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Renewable Energy Summit



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17 - 18 March 2021 | **VIRTUAL EVENT**



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DAY 1

PROFESSOR KEITH BELL,

Co-Director, UK Energy Research Centre & Member, Committee on Climate Change



DAY 2

PROFESSOR JAMES CURRAN,

Chair, Climate Ready Clyde; Fellow, Scottish Environmental LINK & Former Chief Executive, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)



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WELCOME

Welcome to our Climate Emergency Series: Renewable Energy Summit!

Holyrood Events has organised this online conference for you and we are excited to provide the same high-quality agenda and speakers, direct to a location of your choice.

Within this digital handbook you will find the conference agenda as well as profiles of our sponsors. Don't forget to join the conversation on Twitter using #scotclimateseries

Our Event Platform

We have partnered with Glisser to provide you with an unparalleled event experience. As much as we would like to all be in a room together, we think this is the next best thing. We highly suggest you check out our best practice guide for the platform.

When a session is live, it will show up under the 'On Now' tab on the platform. Simply click into the session and you will hear our presenters as they are presenting. Things to note:

- The preferred web browser for our platform is Google Chrome
- If the event does not start for

you, please refresh your page. You may also want to sign out, clear your cache, and sign back in.

Submitting Questions

If you have a question to ask during a session, you can submit your question in the chat box on the Glisser platform. This allows you to simply type in your question and submit to the presenter who will see it straight away. All questions will be asked to the presenters during the Q&A portion of the session, but we encourage you to submit them as you are thinking of them.

Sponsors

A huge thank you to our sponsors: Orsted, Drax, Scottish Water, and Port of Cromarty Firth. Please take a moment to check out their sponsor pages on the event platform. Click 'Sponsor Hub' and that will take you to their profiles.

Online Evaluation

You will receive an online evaluation form after the event. We would be extremely grateful if you could complete this with any constructive comments (good or bad) to help us in the development of future online events.

Finally, we hope that you enjoy this conference and leave with new ideas that you can take forward into future discussions. We look forward to seeing you again in-person at a future Holyrood event!

HOLYROOD EVENTS TEAM



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ØRSTED

The Ørsted vision is a world that runs entirely on green energy. Ørsted develops, constructs and operates offshore and onshore wind farms, solar farms, energy storage facilities, and bioenergy plants, and provides energy products to its customers.

Globally, Ørsted is the market leader in offshore wind and it is constructing the world's biggest offshore wind farms off the East Coast of the UK. Its UK offshore wind farms generate enough clean electricity for over three million UK homes.

Ørsted ranks #1 in Corporate Knights' 2020 index of the Global 100 most sustainable corporations in the world and is recognised on the CDP Climate Change A List as a global leader on climate action.

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DRAX GROUP PLC (DRAX)



Drax Group plc (Drax) owns and operates a portfolio of flexible, low carbon and renewable electricity generation assets – providing enough power for the equivalent of more than 8.3 million homes across the UK. In Scotland, the assets include Cruachan pumped-storage hydroelectric power station in Argyll, hydro schemes at Galloway and Lanark and an energy-from-waste facility at Daldowie. We are actively helping to contribute to the country's security of supply by providing balancing and ancillary services which allow the nation's energy system to operate safely and securely as it transitions to net zero.

Scotland is already a leader in the generation of renewable energy, but to continue driving decarbonisation we must do even more. That's why Drax is progressing plans to expand its iconic 'Hollow Mountain' Cruachan Power Station. With an appropriate investment framework, projects like Cruachan's expansion will be transformational, expanding capacity to support more renewables and creating skilled jobs.

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Scottish Water delivers vital water and waste water services which are essential to the daily lives of 2.56 million households and over 152,800 business premises to support a flourishing Scotland.

We are trusted to care for the water on which Scotland depends and are proud of the service we provide:

- delivering 1.44 billion litres of clear, fresh drinking water and;
- removing 983 million litres of waste water which we treat, recover resources from and return safely to the environment.

Our focus is on delivering an excellent service, providing great value for money, and reducing our effect on the environment, going beyond net zero emissions.

One of the UK's top performing water companies, our customers and communities are at the heart of everything we do and we work to deliver these essential services in an affordable and sustainable way.

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The Port of Cromarty Firth is a national strategic asset which drives growth, prosperity and opportunity to the Highland region and to Scotland. Port-related activity generates £275m per year in economic value and employs 1 in 6 people locally. As a Trust Port, it has reinvested over £50m in infrastructure developments, creating first-class, modern facilities within the sheltered deep water of the Cromarty Firth on the north-east coast.

