

SR Monthly Briefing

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



scottishrenewables[®]

MONTHLY BRIEFING

NOVEMBER 2018

Dear Member,

As the warm weather receded and heating systems cranked back into life, SR's low-carbon heat work also stepped up a gear.

We held a very well attended event at the SNP Conference, calling for stronger action on district heat networks, rural heat and new buildings. We also met with the Scottish Government to get an update on their proposed regulation of district heating (expect further news on this soon) and achieved widespread media coverage with a press release on the need to cut domestic coal use.



This month we will be holding a briefing with opposition spokespeople in the Scottish Parliament. [Join our Heat Network to stay up to date.](#)

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CONTENTS

[General](#)

[Economics & Markets](#)

[Planning & Consents](#)



[Grid & Systems](#)

[Low-Carbon Heat](#)



GENERAL



Scottish Green Energy Awards shortlist

Dundee's V&A museum and Aberdeen's new Exhibition and Conference Centre, which are both making use of cutting-edge green energy technology, are among the finalists for the [2018 Scottish Green Energy Awards](#).

[The shortlist, which was announced at the start of October](#), also features projects in Fair Isle, Orkney and the country's first National Park, where small hydropower schemes are funding community improvement projects as well as generating green energy.

Winners will be announced at a sold-out event at the EICC in Edinburgh on December 6.

Meeting with Secretary of State for Scotland

SR Chief Executive Claire Mack met with David Mundell MP in London last month to talk all things Brexit.

The conversation covered topics as diverse as the impacts of an extended transition period on investor confidence and industry's preparations for potential trade issues.

Claire also discussed Mr Mundell's view of onshore wind and the ability of the technology to address investment challenges in rural areas.



Blog: The light at the end of the tunnel

As Green Great Britain Week heralded a series of events highlighting the booming low-carbon economy, Scottish Renewables' Director of Communications Nick Sharpe used [this blog](#) to contrast the devastation writ large in the latest IPCC report with the hope presented by renewable energy.

A free [SR Member event on Brexit](#) on November 22 will provide a unique opportunity to hear from the University of Edinburgh's Nicola McEwan, Professor of Territorial Politics, on her analysis of the likely future regulatory situation in the UK, both in the transition in the immediate post-Brexit period and over the long term.

The event, from 9-11am in our office on Bath Street in Glasgow, will also include a short Extraordinary General Meeting, details of which can be found in [this invitation](#).

Contact [Events and Membership Officer Rachel Dickie](#) for more details.



Media reaction: CCC Progress Report to Parliament

The UK Government responded to the Committee on Climate Change's 2018 Progress Report to Parliament last month.

Fabrice Leveque, Senior Policy Manager at Scottish Renewables, [said](#): "It is essential that we do not let the opportunities provided by renewable energy - including onshore wind and solar - slip through our fingers, and we look forward to working with Government as its plans for the fourth CfD auction progress."

ECONOMICS & MARKETS



Scottish Ratepayers Forum

Scottish Renewables will be attending the SRF later this month, making the case for change in the ratings system to ensure greater fairness for renewable generators.

This forum brings together different types of ratepayers in Scotland, such as retail and the hospitality sector, and allows us to meet with the Scottish Assessors directly. If you would like to learn more, please contact [Hannah Smith](#).



The impact and relevance of EU funding for renewable energy projects

In the context both of Brexit and continued uncertainty over the future of the Feed-in Tariff, Scottish Renewables is considering the scale and importance of EU funding in renewable energy projects, particularly hydro, small-wind, solar and marine.

If you are interested in this work, please contact [Hannah Smith](#).

Publicly Owned Energy Company - committee evidence

We're continuing to engage with the Scottish Government's proposed Publicly Owned Energy Company on a number of fronts, and were last month called to speak about [our consultation response](#) by the Economy, Jobs and Fair Work Committee.

Public Affairs Manager Peter Speirs appeared and spoke about the role we believe the POEC could play in securing and expanding both the energy and socioeconomic benefits generated by renewables in Scotland.

[Contact Peter](#) for more details of our work in this area.

Consultation Response: Scottish National Investment Bank

Scottish Renewables [responded](#) to the Scottish Government's consultation on the Scottish National Investment Bank Bill, setting out arguments around risk appetite and additionality.

UK Budget submission

PLANNING & CONSENTS



Planning Bill - wild land and appeal rights

SR has produced briefings for relevant MSPs ahead of key votes on amendments to the [Planning \(Scotland\) Bill](#), which is currently passing through the Scottish Parliament.

The amendments, which relate to wild land areas and the potential to vary rights of appeal, will be considered in the coming weeks.

