

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



scottishrenewables  
**MONTHLY BRIEFING**  
MAY 2022

**Dear member,**

As you may already be aware, a new system of pricing for the electricity network poses a significant threat to our industry. SR has acted quickly to simplify Locational Marginal Pricing - or 'Postcode Pricing' - for members, as well as to publicise the issue to a wider audience before it develops further.

[This blog](#) explains clearly how the new system would differ from TNUoS - already the subject of a review after action from SR and others - and why making these changes now would be bad for, among other things, net-zero.



We also worked with the Herald on Sunday to achieve front-page coverage (detailed later in this email), with that article being the subject of [a Parliamentary question](#) by Emma Roddick MSP.

Work on this issue continues, so please ensure you're signed up to our Economics & Markets Forum to receive updates.

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**GENERAL**

## News release: Young Professionals Green Energy Awards 2022 winners announced

Eight up-and-coming green energy stars were honoured at the [Young Professionals Green Energy Awards](#), which saw 300 renewable energy professionals come together at the Grand Central Hotel in Glasgow last month.

Claire Mack, Chief Executive of Scottish Renewables, said: "The Young Professionals Green Energy Awards once again highlight the level of skill, innovation, and ambition of those who will be driving the future of our renewable energy sector and the energy transition."

[Read the full list of winners.](#)



## Engagement at Holyrood

This month we've been working with our members to hold a number of visits for Ministers and MSPs. We visited Star Renewables in Glasgow with Lorna Slater, Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity, joined FES Group to visit the Solar Energy Charging Hub at Falkirk Stadium with Graham Simpson, Shadow Minister for Transport, and also visited Pearie Law Wind Farm with EDF Renewables and Foysoil Choudhury, Scottish Labour MSP for Lothian.

Morag Watson attended a Scottish Labour roundtable with Daniel Johnson, Shadow Finance and Economy Spokesperson and Jonathan Reynolds, Shadow Secretary of

State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. We also met with Martin Whitfield, Scottish Labour MSP for South Scotland and Mark Ruskell, Scottish Green MSP for Mid-Scotland and Fife, to discuss the NPF4 planning reforms.



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## Media reaction: British Energy Security Strategy released

The UK Government released its British Energy Security Strategy, which plans to boost long-term energy independence, security and prosperity.

[Responding](#), Morag Watson, Director of Policy at Scottish Renewables, said: "Scottish Renewables welcomes the commitment of today's British Energy Security Strategy to increase renewable energy deployment, which could see 95% of Great Britain's electricity set to be low-carbon by 2030."

Claire also appeared on The Sunday Show with Lucy Whyte on BBC Radio Scotland to talk about the Strategy's impact on energy in Scotland.

## BEIS engagement

Claire and Nick met with BEIS last month to discuss issues of interest to members across the industry. Key points covered were TNUoS (and its ongoing resolution), locational marginal pricing and support for pumped storage hydropower.

This engagement will become a regular feature of our contact schedule, so please get in touch if you'd like us to raise an issue.



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## PLANNING & CONSENTS



### Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee Debate: NPF4

Scottish Renewables briefed MSPs ahead of a committee debate on NPF4 last month, with Dean Lockhart highlighting our concerns about the length of time taken for planning applications, which meant turbine technology became obsolete before being approved, while Mark Griffin quoted Scottish Renewables, saying the draft NPF4 did not support an expansion of renewable energy.

SR's [final consultation response](#) and [proposed redrafted NPF4 text](#) are available on our website.



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### New Regulations on planning fees come into force

New regulations on Scottish planning fees came into force on April 1 which will see fees increase in most cases by between 25% and 50%. Visit The Scottish Government website, [Improving planning processes](#) for more information. The [ePlanning Fee Calculator](#) has been updated to reflect these changes in planning fees.

The Scottish Government and Energy Consents Unit [launched a consultation](#) on March 30 seeking views on proposed further changes to fees charged for applications under the Electricity Act 1989. SR will be responding to this consultation which closes on June 23. We welcome member comments on this consultation using this [consultation questionnaire template](#). [Contact Mark](#) for more information.

## New Regulations on Extending Coronavirus Modifications come into force

The following Scottish Statutory Instruments came into force on March 30:

- [Town and Country Planning \(Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2022](#)
- [The Planning \(Scotland\) Act 2019 \(Commencement No. 6 and Transitional Provision\) Amendment Regulations 2022](#)

Details of the effect of the new provisions are described in the relevant policy note for each SSI, available through the above links (see 'More Resources'). Read SR's [new legislation explainer](#), with thanks to Marcus Trinick QC, on our website.

Broadly, the two sets of regulations roll forward the current position with Coronavirus Modifications to Planning legislation (Duration of permission/consent and pre-application consultation) for a further six months up to September 30. See [Development Management | Transforming Planning](#) for updates on pre-application consultation requirements. Coronavirus modifications regarding environmental impact assessment reports remain in place.

