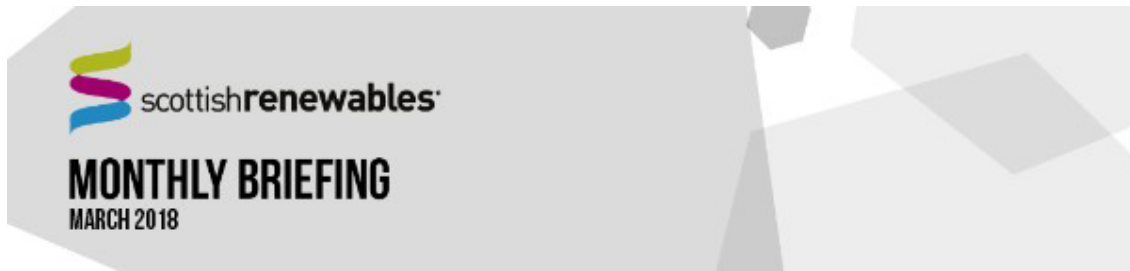


SR Monthly Briefing

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



Dear Member,

This issue of Scottish Renewables' Monthly Briefing looks at the new Lobbying Act, which comes into force on Monday, 12 March.

The Act introduces a Lobbying Register, which will be a publicly-accessible database of contacts between anyone who speaks with Members of the Scottish Parliament and civil service figures from the Scottish Parliament and Government about their work, unless they are exempt.

There's more detail on this in the email below, as well as in [this SR blog](#).



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### **Lobbying Act Event**

Scottish Renewables held training for members on the [Lobbying \(Scotland\) Act](#).

Michelle Cullis of Scottish Power, Andrew Henderson of Pinsent Masons, and Peter Speirs of Scottish Renewables guided around 25 members through the step-change that the legislation represents in political engagement in Scotland.

The Act will come into force on March 12 - read more in [our blog](#).



### **Scottish Renewables in Parliament**

Deputy Chief Executive Jenny Hogan represented the industry at a Scottish Parliament [Local Government and Communities Committee](#) meeting on the Planning Bill.

Jenny [pressed the case](#) against the introduction of a third-party right of appeal, and ensured that the renewables sector's voice was heard by the Committee, which is currently considering the Bill at stage one of the Parliamentary process.



### **Scottish National Investment Bank**

SR attended the launch of a report into the establishment of a Scottish National Investment Bank and used the opportunity to ask First Minister Nicola Sturgeon whether it would provide a new means of funding marine energy.

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## **Scottish Renewables' Annual Conference**

SR's [Annual Conference](#) will take place in Edinburgh on March 26-27.

First Minister Nicola Sturgeon will take to the podium on [day one](#) to set out her commitment to green energy.

[Day two](#) will explore the Scottish and UK policy landscapes and ask what needs to be done to ensure renewables continue to deliver affordable, competitive and inclusive clean energy.

Tickets are available, and SR members benefit from a reduced rate. For more information, click [here](#).



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## **Climate Change Plan**

The Scottish Government's final Climate Change Plan was published on February 28.

Scottish Renewables [responded](#) by welcoming its overall direction, but criticised "a significant drop in ambition in decarbonising the heat sector".

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## **Expression of interest: Decentralised Low Carbon Power Sector Deal**

Scottish Renewables has contributed to a paper which outlines the benefits of a sector deal for decentralised low carbon power to BEIS. The paper has been developed alongside a number of other trade bodies representing small and medium-scale generators, demand-side response and electricity storage.

Please contact [Joe Mitchell](#) or [Hannah Smith](#) for further information.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)**ECONOMICS & MARKETS****[Blog: How wind power helped beat the #BeastFromTheEast](#)**

Senior Policy Manager Hannah Smith analysed the effects of the storm which brought Scotland's Central Belt to a standstill at the start of March in [one of the most-read blogs SR has produced to date](#).

