



News Report: BBC News – The Environmental Impact of Bitcoin

This news segment was aired on the 14th of May and discusses the environmental impact of Bitcoin, the most traded crypto currency.

News Correspondent:

There are real concerns about the environmental impact of these crypto-currencies. You will of course have heard of Bitcoin, the biggest crypto of them all. It's seen its value **soar**¹ in recent years. Look at this.

You could have picked up a bitcoin for a dollar (70p) 10 years ago. Now, one bitcoin would cost more than 48,000 dollars. And that's because, in part, because of the support of Elon musk, the boss of Tesla.

The electric car company said it would accept bitcoins for car purchases in March last year but today Mr. Musk performed a **screeching**² **U-turn**³.

Tesla has suspended vehicle purchases using bitcoin. He tweeted "We are concerned about the rapidly increasing use of fossil fuels for bitcoin mining and transactions, especially coal, which has the worst emissions of any fossil fuel".

And it's true bitcoin relies on the use of a **staggering**⁴ amount of energy, much of it from fossil fuels

¹ Soar: (verb) increase rapidly

² Screeching: (adjective) very sudden

³ U- turn: (noun) a complete reversal in policy

⁴ Staggering: huge, enormous