

SR Monthly Briefing

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



MONTHLY BRIEFING

AUGUST 2017

Dear Member,

This issue of Scottish Renewables' Monthly Briefing highlights the Scottish Government's latest planning position statement, [Places, People and Planning](#), to which SR will be responding on behalf of members.

It includes a number of [policies relevant to renewables](#), many of which [SR proposed](#) in the preceding [independent planning review](#).

At Scottish Renewables we are working hard to ensure members' interests are represented fully in this stage of the review process and will continue to do so as we look ahead to the Planning Bill itself and subsequent policy frameworks.



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General

[Launch of The Scottish Green Energy Awards 2017](#)

This year's Scottish Green Energy Awards were launched on July 24, and [nominations](#) for 10 categories are being accepted until September 8.

The event will be held in Edinburgh on November 30, and [tickets are available here](#).

[New fund launched for low-carbon start-ups](#)

The Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation fund, Climate-KIC Accelerator Stage 2, has opened for applications, giving fledgling climate entrepreneurs the chance to apply for dedicated support and funding of up to €20,000 to help get low-carbon start-ups investment ready. [Find out more and apply by 25 August](#).

[ETP Energy Industry Doctorate Programme](#)

There is only one month to go until the proposal deadline for the [ETP Energy Industry Doctorate Programme 2017](#). Six studentships are available to start before the end of March 2018. ETP will fund up to £30k towards the cost of each studentship, with the remaining costs split between the host universities and the industrial sponsors.

Each project needs an industrial partner, which does not have to be Scottish or an SME. For further information please contact [Stephen-Mark Williams at the ETP](#).

Economics & Markets

[System Needs and Product Strategy](#)

Scottish Renewables' response to [National Grids System Needs and Product Strategy consultation](#) welcomes National Grid's focus on creating new markets for system services, reinforces the need for a level playing field and acknowledges different investment needs and ongoing reform.

[National Grid Workshop: De-rating Storage in the Capacity Market](#)

National Grid's modelling team will be holding a workshop to discuss their proposal for a new methodology to de-rate energy storage participating in the Capacity Market. Proposals are part of the current [Capacity Market Consultation](#).

The workshop will be held in London on 10 August. For more details and to sign up, [click here](#).



Systems and Storage

[Introduction to the Electricity Network: Charging and Regulation](#)

Scottish Renewables is running a short CPD-accredited seminar, [Introduction to the electricity network: Charging and Regulation](#), in Glasgow on 30 August, sponsored by Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks. This seminar will provide a valuable overview of the arrangements in place to govern the ownership, operation and regulation of the electricity network.

This [15-second survey](#) will help inform our work in this area.

[BEIS/Ofgem publication: Upgrading our energy system](#)

Ofgem and BEIS have launched a [Smart Systems and Flexibility Plan](#), following the call for evidence on a [smart, flexible energy system](#). The plan sets out a number of work areas which focus on removing barriers to smart technologies, smart homes and businesses and markets which work for flexibility.

The paper also underlines the importance of [Ofgem's targeted charging review](#); the

Energy Network Associations [‘Open Networks Project’](#) and Ofgem’s forthcoming strategy for regulating the future energy system, expected in the autumn.

Please contact [Michael Rieley](#) for further information.

[ENA Open Networks Project](#)

The [ENA ‘Open Networks’ project](#) brings together all seven UK grid operators, academics, NGOs, government and Ofgem to lay the foundations of a smart energy grid in the UK. The project will focus on developing proposals around transmission/distribution processes; customer experience; DSO transition; charging and comms.

Scottish Renewables is a member of the advisory panel. To see initial papers and help inform our response please contact [Michael Rieley](#).

[Scottish Renewables Responds to DNO Engagement Plans](#)

Each year, Ofgem consults on the plans put forward by DNOs under the [Incentive on Connections Engagement](#) (ICE). ICE sets out a number of criteria on customer engagement which DNOs must follow, or face penalties.

