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SR Monthly Briefing

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## MONTHLY BRIEFING

NOVEMBER 2017

Dear Member,

October brought a number of policy announcements for the renewables sector.

The Scottish Government [committed](#) to launch a publicly-owned, renewably-powered energy company. At Westminster BEIS [allocated](#) funding of up to £557 million for future less-established CfD auctions and [confirmed that Scottish remote island wind projects will be able to bid in](#).



The UK Government also published two documents: the long-awaited [Clean Growth Strategy](#), which signalled welcome ambition for the sector but disappointingly failed to commit to deliver a route to market for onshore wind and solar, and Professor Dieter Helm's [independent review into the cost of energy](#).

At Scottish Renewables we're continuing to work constructively with both governments to ensure renewables are central to the delivery of their respective policy ambitions.

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## General

### [New team members](#)

We've had some new additions to the Scottish Renewables team, with more to follow in December.

The remits of our Policy team have also been reviewed to reflect the differences in challenges and opportunities between large-scale and local, decentralised energy schemes.

[View our latest organogram and policy team remits online.](#)

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### [Party Conferences](#)

Scottish Renewables was represented at SNP and Scottish Green Party conferences and attended fringe events hosted by Heriot-Watt University, Stop Climate Chaos and the CBI. Head of Policy Michael Rieley also participated in a fringe debate hosted by EDF Energy alongside a panel including Paul Wheelhouse MSP, Minister for Business, Innovation and Energy.

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### [Hydro Nation briefing](#)

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on [the future of the Hydro Nation](#), was cited by almost all participants in the debate.

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### [Westminster Reception](#)

A reception in the Palace of Westminster, organised by Scottish Renewables, was attended by dozens of members as well as around 30 MPs and Lords from each of the parties representing Scottish constituencies.

The event was hosted by [Alan Brown MP](#), SNP Spokesperson on Transport, Infrastructure and Energy, and provided an opportunity for member organisations to engage directly with politicians from across the political spectrum.

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### [Media reaction - publicly-owned energy company](#)

Scottish Renewables' Chief Executive Claire Mack [responded to news that](#) the Scottish Government is to set up a publicly-owned, not-for-profit energy company which will use renewably-generated power.

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### [Clean Growth Strategy blog](#)

Our [blog](#) on the launch of the UK Government's Clean Growth Strategy sums up the document's key points for renewables.

It also includes a portion of our media reaction, which you can find in full [here](#).

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## Economics & Markets

### [Call for evidence: revenue opportunities for renewables](#)

BEIS is [seeking evidence and views](#) on additional measures and incentives that could encourage home-owners to invest in energy efficiency improvements.

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opportunities for renewable generators.

The consultation runs until 9 January. Please contact [Hannah Smith](#) with any comments.

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## [Cost of Energy Review](#)

[An independent Cost of Energy Review](#), led by Professor Dieter Helm CBE, was published by BEIS last week.

The review has two main findings:

- The cost of energy is significantly higher than it needs to be to meet government climate change targets and carbon budgets
- Energy policy, regulation and market design are not fit for purpose given the levels of change within the energy system.

Scottish Renewables' comment on the review [can be found here](#)

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## [UK Budget Representation](#)

[Scottish Renewables representation to HM Treasury](#) on the UK Autumn Budget set out a number of priorities including the continued growth of less established technologies, unlocking investment in the lowest cost forms of energy and providing clarity and support for smaller and community-scale renewables.

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## [Media reaction - CfD announcement](#)

Scottish Renewables responded to news that the UK Government [has confirmed](#) up to £557 million will go to support new renewable energy projects, and that the next Contracts for Difference auction will be held in spring 2019.

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## [RHI consultation](#)

The Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy has launched a [consultation on further proposed amendments to the non-domestic RHI](#).

Overall the consultation seeks views on a number of areas including proposed

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[website](#).

If you would like to contribute to the wider consultation please contact [Hannah Smith](#) by noon on 2 November.

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## Systems & Storage

### [Assessment and Design Fees](#)

BEIS has launched a [consultation on allowing distribution network operators \(DNOs\) to charge upfront Assessment & Design \(A&D\) fees](#) when processing distribution network connection requests.

This proposal is designed to help ensure a fairer sharing of costs between customers and help improve the efficiency of the overall connection process.

If you have any comments or questions on this consultation please contact [Hannah Smith](#).

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### [TNUoS forecasts](#)

National Grid has today published its TNUoS forecasts.

These take into account changes introduced through CMP 264/265 (embedded benefit) and CMP 268 and result in tariff changes.

Please contact Hannah Smith with any queries.

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### [Ofgem storage consultations](#)

Ofgem has launched two consultations on energy storage, with deadlines of November 27:

1. [Clarifying the regulatory framework for electricity storage: Licensing](#)
2. [Enabling the competitive deployment of storage in a flexible energy system: Changes to the electricity distribution license](#).

These consultations could have far-reaching implications for how storage can be deployed on the network. Please send any views to [Hannah Smith](#).

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## [Network Charging Update](#)

Ofgem has established a [Charging Futures Forum](#) to consider charging issues. Scottish Renewables has a seat on that group.

A Charging Delivery Body has been set up to support the aims of the CFF – and in particular to ensure developments are well communicated – and two Task Forces on network access are also being established.

[Sign up for email updates here.](#)

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## [Blogs on system needs](#)

A two-part Scottish Renewables blog looked at National Grid's ongoing review of system needs and assessed how each element might prove to be of benefit to the renewables industry.

Catch up on parts [one](#) and [two](#) on our website.

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## Planning & Consents

### [Supplementary Planning Guidance: East Ayrshire Council](#)

East Ayrshire Council is consulting on [supplementary guidance](#) for heat generation, planning for wind energy and non-statutory guidance on community benefits from wind energy development.

The deadline for responses is 13 October. Please contact [Stephanie Conesa](#) with any comments.

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## Offshore Renewables

### [Media reaction - Hywind](#)

The world's first floating wind farm, Statoil's Hywind project, was opened by First Minister Nicola Sturgeon in October. [Scottish Renewables responded.](#)

Statoil will join other leading figures in the floating wind sector in speaking at the

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## Onshore Renewables

### [SEPA charging consultations](#)

SEPA has recently launched a [consultation on charging](#) for small hydro schemes with a closing date of 3 November.

Scottish Renewables plans to respond. If you would like to input, please contact [Hannah Smith](#).

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