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**[Non-Domestic \(Business\) Rates Legislation 2018-19 laid in Scottish Parliament](#)**

Eight pieces of Business Rates legislation for 2018-19 have been laid in Parliament and, subject to Parliamentary approval, will come into force on 1 April 2018. Of relevance is that:

- [The poundage rate has been set at 48.0 pence](#)
- [Thresholds for the Large Business Supplement have been set](#)
- [Aberdeen city/shire offices see relief](#)
- [Hydro generation sites see relief where the rateable value is under £5 million](#)

Get in touch with [Hannah Smith](#) to learn more about Scottish Renewables' work in this area.

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**[Consultation on changes to the CfD scheme](#)**

BEIS is currently [consulting](#) on changes to the CfD scheme, including a proposed definition for remote island wind projects, changes to load factor assumptions and force majeure relief conditions. You can access the current draft of our response [here](#).

The consultation will close on 9 March. Please email any comments to [Fabrice Leveque](#).



[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)**OFFSHORE RENEWABLES****Marine International Investment Survey.**

Scottish Renewables is surveying its wave and tidal developer members to ascertain the extent to which overseas investments are being made.

To learn more about, and participate in, this study, please contact [Joe Mitchell](#).

**GRID & SYSTEMS****TENA Consultation: DNO Queues - Treatment of Changes to Connection Requests**

The ENA [is consulting](#) on what changes a customer can make to a project after a distribution network connection request has been made, while maintaining the project's place in the connections queue.

Please send any comments to [Hannah Smith](#) as soon as possible.

**National Grid sets out EU requirements for new grid connections**

National Grid has [published an open letter](#) detailing how connections at all levels of the network are likely to be impacted by EU Grid codes.

**Assessment and Design Fees**

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and the [Government Response and Impact Assessment](#) is also available.

[Ofgem is now consulting on the appropriate changes to SLC 12](#) to enable this change.

Please contact [Hannah Smith](#) if you would like to raise any comments.



### **SSEN Consultation: Unlocking Orkney's Renewable Potential**

SSEN is [consulting](#) on the principles, development and framework for the proposed Alternative Approach to the reinforcement of Orkney.

The deadline for submissions is 12 March.

## PLANNING & CONSENTS



### **Fees Charged for Applications under the Electricity Act 1989 consultation**

Scottish Ministers have launched a [consultation](#) about the future of the current statutory arrangements for fees payable under sections 36, 36C and 37 of the Electricity Act 1989.

Scottish Renewables is seeking member feedback on this consultation. Please send comments to [Stephanie Conesa](#) by COP Friday, 13 April.

### **SNH Guidance: Assessing significance of impacts on bird population from onshore wind farms that do not affect protected areas**

SNH has published refreshed guidance on '[Assessing significance of impacts on bird population from onshore wind farms that do not affect protected areas](#)'.

This sets out the scale at which developments should be considered and the basis for assessing

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### **Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee: call for evidence**

The Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee has launched a [call for evidence](#) on the general principles of the Scottish Crown Estate Bill which the Scottish Government introduced on 24 January 2018. The deadline for responses is 12 noon on Friday 23 March 2018.

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### **Scoping workshop for sectoral marine plan for offshore wind energy.**

Marine Scotland is undertaking a Scoping Workshop for the Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind Energy. It will be held on Tuesday, 6 March 2018 at The Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation from 2-4pm.

Please contact [Wendy Geary](#) to register.

## LOW-CARBON HEAT



### **Consultation response: Second Consultation on LHEES & Regulation of District Heating**

Scottish Renewables [responded](#) to a second [Scottish Government consultation](#) on introducing a regulatory framework for district heating and placing a statutory duty on local authorities to produce local heat decarbonisation strategies.



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### **Use Woodfuel Scotland Biomass Project Survey.**

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Government can develop an estimate of potential future biomass demand in Scotland to try and make sure that the right level of support is available.

Please email answers to the following questions (regarding projects that you are leading, or any other project that you are aware is being led by others) to [Melissa Rowell](#) asap:

- Project name/location: (postcode or town name)
- Project size: (installed capacity in kW/MW)
- Biomass usage: (estimated tonnes pa at given MC)
- Type: (heat, power or CHP)
- What stage is the project at? (1. Early stage 2. Plans in development 3. Planning & Consent granted 4. Construction underway)
- Any additional comments

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