

# LABOUR'S FIRST 100 DAYS:

**10 ACTIONS** to support Scotland's renewable energy industry, accelerate economic growth and reduce energy costs.



**The UK stands on the cusp of a golden socio-economic opportunity in renewable energy. Scotland will be central to delivering the UK Government's mission of making Britain a clean energy superpower. The time to secure our clean energy future is now. As the leading voice for Scotland's renewable energy industry, Scottish Renewables recommends the following 'quick wins' for the UK Government's first 100 days to accelerate economic growth and reduce energy costs.**

## 1 MAXIMISE CONTRACTS FOR DIFFERENCE ALLOCATION ROUNDS

- ✓ Increase the Allocation Round 6 budget to secure contracts for Scottish projects which are vital to doubling onshore wind, tripling solar power, quadrupling offshore wind and maximising marine energy by 2030.
- ✓ Ensure timely delivery of the Sustainable Industry Rewards (SIRs) framework for Allocation Round 7 to reduce risk for vital Scottish projects and maximise the local content of our world-leading offshore wind pipeline.
- ✓ Produce an 'Allocation Round Roadmap' with ambitious targets to secure future pipelines, maximise supply chain investment and deliver the capacity needed to meet new targets, including the repowering of onshore wind.

## 2 PRIORITISE THE DELIVERY OF VITAL TRANSMISSION INFRASTRUCTURE

- ✓ Deliver the Transmission Acceleration Action Plan and Connections Action Plan as far as possible by the end of 2024, including targeted reform to modernise the Scottish consenting regime for energy infrastructure.
- ✓ Provide clarity on a flexible approach to community benefits for transmission infrastructure to support host communities, alongside enhanced public information campaigns and strengthened political leadership.
- ✓ Send a clear signal in the Autumn Statement for economic growth by explicitly backing strategically important new transmission infrastructure for the UK's economy and energy security, including the Pathway to 2030 projects.

## 3 ENSURE EVOLUTIONARY, NOT REVOLUTIONARY, ELECTRICITY MARKET REFORM

- ✓ Rule out Locational Marginal Pricing by adopting a timely programme of evolutionary, not revolutionary, reforms in the Review of Electricity Market Arrangements to support investment and consumer benefits.
- ✓ Launch a rapid, strategic review into Transmission Network Use of System Charges (TNUoS) to provide immediate and long-term measures to reduce volatility, improve predictability and deliver fairness for vital Scottish projects currently disadvantaged.

## 4 LAUNCH A FOUR NATIONS TASKFORCE FOR CLEAR NET-ZERO COORDINATION

- ✔ Establish a collaborative four nations taskforce to ensure mission-led, strategic cross-governmental and departmental coordination to support the development of appropriate policies to deliver net-zero by 2045 for Scotland and by 2050 for the UK.
- ✔ Deliver the Strategic Spatial Energy Plan Commission and ensure the National Energy Systems Operator is properly resourced and empowered to ensure Scotland's renewable energy potential is fully realised for the benefit of consumers and our energy security.
- ✔ Convene a working group with the Scottish Government, Ministry of Defence (MoD) and Scottish Renewables to accelerate the existing Eskdalemuir work plan to unlock up to 6GW of onshore wind held up in planning by the MoD Eskdalemuir Seismic Array, one of the best locations for onshore wind in the UK.

## 5 ROLLOUT RAPID INVESTMENT IN SUPPLY CHAINS, PORTS AND PLANNING

- ✔ Deliver new grant and guarantee financial support for supply chains in the Autumn Statement for green growth which should also clarify the future of the Floating Offshore Wind Manufacturing Scheme, Green Industrial Growth Accelerator and the National Wealth Fund.
- ✔ Ensure that the Sustainable Industry Awards (SIRs) framework clearly supports strategic investment in supply chains and ports by reflecting the objectives of the Strategic Investment Model and Industrial Growth Plan.
- ✔ Ensure relevant departments, local authorities and statutory consultees are appropriately resourced to support timely consenting, with a fresh drive to attract, upskill and retain key professions needed to prevent unnecessary planning delays.

## 6 ACCELERATE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CLEAN HEAT INSTALLATIONS

- ✔ Launch a transformational, GB-wide national mission to insulate homes and install clean heat technologies, targeting homes in the North of Scotland which disproportionately suffer from high levels of extreme fuel poverty.
- ✔ Provide policy certainty on rebalancing gas and electricity bills to accelerate the deployment of heat pumps, alongside the development of district heat networks across the UK.

## 7 KICKSTART SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND THE JUST TRANSITION

- ✔ Reform the Apprenticeship Levy in the Autumn Statement for green growth to ensure it is fit for purpose in addressing skills gaps and providing flexibility to meet employers' needs across all four nations.
- ✔ Ensure timely delivery of the Energy Skills Passport to support a just transition for our offshore workforce which should be accompanied by targeted financial support for individuals seeking to upskill or enter work in renewables.

## 8 CONSULT INDUSTRY ON PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE ENERGY LEGISLATION

- ✔ Launch an immediate consultation seeking the priorities of industry to inform the scope of the proposed Energy Independence Bill and ensure existing energy legislation is fully utilised to support offshore wind.
- ✔ Take appropriate steps to reinstate the Offshore Wind Workers Immigration Rules Concession (2017) to support Scottish offshore wind and amend the Road Traffic (Scotland) Act 1988 to support Scottish onshore wind.

## 9 SECURE INDUSTRY BACKING FOR GB ENERGY IN SCOTLAND

- ✔ Establish an Advisory Board for GB Energy with representation from industry leaders and key stakeholders to co-design industry-reflective solutions for the launch of GB Energy based in Scotland.
- ✔ Ensure GB Energy delivers additionality and avoids duplication by de-risking and fast-tracking investment for priority areas, such as grid procurement, emerging technologies and district heat networks.

## 10 IMPLEMENT INVESTMENT MECHANISM FOR LONG DURATION ENERGY STORAGE

- ✔ Urgently implement an investment mechanism to support the deployment of large-scale, long-duration electricity storage in the form of a 'cap and floor mechanism', which will help to unlock much needed investment in vital Scottish pumped storage hydro projects.