## ONSHORE RENEWABLES



### Community Benefit and Ownership Models for Onshore Wind

Scottish Renewables, in collaboration with RenewableUK, RUK Cymru and RenewableNI, hosted an initial onshore wind developer workshop to discuss community benefits and ownership models bringing together stakeholders to establish initial views and feedback to collectively agree next steps for the industry.



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### Police Scotland and abnormal loads issue

Scottish Renewables, in collaboration with RenewableUK, facilitated a constructive meeting between Police Scotland,

The Scottish Government and stakeholders on March 14. Police Scotland are continuing work to increase resourcing wherever possible, with members reporting some recent increases in capacity and escorts.

SR is scheduling further stakeholder meetings to focus specifically on delays and scheduling with hauliers and OEMs. SR is continuing to work closely with our affected members, RUK and The Scottish Government to liaise with Police Scotland to find solutions to this issue.

[Contact Mark](#) for more information.

## OFFSHORE RENEWABLES



### SR Marine Conference & Dinner 2022

[Scottish Renewables' Marine Conference & Dinner 2022](#) (May 25, Edinburgh) will explore what's needed to catalyse further deployment and reach full commercialisation, as well as the opportunities and challenges of making wave and tidal technologies mainstream.

View the conference programme and secure your place at the member rate [on our website](#).



### Floating Offshore Wind 2022

Organised by Scottish Renewables and RenewableUK, [Floating Offshore Wind 2022](#) will be the meeting place for the entire industry to come together and share best practice, discuss operational efficiencies, lessons learned, workshop technical challenges and showcase the best innovations which will drive FOW down the cost curve.

Sponsorship and exhibition opportunities are now available to help highlight your organisation at this key industry event.

Please [contact Carol](#) to find out more.

## ECONOMICS & MARKETS



### Call for Evidence: Proposed amendments to Supply Chain Plans

Scottish Renewables has submitted a response to BEIS' call for evidence on proposed amendments to supply chain plans. In our response we argued that a rethink of the SCP process was necessary as the objectives of SCPs do not align with the competitive nature of CfD auctions. We also urged BEIS to adopt a more strategic approach to supply chain development that facilitates greater collaboration between developers, Government and the supply chain itself.

[SR's final response](#) is available on our website.



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## GRID & SYSTEMS





## 'Postcode pricing' threatens GB renewable energy growth

As detailed in the introduction to this email, the way the electricity network is paid for could be changing - and not for the better.

Nick Sharpe sets out the issues for the renewable energy industry in our [latest blog](#), and you can read the Herald on Sunday article by clicking on the image to the left, which shows the scale of the coverage we achieved on behalf of members.

## Grid & Networks Working group

Scottish Renewables held the first meeting of our new Grid & Networks working group on April 7. The main topics covered in the meeting were TNUoS, the option of creating a new subgroup for the Offshore Transmission Network Review (OTNR), and discussions on the SR position on Locational Marginal Pricing.

For further information, please [contact Angeles](#).

## **Offshore Coordination - Early Opportunities: Consultation on Ofgem's Minded-to Decision on Anticipatory Investment and Implementation of Policy Changes**

Ofgem has published a [consultation on anticipatory investments for early opportunity offshore projects](#). In the consultation Ofgem is proposing to share Anticipatory Investment (AI) risk with consumers and introduce an early-stage assessment process to determine the eligibility of any proposed AI.

Scottish Renewables is drafting a response to the AI consultation, so if you would like to contribute, please get in touch.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

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## **OTNR working group**

As a consequence of the Grid & Networks working group meeting, SR decided to create a subgroup for the OTNR. The first meeting was held on April 21. The main topics of discussion were the Holistic Network Design (HND) and the Anticipatory Investment (AI) consultation.

[Contact Angeles](#) for more information.

## **Consultation on CMP315 and 375**

The ESO published a [consultation on CMP315 and 375](#). Although we don't typically respond to code modifications, this consultation refers to changes to the expansion constant which could have a significant impact on Scottish projects.

Scottish Renewables is drafting a response for the CMP315/375 consultation, so if you would like to contribute, please [contact Angeles](#).

In light of the publication of the CMP315/375 consultation, Scottish Renewables, in partnership with RUK, will be holding

a meeting on May 6 between 11 and 12:30. This meeting will give members the opportunity to:

- Ask workgroup members any questions you have about the expansion constant and the proposed changes,
- Provide comments on the RUK/Scottish Renewables' joint response.

If you would like to participate in this meeting, please get in touch.



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## Future System Operator - Government and Ofgem's response to consultation

BEIS and Ofgem have published their [response to the Future System Operator \(FSO\) consultation](#). Government and Ofgem are committing to proceed with the creation of a new, independent FSO, which is expected to be a public corporation. The FSO will have a statutory advisory duty to provide expert advice, analysis and information to Ofgem and government.