The Port is a leader in the offshore renewables industry and has played an integral role in the 588MW Beatrice offshore wind farm, 950MW Moray East offshore wind farm and 50MW Kincardine floating wind farm. Together with the Cromarty Firth's local supply chain, the Port has developed a significant track record within this burgeoning market, providing extensive offshore engineering, manufacturing and logistics expertise, stemming from over 40 years supporting the offshore oil and gas industry.

In collaboration with other facilities and organisations throughout the region, a renewable energy hub is being created in the Cromarty Firth with ambitions to capitalise on the future offshore wind, floating offshore wind and green hydrogen developments taking place in the North Sea; most notably the 10GW ScotWind leasing round projects, the majority of which are situated in close proximity to the Port.

The Port are facilitating an ambitious and collaborative initiative, Opportunity Cromarty Firth, exploring the opportunity for the Cromarty Firth to become a Free Trade Zone and a Scottish Government approved 'Green Port'. The initiative is centered around accelerating the deployment, increasing the innovation, and reducing the costs of the sustainable pipeline of renewable energy projects taking place across Scotland. The Cromarty Firth is uniquely positioned to drive forward this green recovery while generating future skilled employment opportunities for generations to come.

<https://www.pocf.co.uk/>

<https://opportunitycromartyfirth.co.uk/>

Twitter: @CromartyFirth

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AGENDA

DAY 1

09:15 - 09:20 Chair's opening remarks



Professor Keith Bell

Co-Director, UK Energy Research Centre & Member, Committee on Climate Change

09:20 - 10:05 **SESSION ONE:**

Scotland – Leading the UK's Green Recovery?



Scotland's Green Recovery approach is built on our strengths and expertise in energy, natural capital, innovation, a skilled workforce and our universities and we are harnessing those strengths to drive energy transition and deploy new technologies. In our opening session we will discuss how increasing our renewable energy capacity and delivering clean growth in Scotland forms an integral component of the UK's Green Recovery.



Alan Brown MP,

SNP Shadow Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change



Benj Sykes, *Head of UK Market*

Development, Consenting & External Affairs, Ørsted; & Vice President, UK Offshore

10:05 - 10:30 **SESSION TWO:**

Renewables and Scotland's Green Recovery

In this session, we will hear from the convener of the Committee on the role renewable sources of energy should play in Scotland's Green Recovery.



Gillian Martin MSP,

Convener, Environment, Climate Change & Land Reform Committee, The Scottish Parliament

10:30 - 11:00 **Comfort break**



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AGENDA

DAY 1

11:00 - 12:00 SESSION THREE:

Galvanising the Expansion of Off-Shore Wind



The Committee for Climate Change Sixth Carbon Budget, published in December 2020, described off-shore wind at the backbone of the future, yet is currently a literal drop in the ocean compared to on-shore wind, which makes up 70% of the UK's current renewable energy capacity and has double the potential capacity consented for in Scotland. The UK Government has recently committed to investing in and growing the sector, and indeed, the UK's ability to achieve net-zero would be imperilled without it. How do we best ensure optimal and inclusive growth of the sector to create a multiplier effect on Scotland and the UK's renewables capacity?



Gavin MacKay,

Head of Energy Industries, Highlands & Islands Enterprise



Joanne Allday,

Strategic Business Development Manager, Port of Cromarty Firth



Andrew Renton,

Principal, Castletown Law

12:00 - 12:40 Lunch



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AGENDA

DAY 1

12:40 - 13:20 **SESSION FOUR: Delivering whole systems change to facilitate decarbonisation; navigating challenges and future-proofing the sector**

There are several challenges facing the sector both now and in the future particularly pertaining to regulation, funding and planning/consent. And in this year, with Brexit also having implications for our domestic energy markets and supply chains and our ability to attract international investment, this session will be solutions and strategy-focussed as to how we meet the barriers to progress.



Dr Gareth Davies,
Managing Director, Aquater



Ian McCarlie,
Senior Partner, Pinsent Masons

13:40 - 13:55 **Comfort break**

13:55 - 14:35 **SESSION FIVE: Supporting renewables to deliver the decarbonisation of heat, transport and industry**

The ultimate end and purpose of encouraging the greater deployment of renewable energy is to enable the widespread decarbonisation of our homes, buildings and outdoor spaces. Heat, transport and industry are still responsible for the highest percentage of emissions polluting the planet. Recent lockdowns have led to relative respite and encouraged both greater public appreciation of outdoor space and nature as well as wider uptake on active travel, but conversely the Scottish Government missed its 2020 heat target to have 11% of non-electrical heat demand met by renewable sources, hitting just 6.5%. How do we speed up and enhance the role that renewable sources of energy can play in decarbonising our industries, city and town centre and buildings?



