

Oliver Wragg
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Stromness
Orkney
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17 April 2018

Dear Mr Wragg,

Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund | Tidal Energy Innovation Challenge

I am pleased to inform you of Scottish Renewables' support for the Tidal Energy Innovation Challenge Expression of Interest for the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund.

Scottish Renewables is the representative body for the renewable energy sector in Scotland, working to grow a sustainable industry which delivers secure supplies of low-carbon, clean energy for heat, power and transport at the lowest possible cost. We represent around 280 organisations ranging from large suppliers, operators and manufacturers to small developers, installers and community groups, and companies right across the supply chain.

Public and private commitment has made the UK the world leader in marine energy. Scotland in particular sits at the forefront of the sector, playing host to world-leading wave and tidal energy developers, supply chain facilities, companies and services – all growing our economy¹ as well as helping us meet Government ambitions for a low-carbon energy future.

As we look to create a smart, flexible and decentralised energy system, grow our Blue Economy, and ensure inclusive place-based growth, the benefits our marine energy sector can deliver will only grow more pronounced.

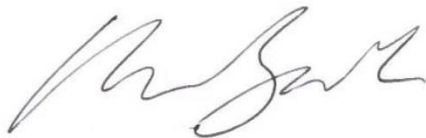
¹ <https://www.scottishrenewables.com/publications/industrial-impact-power-scotlands-renewable-sector/>

This nascent industry is on the cusp of commercialisation. To realise the full potential of this sector, now more than ever, support is required.

Scottish Renewables has previously cited tidal and wave technologies as areas where innovation funding should be strategically directed to maximise impact². In line with this, we believe that the proposed Tidal Energy Innovation Challenge will help accelerate tidal stream energy innovation towards commercialisation, reducing the cost of energy and increasing productivity.

The Challenge will help tidal energy to become an important part of the energy mix, increasing energy security, creating new jobs and generating export opportunities for the UK.

Yours sincerely



Senior Policy Manager

Scottish Renewables

² <https://www.scottishrenewables.com/publications/briefing-innovation/>