This is great news as we advocated in our [consultation response](#) for the creation of an independent and public FSO, with enhanced roles and a statutory advisory duty in line with our transition to net-zero.

Read our reaction to this announcement [on our website](#).

## Isle of Skye decision

Ofgem published its [decision on the project's Initial Needs Case and on its suitability for competition](#). This decision, in which Ofgem acknowledges that there is sufficient evidence of a needs case for the Skye project, reflects the position for which we advocated in our [consultation response](#) at the start of this year.



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## Energy code reform: governance framework

The UK Government published the [Energy code reform: governance framework](#). This will give Ofgem new strategic code functions, including the ability to establish and regulate (via licence) one or more code manager(s). This decision will result in an expansion of Ofgem's existing functions.

BEIS has decided not to allow Ofgem to delegate these new functions to third parties or to enable it to redesignate all of its new functions to an alternative organisation without new primary legislation. However, BEIS will be granting the Secretary of State the power to permanently transfer the duty to publish a strategic direction from Ofgem to the FSO, subject to public consultation.

If you would like to discuss further, please [get in touch](#).

## **Call for Input: Future of local energy institutions and governance**

Ofgem has published a [Call for Input on the future of local institutions and governance](#). This could result in the creation of new independent bodies separate from network companies to oversee local energy systems across the country.

Ofgem believes current arrangements are not geared up to support net-zero at the lowest cost to customers, so new bodies separate from network companies could be created to plan and operate the system locally.

Scottish Renewables will be responding to this consultation, so if you would like to contribute, please email Angeles.



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## **Grid & Systems Forum**

Scottish Renewables will be holding a virtual Members' Forum for Grid & Systems members on May 26 between 3 and 3:30. The Forum will give members the opportunity to hear about the work we have been doing on your behalf, and to discuss the key issues for grid coming over the horizon.

If you would like to participate in this Forum meeting please book your place using [Eventbrite](#) and we will send you a

Teams link closer to the date. Please remember this event is exclusively for SR members.

## LOW-CARBON HEAT



### Heat Working Groups

We have established two policy working groups in the heat space; one on Heat Networks Actions and one on Financing Green Heat Ambitions. There are still a few spaces in the Financing Green Heat policy working group therefore we would like to ask whether any legal or financial members would consider joining this working group.

Please get in touch to discuss.



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### Low-Carbon Heat Conference 2022

Cutting the carbon from heating is a huge job, and one which presents unprecedented opportunity for Scottish businesses. Join us at our [Low-Carbon Heat Conference](#) on June 9 in Glasgow and hear from decision makers and senior industry figures on the areas for growth, the size of the prize, and how policy being developed now will set the tone for 2045 and beyond.

Sponsorship opportunities are available to help highlight your organisation at this pivotal moment for the sector, and members of Scottish Renewables receive a discounted rate on delegate passes. [Contact Lisa for more information.](#)



### First National Assessment of Potential Heat Network Zones publication

This [document](#) was published recently by The Scottish Government and is a computerised analysis of Scotland's heat map and other data sources. The analysis does not include existing heat networks or sources of waste heat or local information.

The analysis identifies 647 potential zones using a lower threshold baseline criteria and 196 potential heat network zones using a more stringent higher threshold criteria. The baseline screening identifies at least one potential heat network zone in every local authority, but with the stringent screening there are six local authorities with no potential zones.



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## HYDROGEN



### Hydrogen Forum

We will be holding a virtual Member Forum for Hydrogen members on Wednesday, May 18, between 2 and 3.30pm.

We will be holding this Forum using Teams and it will offer members an opportunity to get together with the SR team and their peers to discuss recent and forthcoming work on hydrogen, plus other key issues of importance to our members.

Our Forums are key to our engagement with members and our way of keeping you informed about what is going on and inviting you to input into our policy making process.

If you would like to participate in this Forum meeting please [book your place using Eventbrite](#).



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## SUPPLY CHAIN



### Supply Chain Forum

We hosted the first meeting of the newly-launched Supply Chain Forum in April. The virtual meeting allowed the Scottish

Renewables team to engage with supply chain members and stakeholders to gather views of the key challenges being faced by suppliers in the industry as well as to provide updates to members on current policy work.

The key issue which emerged was the tension between lowest-cost objectives of the CfD and the need to secure local content and supply chain growth which requires collaboration, investment and skills development.

To receive further updates, sign up to the Supply Chain Forum by updating your [account preferences](#) on our website.



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## Media reaction: Supply Chain Development Statement Outlooks

Crown Estate Scotland has published the [ScotWind Supply Chain Development Statement Outlooks](#). The outlooks show initial commitments from the successful applicants in the recent ScotWind Leasing round.

[Responding](#), Scottish Renewables' Director of Policy Morag Watson said: "The ambitious commitments outlined in the Supply Chain Development Statement Outlooks showcase that the offshore wind industry presents Scotland with the greatest industrial opportunity the country has ever seen."



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