

A round-up of the work SR is doing  
on your behalf

 scottishrenewables  
**MONTHLY BRIEFING**  
MARCH 2022

**Dear member,**

At Scottish Renewables we're working to champion the diverse organisations making up the growing renewable energy supply chain in Scotland.

To showcase the exceptional skills, expertise and experience of Scotland's net-zero supplier network, each year we publish the [Scottish Renewables' Supply Chain Impact Statement](#). The third edition of the document was published in February and this time around it was broadened to include all renewable energy technologies.



The document has been well received by industry and MSPs. Kaukab Stewart MSP tabled a supporting [motion](#) in the Scottish Parliament which received cross-party backing from 25 MSPs. The report has also been raised by Paul McLennan MSP for East Lothian in a [Scottish Parliament debate](#).

Read the [report](#) and full [press release](#) on our website.

**Emma Harrick**  
**Energy Transition and Supply Chain Manager**  
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**GENERAL**



**Net-Zero Energy Conference and Dinner 2022**

Scottish Renewables will welcome the renewable energy industry to our first [Net-Zero Energy Conference](#) on March 23 in Edinburgh. This conference will bring together leading experts and decision-makers to map out the policy changes required, examine the business opportunities - as well as the obstacles - which lie ahead and consider the system changes needed to enable deployment at the pace and scale required to achieve our net-zero target.

The conference will now be structured around our key pillars – Finance/Route to Market, Grid and Wholesale System Change.

A networking dinner will be held on March 22, the evening prior to the conference, where delegates are invited for an evening of dining and relaxed networking. [Secure your place on our website.](#)



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## **Renewable Energy Breakfast for South of Scotland MSPs**

Last month saw an in-person Renewable Energy Breakfast for South of Scotland MSPs held in Edinburgh. At this exhibition event our members engaged MSPs in the projects they are delivering to achieve net-zero across the five electoral regions in South of Scotland.

We had nine MSPs in attendance from across the Holyrood party groups including Mairi McAllan, Minister for Environment and Land Reform, and Colin Smyth, Scottish Labour Net Zero, Energy and Transport spokesperson.



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## Get involved: Renewable Energy Export Survey 2022

SR, the Scottish Government and Scottish Development International are looking to create a picture of export activity within Scotland's renewable energy sector.

Given Scotland's world-leading expertise, renewable energy will be a strong area of export growth if we support our sector to identify the best opportunities and places to share their services and skills. By helping us to gather this data, you will help develop a Renewables Sector Export Plan that details priority areas that will help deliver export growth within the sector.

[The survey](#) is open until March 31.

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## Holyrood Engagement

Throughout February we have continued our engagement at Holyrood, including hosting a briefing with nine MSPs on the NPF4. We have also met with Liam Kerr, Scottish Conservative Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport, and Jenni Minto MSP.

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## Young Professionals Green Energy Awards opens for nominations



The renewable energy industry's trajectory is stratospheric. Driven by net-zero, it's growing faster than ever. Our recently-launched Young Professionals Green Energy Awards 2022 will bring industry together to celebrate the people who'll be at the heart of that growth: intelligent, passionate and committed people who're pioneering new ideas today and who also have the drive and ambition to change the future of the renewable energy industry for the better.

[Tables are now available](#), and [nominations](#) are open until 5pm on Thursday March 24.

## PLANNING & CONSENTS



### Scottish Government planning changes

On February 23 The Scottish Government published [new guidance on applications](#) for onshore generating stations and overhead lines made under sections 36 and 37 of the Electricity Act 1989.

The Scottish Government also announced its intention to launch a consultation in the near future on fees charged for both onshore and offshore applications under sections 36 and 37. Once the consultation is launched, stakeholders will have 12 weeks to formally respond with any views. We will let members know when this consultation opens and Scottish Renewables will be responding to this consultation.

Read our reaction to this announcement, made at SR's Planning Conference, [on our website](#).