Teresa Bray,
Chief Executive, Changeworks
Senior speaker confirmed from the Scottish Government



Dave Pearson,
Director, Star Renewable Energy

14:35 - 14:40 **Chair's closing remarks**

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Scotland is already a leader in the generation of renewable energy, but to continue driving decarbonisation we must do even more. That's why Drax is progressing plans to expand its iconic 'Hollow Mountain' Cruachan Power Station. With an appropriate investment framework, projects like Cruachan's expansion will be transformational, expanding capacity to support more renewables and creating skilled jobs.

**09:45 - 09:50 Chair's opening remarks****Professor James Curran,**

Chair, Climate Ready Clyde; Fellow, Scottish Environmental LINK; and Former Chief Executive, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)

09:50 - 10:20 SESSION SIX:**Delivering a Just Transition to Net-Zero through Renewables**

One of the defining features of a distinctive Scottish approach to the whole challenge of achieving net-zero before 2050 has been a commitment to the principle of a 'Just Transition'. The Just Transition Commission commented in its Interim Report that achieving net-zero entailed increasing our deployment of renewables. This session will analyse how we do that, maximising social and economic benefits equitably and ensuring left-behind communities, often comprising the rural economy – who are also more likely to be affected by this transition – benefit.

**Sarah Boyack MSP,**

Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform, The Scottish Parliament

**Andrew Smith,**

Director & Chair, Greenbackers Investment Capital & Our Community Energy

10:20 - 11:35 **SESSION SEVEN:** Enhancing innovation – further developing the domestic R&D base, exhibiting new business models and supporting the greater proliferation of emerging sources of renewable energy

If the UK is to keep its market-leading position, then we must be developing the clean tech which will enable us to unleash the potential of hitherto untapped – or under-tapped – sources of renewable energy such as solar, tidal and green hydrogen. For example, in the case of solar energy, the CCC's Sixth Carbon Budget stated it expected the portfolio to increase 6x between 2019 and 2035. In this session, we will exhibit new business models and discuss the support our world-leading R&D base needs to get us there.



Dr Jacqueline Redmond,
*Chair, and Executive Director, CENSIS
& Power Networks Demonstration
Centre, University of Strathclyde*



Josh King,
*Deputy Chair, Solar Energy
Scotland*



Andy McDonald,
*Head of Low Carbon Transition,
Scottish Enterprise*

11:35 - 11:50 Comfort break

11:50 - 12:20 **SESSION EIGHT:** What Next for Grid Capacity and Storage Solutions in Scotland?



The Scottish Government's legislation compelling public sector organisation to a date by which they will reach net-zero is currently at Stage 3. Inevitably, this has led to public bodies evaluating how they can maximise renewable energy in their endeavour to reach net-zero as quickly as possible. In this session, we will learn from best practice from the public sector in adopting a pro-active, holistic strategy to adhere to forthcoming legislative obligations and go above and beyond them



Ian Kinnaird,
Head of UK Hydro, Drax



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Due to climate change, we have a lot more rain than we did 100 years ago. Of course, heavier downpours put pressure on our infrastructure. Yet just 1% of rainfall ends up where Scottish Water can access it.

So, while water is vital to the health of the nation and its economy, it's also one of the most precious resources we have.

That's one reason why we have published our Net Zero Emissions Routemap. It's our plan to combat climate change and support a flourishing Scotland.

We want your business to join us on the mission to make sustainability central to Scotland's long-term success. You can find out more about our ambitions at [ScottishWaterNetZero.co.uk](https://www.scottishwater.co.uk/net-zero)

Ready to help us support a flourishing Scotland? [Click here to Join the Wave](#)



AGENDA

DAY 2

12:20-13.20 **SESSION NINE: What Next for Grid Capacity and Storage Solutions in Scotland?**



A clean power sector will be the backbone of our net zero transition. But as the Climate Change Committee has highlighted, our journey towards a fully decarbonised power grid also needs to meet the challenge of operating a system which will need to rely on large amounts of energy from renewables. In this session, we will explore how different technologies can increase flexibility in the power system to help bridge the gap and what can be done to bring them forward and accelerate our transition to a zero carbon power system.



Gordon Reid,
General Manager Zero Emissions, Scottish Water



Marc Strathie,
Research and Policy Manager, ScotlandIS

13:20 - 13:40 **SESSION TEN:**
Government Priorities for Renewables in Scotland



Ben Macpherson MSP,
Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment

13:40 - 13:45 Chair's closing remarks



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