Members of our [Planning & Consents Network](#) will be updated by email. To join, update your preferences in [the My Account section of our website](#).

Proposed Dumfries And Galloway Local Development Plan

Scottish Ministers have appointed Andrew Sikes as the reporter who will carry out [the examination of the proposed Dumfries and Galloway LDP2](#).

If you have any questions about the progress of the examination, please contact [Jayne Anderson](#).



Media coverage: WalkHighlands

Our Communications team worked to secure [an interview with SR Chief Executive Claire Mack on influential outdoors website WalkHighlands](#).

The challenging Q&A addresses "controversy over renewable energy projects", with Claire writing: *"Creating new blanket bans on all development in areas outwith those with national designations would sterilise huge swathes of Scotland's land suitable for renewables."*

To hear more about our work to communicate the benefits of

lists.

GRID & SYSTEMS



Securities and Liabilities Workshop

SSEN, SHE Transmission and National Grid ESO are hosting a joint workshop in Glasgow to discuss securities and liabilities associated with new connections for both distribution and transmission customers. Further information and registration can be found on the [SSEN events page](#).

Scottish Renewables will be attending. Please contact either [Joe Mitchell](#) or [Hannah Smith](#) if you have any questions.

LOW-CARBON HEAT



SNP Conference fringe event

Scottish Renewables held a fringe event at the SNP conference to draw attention to the issue of decarbonising heat. Energy Minister Paul Wheelhouse heard from two SR members and an academic from Edinburgh University about the need to accelerate action on district heat networks, rural heat and new buildings.

You can read more about the standing-room-only event in our eponymous blog, [Too Hot to Handle? Cleaning up Scotland's heating](#) and in the [delegate briefing](#).

Consultation: RHI - biomass combustion in urban areas

BEIS is [consulting](#) on whether to prevent support under the Renewable Heat Incentive for biomass installations in urban areas with access to the gas grid.

The consultation sets out details of the proposed restrictions and asks for views on the scope and nature of these changes to RHI eligibility. The consultation closes on November 27. Please send



Consign coal heating to ‘dustbin of history’

A [news release issued by Scottish Renewables this week](#) looked at the 14,000 Scots homes which still use coal as their main source of heat.

Strong words from Fabrice Leveque prompted media coverage across the UK, with WWF Scotland joining our call for action.

Fabrice said: “The Scottish Government’s Energy Efficient Scotland programme launches in 2020 and we believe it needs to tackle the issue of coal heating, as well as the polluting oil and LPG systems which remain so common in the large areas of Scotland which do not have a mains gas supply.”

Fuel Poverty Bill Inquiry Response

SR has responded to [a call for evidence](#) from the Scottish Parliament’s Local Government and Communities Committee on the new [Fuel Poverty \(target, definition, strategy\) Bill](#).

[Our response](#) sets out the case for ending support for oil and LPG boilers through Scottish Government fuel poverty schemes and ensuring that these fund low-carbon heating replacements instead.

Please contact [Fabrice Leveque](#) with any questions.

Media reaction: Citizens Advice Scotland report

Citizens Advice Scotland released its Hard Wired Problems Report last month.

Scottish Renewables, said: "Citizens Advice Scotland is right to raise the alarm about households using inefficient electric heating systems."



citizens
advice
scotland

ONSHORE RENEWABLES



First poll of rural Scotland shows two thirds back wind energy.

Results from [the first poll of rural Scots on attitudes to renewable energy](#), commissioned by SR, showed last month that 66% support the use of onshore wind energy, with 22% saying they have no opinion or don't know and only 11% opposed to new onshore wind farms.

The news, which is part of our work to secure a route to market for onshore wind, received coverage in the [Daily Telegraph](#) and [Daily Mail](#), among others.

A number of Scottish Renewables members supported the study, which was carried out by Survation, on social media, further increasing its reach.

Hydro Task and Finish Group

Scottish Renewables hosted a meeting of the Scottish Government's Hydro Task and Finish Group earlier this month. The group received updates on the ongoing review of business rates, SEPA's work on charging and on grid outages.

If you would like more information on how SR is feeding into the Scottish Government please contact [Hannah Smith](#).

Michael Gove, Secretary of State for DEFRA, 'committed to widest generation mix'

Director of Communications Nick Sharpe pressed the case for new onshore wind deployment when he met UK Government Environment Secretary Michael Gove last month.

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was “committed to the widest possible generation mix”.

The discussion followed RenewableUK’s Business for Onshore Wind Reception in Westminster on October 24.



Unlocking Value in End of Life Assets Seminar

Do you want to make money from used turbine parts by transforming them into saleable assets at the end of a project’s life?