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### Article on NPF4

This article on NPF4 reforms, written by SR, appeared in [Farming Scotland magazine's April 2022 issue](#).

In it Mark Richardson writes: "For many years, our industry has often been hamstrung by delays and inconsistency in the planning system. Recent reforms promised to put an end to those problems. Sadly, the wording of the draft National Planning Framework 4, currently being scrutinised in the Scottish Parliament, falls far short of that impressive goal."

[Read it on our website.](#)



## Eskdalemuir Phase 4 Report Released

Xi Engineering has undertaken a fourth phase of work which looks to provide an increased evidence base of seismic data within the Eskdalemuir Consultation Zone. This work has now concluded and The Scottish Government has released the [final Phase 4 report](#).

The report is now available to anyone for consideration and will be published in due course alongside minutes for the next Eskdalemuir Working Group meeting scheduled for March.



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## Scottish Renewables' Planning Conference

The inaugural [Scottish Renewables' Planning Conference](#) was held on February 23 in a packed Technology & Innovation Centre auditorium at the University of Strathclyde.

[Conference presentations](#) are now available on the SR website.



## ONSHORE RENEWABLES



### **Police Scotland and abnormal loads issue**

The short-term change in policy from Police Scotland to support abnormal load movements for one wind farm at a time continues to be a concern for industry but is a consequence of an unprecedented situation.

There has been a significant increase in Police Scotland's availability recently and following positive engagement with Scottish Renewables they are providing the maximum resources they can. Scottish Renewables is continuing to work closely with our affected members, RenewableUK and The Scottish Government to liaise with Police Scotland to find a solution to this issue.



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### **Majority of Scottish voters support building more onshore wind**

Polling published in February by RenewableUK, working in collaboration with Scottish Renewables, revealed that most Scottish voters support building more renewable energy projects in Scotland to tackle climate change. 74% said they would think favourably of a political party which puts a strategy in place to do this, with only 6% against. [Read more here.](#)



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## OFFSHORE RENEWABLES



### **Policy team change**

Ben Miller is moving on from Scottish Renewables this month to take up a new role at Crown Estate Scotland on offshore wind enabling. His replacement will start in mid April but in the meantime please contact [Morag Watson](#) in the first instance for offshore wind policy matters.

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## INTOG leasing announced

Crown Estate Scotland has now [announced](#) the proposed details of its Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas (INTOG) offshore wind leasing process. There is a deadline of March 21 for industry feedback on the proposed leasing structure. Please [contact Morag Watson](#) to contribute your views.

[Read our reaction on our website.](#)

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## Floating Wind roundtable

Director of Policy Morag Watson attended a UK-wide roundtable on March 1 to discuss proposals for a new Floating Wind Industrialisation Advisory Group.

The BEIS Minister of State, Greg Hands, joined representatives from the Scottish and Welsh Governments to discuss the strategic actions needed to deliver a rapid increase in commercial-scale floating wind.

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## National Grid ESO update on HND and ScotWind

ESO has published its [proposal](#) for incorporating the outcome of ScotWind into the OTNR Holistic Network Design, with a split process to deliver some capacity by 2030 and other grid connection offers updated by Q1 2023.

Significant concerns with this proposal have been raised by some members and we are seeking greater clarification from

ESO on the detail and how developers will be further engaged in the process.

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## Consenting projects awarded funding from OWGP

[Eleven companies](#) have received Innovation Grants towards projects that could accelerate offshore wind consenting, and another [20 companies](#) in North East Scotland are being taken forward as part of the OREC 'Fit For Offshore Renewables' programme.

Separately, The Carbon Trust has four live tenders for projects under its [Integrator project](#).

## ECONOMICS & MARKETS



### Annual Contracts for Difference

The UK Government last month announced the rollout of [annual CfD auctions](#) to boost renewable deployment. This will increase the frequency of the allocation rounds to every year, from around every two years as it is currently. The next allocation round, AR5, will be brought forward to March 2023 and it is the Government intention that the subsequent allocation rounds will be held every 12 months in the following years. Read our reaction [on our website](#).



