



## MONTHLY BRIEFING

JUNE 2017

**Dear Member,**

This issue of Scottish Renewables' Monthly Briefing showcases our responses to The Scottish Government's recent consultation on the draft Energy Strategy and accompanying documents, including the Onshore Wind Policy Statement and Scotland's Energy Efficiency Programme.

There's a huge amount to welcome in the draft Strategy, particularly the Scottish Government's vision and ambitions for our future energy system. However delivering those ambitions requires monumental changes in the way we generate and consume energy, and it's not clear how this will be achieved.



We understand the plan is to publish the final Energy Strategy early next year, so we strongly encourage members to continue to engage with the Scottish Renewables team on these issues as the final document takes shape.

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## Contents

### General

- [Business Rates](#)
- [Energy Strategy Response](#)
- [SR General Election manifesto](#)
- [General Election: party manifestos](#)
- [Solar's remarkable side-effects](#)
- [Young Professionals Green Energy Awards](#)

### Systems and Storage

- [Ofgem consultation: Targeted Charging Review](#)
- [SSEN Publishes ICE reports](#)

### Economics & Markets

- [Ofgem: RO closure guidance](#)

### Onshore Renewables

- [SEEP consultation](#)
- [Onshore Wind response](#)
- [LCITP reaction](#)

### Offshore Renewables

- [Judicial Review decision](#)
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## General

### [Business Rates](#)

The 2017 Business Rates Revaluation came into force on 1 April.

The lodging of competent appeals against the rating assessments MUST be completed by 30 September 2017. While there are [appeal rights](#) after that date, they are significantly reduced.

We recommend all members take the advice of professional rating experts before lodging appeals.

For further discussion on Business Rates please contact [Hannah Smith](#)

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### [Energy Strategy Consultation Response](#)

Scottish Renewables has submitted its [consultation response](#) to the Scottish Government's draft Energy Strategy and also issued [a press release](#) on that response, as well as [addressing a meeting of the Scottish Parliament's Economy, Jobs and Fair Work Committee](#).

The response recommends the strategy:

- Develops clear action plans to outline the practical steps which will deliver the Strategy's targets and vision
- Outlines the critical decision points that will play a role in determining the future of Scotland's energy supply
- Ensures all devolved policy levers are maximised to deliver the scale of transformation in energy supply required by the Strategy

If you have any questions about the response and next steps, please contact [Lindsay Roberts](#).

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### [Scottish Renewables' General Election manifesto](#)

Scottish Renewables [launched](#) its [manifesto](#) ahead of next week's UK General Election, detailing how it believes the next UK Government can deliver affordable energy and clean growth.

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### [General Election: party manifestos](#)

All of the main political parties have now published their manifestos for the 2017 General Election.

Scottish Renewables has set out [a table of the major relevant policy announcements](#) from these manifestos (and their Scottish versions).

As ever, Scottish Renewables' goal will continue to be a viable framework to support investment in every part of our sector – whichever party, or parties, form the next government of the UK. Please contact [Public Affairs Manager Gavin Donoghue](#) with any questions.

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## [The remarkable side-effects of solar](#)

A blog, titled [More than just panels: the remarkable side-effects of solar](#), has been published ahead of our [Storage & Systems Conference](#), which is being held in Glasgow on June 21.

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## [Young Professionals Green Energy Awards](#)

The 2017 Young Professionals Green Energy Awards were held in Glasgow on May 25.

Fifty two people used the hashtag #YPGEA17 on [Twitter](#) – please feel free to do the same if you want to congratulate the [nine worthy winners](#).

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## Economics & Markets

### [Ofgem consultation on the RO closure guidance](#)

Ofgem E-Serve is currently consulting on a number of [draft amendments](#) to its guidance on the closure of the Renewables Obligation to onshore wind in Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The deadline for comments is 12 June. If you have any questions please contact [Michael Rieley](#).

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## Systems and Storage

### [Ofgem consultation: Targeted Charging Review](#)

[Scottish Renewables' response](#) to the Ofgem consultation on its proposed [Targeted Charging Review](#) highlights our concern with the proposed scope of the review and encourages Ofgem to take a more holistic approach.

If you have any comments please [contact Michael Rieley](#)

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## [SSEN Publishes ICE reports](#)

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks has published its [Incentive on Connections Engagement Submission](#) for 2017, combining the Looking Back Report (2016/17) and Looking Forward Report (2017/18).

Please direct comments or queries to [Hannah Smith](#)

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## Onshore Renewables

### [SEEP consultation](#)

[Scottish Renewables' response](#) to the consultation on Scotland's Energy Efficiency Programme (SEEP) is now available on our website.

We welcome the aims of SEEP to reduce energy demand and decarbonise the heat supply of Scotland's built environment but have concerns with the trajectory of the emission reduction pathways set out in the draft Climate Change Plan, which SEEP has adopted as its objectives.

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### [Onshore Wind Policy Statement consultation response](#)

Scottish Renewables has submitted its [response](#) to the Scottish Government's consultation on the draft Onshore Wind Policy Statement.

The response recommends the Policy Statement ensures all devolved policy levers

are being fully utilised; encourages the consideration of the latest turbine technologies; commits to preparing guidance on repowering and ensures a flexible and inclusive approach to shared ownership is followed.

If you have any questions about the response or next steps, please contact [Lindsay Roberts](#).

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### [LCITP reaction](#)

Policy Manager Stephanie Clark [responded](#) to news that £43 million will be invested in low-carbon infrastructure projects by the Scottish Government's Low Carbon Infrastructure Transition Programme, saying: "Investments like this will help secure the vital decarbonisation of our energy system."

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## Offshore Renewables

### [Judicial Review of the Forth and Tay wind farms consent – appeal decision](#)

The [decision on the Scottish Minister's appeal to the Inner House of the Court of Session](#) was announced on 16 May.

Lord Carloway found in favour of the Scottish Ministers and the interested parties (Inch Cape, Seagreen Alpha and Bravo and Nearth Na Gaoithe) on all grounds of appeal.

A further appeal to this latest decision could still be lodged.

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