DNOs have published reports on their engagement with connections customers over the past year as well as setting out their plans for the year ahead. [Scottish Renewables has responded to Ofgem for both the Scottish DNOs.](#)

Contact [Hannah Smith](#) to discuss this response.

[Customer Connections – Journey Maps](#)

Through the ‘Customer Experience’ work stream of the ENA’s [Open Networks project](#) members are invited to comment on maps that have been created to describe the customer connection journey.

These maps will be used to identify issues and improvements for the connections process, with proposals ultimately put to Ofgem.

Contact [Hannah Smith](#) to input to this project.

[Scottish Renewables launches DG Connections Group](#)

We are inviting members with an interest in distribution level connections to join our new DG Connections Group.

With growing distributed generation, rapid innovation across the networks, and regulation developing to promote a smart and flexible energy system, this is a growing area of policy development.

If you are interest in contributing to our work in this area, please contact [Hannah Smith](#).

[SR Hydrogen Seminar – 28 September, Glasgow](#)

Scottish Renewables is running a short CPD-accredited seminar, [Introduction to Hydrogen and Opportunities for Renewables](#), in Glasgow on 28 September, sponsored by Doosan Babcock. Come along for a valuable overview of the scale of the opportunity and the challenges ahead for this growing technology.

Planning & Consents

[Scottish planning consultation](#)

The Scottish Government is consulting on [‘Places, people and planning: Position Statement’](#) and its Strategic Environmental Assessment until 11 August.

[Scottish Renewables’ briefing paper](#) highlights the key points in the statement relating to renewables, from third party right of appeal to local review bodies, including a number of [policies that we recommended](#) to the preceding [planning review](#).

Contact [Stephanie Clark](#) with any final comments by 9 August to feed into Scottish Renewables’ response.

Onshore Renewables

[SNH guidance: red kites](#)

SNH has recently published [revised avoidance rates for red kite](#). The document is intended for anyone involved with collision risk modelling for birds at onshore wind farms.

[Media reaction: Fair Isle](#)

Policy Manager Stephanie Clark [responded](#) to news that residents on Fair Isle are a step closer to having 24-hour power thanks to funding which will allow them to develop a new renewable energy system.

[Scoping a Strategic Vision for the Uplands](#)

SNH has published its [scoping report to the Scottish Government on developing a strategic vision for Scotland's uplands](#).

The work has involved consultation with a wide range of stakeholders and the report summarises SNH's work and the views expressed, and makes a number of broad recommendations to inform the development of a strategic vision if Ministers decide to proceed.

[Westminster Hall debate on renewable energy generation on the islands](#)

A Westminster Hall debate, Renewable Energy Generation: Island Communities, was held on July 4. Scottish Renewables provided a briefing to MPs in advance of the debate.

The main outcomes are covered in [the Hansard report](#): that Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at BEIS, Richard Harrington MP and officials are currently updating the evidence base to set a strike price for remote islands and want to ensure healthy competition to provide the best value for consumers.

To discuss, please contact [Rachelle Money, Director of Communications](#).

Offshore Renewables

Media reactions

Scottish Renewables Senior Policy Manager Lindsay Roberts responded to three media stories featuring offshore renewables in July:

- News that [the Scottish Government has made a further investment of £1.5 million into the Carbon Trust's Offshore Wind Accelerator programme.](#)
 - [New research](#) into the economic benefits of the Beatrice Offshore Windfarm.
 - News that [the first of five floating offshore wind turbines has been towed into place at the Hywind development.](#)
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Study on Lessons for Ocean Energy Development

The European Commission has published a report titled '[Study on Lessons for Ocean Energy Development](#)' which reviews failures, lessons learnt and good practices in wave and tidal technology.

The main conclusion is that the root causes and barriers to development are diverse and interrelated, which calls for an integrated solution which involves all stakeholders.

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