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### Allocation Round 4: All potential timeline scenarios published

[All potential timeline scenarios for Allocation Round 4 \(AR4\)](#) are now available on the AR4 portal. National Grid ESO has now informed applicants whether they are eligible to participate in the round.

The AR4 timeline after the qualification assessment window will initially depend on whether there are any non-qualifying applicants. If there are non-qualifying applicants, the shortest possible timeline for AR4 will no longer be applicable.

Further updates on the progress of AR4 will be provided via the [AR4 portal](#).



## GRID & SYSTEMS



### **Access and Forward-looking Charges Significant Code Review (Access SCR)**

Scottish Renewables held a Policy Advisory Group on February 7, 2022. The meeting focused on initial discussion about the consultation from Ofgem on the '[Access and Forward-looking Charges Significant Code Review: Consultation on Updates to Minded to Positions and Response to June 2021 Consultation Feedback](#)'.

We have now submitted a [response](#) to the consultation from Ofgem.

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### **TNUoS Call for Evidence - Next Steps**

Ofgem published the [next steps on TNUoS reform](#). We are pleased to inform you that the letter addresses many of the points that we included in our [consultation response](#) last year.

Volatile charges are expected to be addressed in a short-term review, which will help with the predictability and cost-reflectivity of the regime, and fundamental questions regarding the function of TNUoS in a net-zero, flexible and decentralised energy system are expected to be covered in a long-term review.

[Read our reaction on our website](#), and for further information please [contact Angeles](#).

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### **Distribution Use of System Charges: Significant Code Review launch**

Ofgem published a [letter](#), which confirms the decision to descope the wide-ranging review of Distribution Use of System ('DUoS') charges from the current 'Access SCR' and take it forward under a dedicated DUoS SCR.

The letter addresses many of the points from our [consultation response](#) last year. There is recognition of a need for tactical changes to ensure efficient system outcomes and support

decarbonisation, and there is commitment to ensure that stakeholder forums are genuine forums for challenging and not just one-way communication of proposals.

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## **Seminar: The role of networks in the transition to net-zero**

Scottish Renewables held a packed in-person seminar, [The role of networks in the transition to net-zero](#), on February 24. The seminar brought together leading experts to discuss the charging regime and the 2030 grid vision for Scotland. The [seminar presentations](#) can be found on our website.



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## **UK Pumped Storage Hydro Working Group: quarterly meeting**

Scottish Renewables held the quarterly meeting of the UK Pumped Storage Hydro (PSH) Group on February 8. The meeting focused on the work that Scottish Renewables has been doing on behalf of the PSH Group and discussion about the [Net-Zero Market Reform](#).

If you have any questions, please [contact Angeles](#).

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## **New Independent Report - Long Duration Electricity Storage in GB**

Aurora Research published a [report](#) that demonstrates the potential role that Long Duration Energy Storage (LDES) could play in ensuring energy security in GB. The report outlines that up to 24GW of LDES – an eight-fold increase on the current installed capacity – could be needed to integrate wind power into a secure net-zero electricity system.



## Capital funding for heat networks announced

The Scottish Government has [announced](#) the establishment of its new £300 million Heat Networks Fund, replacing the LCITP, which will be open all year round to both public and private sector applicants and will provide capital funding for large-scale heat networks. The Scottish Government is shortly going to announce pre-capital support to assist with the development of a long-term pipeline for capital investment. [Read our reaction on our website.](#)

Also announced was [The Social Housing Net-Zero Heat Development Fund](#) which will be open to applications from February 21 to May 30. All development work should be fully completed by October 31 with a possible extension depending on the scale of the work undertaken.

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## Heat in Buildings: Green Heat Finance Taskforce

The purpose of the [Taskforce](#) is to develop a portfolio of innovative financial solutions for building owners in Scotland to ensure that by 2045, our homes and buildings no longer contribute to climate change.