Experts in this field will take to the podium at Scottish Renewables’ Unlocking [Value in End of Life Assets Seminar](#) and break down the funding opportunities available, including more than £70 million of grant cash from Zero Waste Scotland.

The event will be held from 1-4pm on November 13 in Glasgow. This [blog has more detail](#).

Media reaction: Fair Isle gets power

A new renewable electricity system went live on Fair Isle last month, providing the local community with reliable 24-hour electricity for the first time.

[Responding](#), Jenny Hogan, Deputy Chief Executive at Scottish Renewables, said: "This ambitious project combines wind, solar and battery storage in one advanced energy system which will no doubt improve the 55 residents’ quality of life, as well as the economic prospects of the island."

OFFSHORE RENEWABLES



Marine Scotland Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind

As part of the development of the draft [Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind](#), Marine Scotland

The groups will be used to provide information and advice, input into methods used and technical content and to review documents. The first steering group meeting is on Friday, November 9.

- Steering Group 1 - Environmental assessments (contact [Stephanie Conesa](#) to discuss)
- Steering Group 2 - Socio-economic assessments (contact [Fabrice Leveque](#) to discuss)

Marine Scotland Consenting and Licensing Manual for Offshore Wind, Wave and Tidal Energy Applications

Marine Scotland has published its [Consenting and Licensing Manual for Offshore Wind, Wave and Tidal Energy Applications](#). This document provides guidance on applying for consents and marine licences for offshore renewable energy projects within both Scottish Territorial Waters (out to 12 nm) and Scottish Offshore Waters (12-200 nm).

The document updates and replaces the draft Marine Scotland Licensing and Consents Manual (2013).

It is a live document and comments are welcome. Please contact [Stephanie Conesa](#) to discuss.

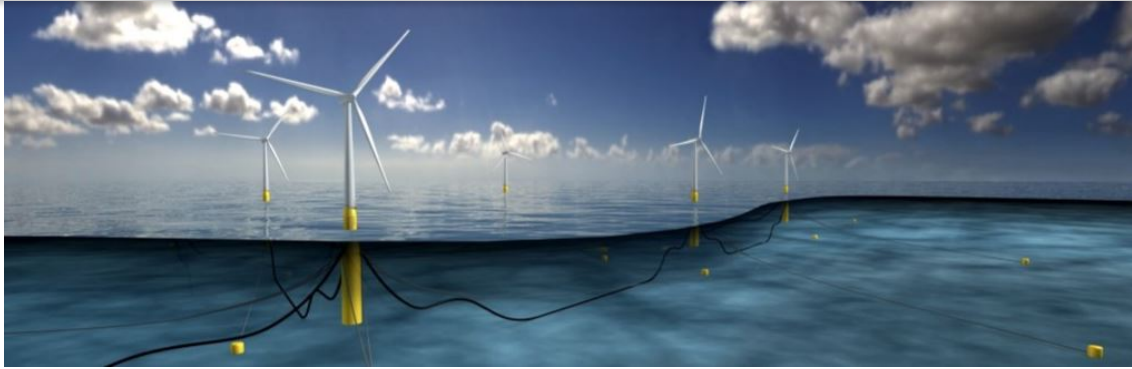
Marine sector work continues apace

Scottish Renewables chaired a further meeting of the UK Marine Energy Council, an industry coordinating group bringing together key industry players and trade associations.

The group has coordinated a letter to Greg Clark, signed by industry players, and is working on the detail of proposed revenue support mechanisms as well as wider socio-economic benefits of the technology.

We also continue to participate in the Scottish Government's Ministerial Working Group on marine energy, which met last month.

Please contact [Hannah Smith](#) to discuss.



Floating Wind conference

The [Floating Offshore Wind UK Conference](#) took place last month, co-organised by SR and RenewableUK.

The event welcomed 300 delegates to Aberdeen and prompted a number of media announcements, to which SR's team reacted:

- Of news of a new study which shows floating offshore wind technology could contribute up to 17,000 jobs and £33.6bn of GVA to the UK economy by 2050, Stephanie Conesa, Policy Manager at Scottish Renewables, [said](#): "Scotland's deep waters, with some of Europe's strongest winds, provide ideal conditions for the testing and deployment of floating offshore wind turbines."
- Following news that Kincardine Offshore Windfarm Ltd has started generating power from what will be the world's largest floating offshore wind farm, Fabrice Leveque, Senior Policy Manager at Scottish Renewables, [said](#): "Today's announcement of first power from the Kincardine Offshore Windfarm marks another milestone for the exciting floating wind sector."

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