the current government’s strategy as “doomed to fail.” This is not just a dismissal of one member; it reflects a broader trend of the Labour government's intolerance for dissenting opinions that challenge their Net Zero ambitions.

The removal has attracted ire from Tory MP Sir Christopher Chope, a member of the Commons energy security and Net Zero committee. He bluntly stated, “I think they are quite keen to suppress all opposition to their Net Zero zealotry.” Such comments highlight a disconcerting reality: the government seems unwilling to entertain alternative viewpoints, resulting in a troubling lack of accountability regarding their environmental policies.

This incident is emblematic of the broader tensions arising from the government’s approach to policy-making. Sir Tony Blair's critiques have ignited varied reactions across the political spectrum; while a faction within the Labour Party expressed outrage, others quietly recognized the legitimacy of his concerns. Following Blair's comments, Sir Keir Starmer’s official spokesman commended Miliband, but remained conspicuously silent on the future of his position—an indication, perhaps, of the chaotic politics underpinning this administration.

A government spokesman has framed Dame Mary’s ouster as part of a "wider restructuring" of the board, yet the vague nature of these changes raises eyebrows as to what degree genuine collaboration is being sacrificed at the altar of conformity. As discussions surrounding the ramifications of the Net Zero agenda persist, this dismissal raises significant questions about the government's commitment to truly democratic discourse and accountability in the realm of environmental policy.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

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3. <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2023/07/27/spare-public-huge-burden-of-net-zero-says-tony-blair/> - A Telegraph article where Sir Tony Blair warns against imposing excessive burdens on the public to achieve Net Zero, suggesting that such demands may not effectively address climate change, supporting the article's mention of Blair's criticisms.
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7. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14676005/Ed-Miliband-sacks-Dame-Mary-Archer-suppress-opposition-Net-Zero.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data