Scottish Renewables sits on the core Taskforce and, as such, would like to create a Working Group of members to feed into the Taskforce. We will send out further details on how to apply to be part of the Working Group to the Low-Carbon Heat Forum shortly.



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## Dates for Low-Carbon Heat Forum meetings

The dates for most Forum meetings this year are now on [our website](#). There are two Low-Carbon Heat Forums planned, one on April 27 from 10-11.30am and the other on October 7 from 10-11.30am. Further details will be sent out to the relevant Forums.

You can sign up for our Member Forums by [updating your details](#) on our website.



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## National Public Energy Agency: Call for Evidence

SR submitted a [response](#) to The Scottish Government [consultation](#) on a National Public Energy Agency. Thank you to the members who engaged with us on this consultation response. The Scottish Government intends to hold a full public consultation on this so there will be further opportunity to comment.



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## SCDI: Harnessing District Heating for Glasgow

SR attended an SCDI event with other interested stakeholders on how to maximise district heating in Glasgow. We discussed what needs to happen to integrate district heating into local and national energy strategies and plans, barriers to procurement, and the funding models which could work to enable public/private investment.

Please [contact Helen](#) to discuss.

# HYDROGEN



## Scottish Affairs Committee Inquiry into Hydrogen and Carbon Capture in Scotland

SR submitted [a response](#) to the Inquiry on Hydrogen and Carbon Capture in Scotland. Our response sets out our policy positions on hydrogen in Scotland, with particular reference to green hydrogen generated using renewable energy.



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## Dates for Hydrogen Forums

The dates for most Forum meetings this year are now on [our website](#). There are two Hydrogen Forums planned, one on May 18 from 2-3.30pm and the other on December 14 from 10-11.30am. Further details will be sent out to the relevant Forums.

You can sign up for our Member Forums by [updating your details](#) on our website.

 FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT  
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## Low-carbon fuels strategy: call for ideas

We're preparing a draft response to [the Department for Transport's consultation on a Low Carbon Fuels Strategy](#), and will be sending it out to the Hydrogen Forum for comment shortly.

You can sign up for the Hydrogen Forum by [updating your details](#) on the our website.

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## Proposed Industrial Hydrogen Accelerator Programme

BEIS proposes to hold an [Industrial Hydrogen Accelerator \(IHA\) competition](#) to support projects generating evidence on end-to-end industrial fuel switching to hydrogen. It would cover the full technology chain, from hydrogen generation and delivery infrastructure through to industrial end-use, including the integration of the components in a single project.

**SOLAR**



### Dates for Solar Forums

The dates for most Forum meetings this year are now on our [website](#). The first Solar Forum meeting will be April 20, from 2-3.30pm, on either Zoom or Teams, and is likely to be discussing what a potential solar vision for Scotland could look like.

Further details will be sent out to the Solar Forum by email soon. You can sign up for our Member Forums by [updating your details](#) on our website.

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**SUPPLY CHAIN**



## SOWEC - Supply Chain and Clusters Group

Emma recently joined the Supply Chain and Clusters Working Group within the [Scottish Offshore Wind Energy Council](#). The aim of the Group is to achieve a competitive Scottish supply chain with the capability and capacity for success in markets nationally and internationally.

For more information on the Group please contact [Emma](#).



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ENERGY TRANSITION AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGER

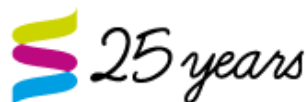
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## Subsea Expo

As a supporting partner of Subsea Expo, Scottish Renewables recently travelled to Aberdeen to attend the event. The two-day conference involved many informative sessions and engagement opportunities.

At the event Emma met with organisations - both in and out of SR membership - including Balmoral, Motive Offshore, Mocean Energy, The Global Underwater Hub and many more. To learn more about our work with the supply chain please contact [Emma](#).



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