Policy Forum for Wales Keynote Seminar

Energy policy in Wales - challenges and opportunities for developing the sector

Timing: Morning, Monday, 15th December 2014

Venue: The Angel Hotel, Castle Street, Cardiff CF10 1SZ

Agenda subject to change

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8.30 - 9.00	Registration and coffee	I
9.00 - 9.05	Chair's opening remarks Alua Efred Longs AM. Chair. Environment and Sustainability Committee. National Assembly for Wales and	
9.00 - 9.05	Chair's opening remarks Alun Ffred Jones AM. Chair. Environment and Sustainability Committee. National Assembly for Wales and	

Spokesperson for Business and Economy, Science and Devolution, Plaid Cymru

9.05 - 9.20 'The Wales we want' - engaging the public with energy policy

Peter Davies, Commissioner for Sustainable Futures and Chair, Climate Change Commission for Wales

9.20 - 9.35 Energy production in Wales

David TC Davies MP, Chair, Welsh Affairs Select Committee

9.35 - 10.25 Realising Wales' potential for energy production - challenges and opportunities

Following the publication of the Silk Commission's report, should its recommendation to devolve decisions on major energy infrastructure projects to the Welsh government be adopted? Could the extraction of shale gas provide another viable energy source in Wales, and if so should this be pursued? How can Wales best exploit its significant potential for both wind and marine energy production, particularly given the complex legal and environmental issues involved? What further steps can be taken by the Welsh Government to encourage the development of low-carbon energy initiatives and ensure that it achieves the goals set out in its Energy Wales Delivery Plan published in March? What needs to be done to ensure that Wales has an adequate grid infrastructure to support the growth of energy production and export?

Simon Power, Director, Arup

David Jones, Project Director, Marine Energy Pembrokeshire

Gerwyn Williams, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, UK Onshore Gas Group

Ben Lewis, Director of Planning, Development and Regeneration, GVA

Professor Phillip Jones, Chair of Architectural Science and Chair, Low Carbon Research Institute, Cardiff University Questions and comments from the floor with **Peter Davies**, Commissioner for Sustainable Futures and Chair, Climate Change Commission for Wales and **David TC Davies MP**, Chair, Welsh Affairs Select Committee

10.25 - 10.45 "Strengthening Wales' Renewable Energy Production"

Carl Sargeant AM, Minister for Natural Resources, Welsh Government

10.45 - 10.50 Chair's closing remarks

Alun Ffred Jones AM, Chair, Environment and Sustainability Committee, National Assembly for Wales and Spokesperson for Business and Economy, Science and Devolution, Plaid Cymru

10.50 - 11.20 Coffee

11.20 - 11.25 Chair's opening remarks

Jeff Cuthbert AM, Member, Environment and Sustainability Committee, National Assembly for Wales

11.25 - 11.55 Priorities for developing the Welsh energy sector

Baroness Randerson, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Wales Office

Questions and comments from the floor

11.55 - 12.05 The regulator's role

Maxine Frerk, Interim Senior Partner, Smarter Grids and Governance: Distribution, Ofgem

12.05 - 12.55 Wales as an attractive place for energy investment - skills, planning and developing supply chains

What are the central challenges to be overcome in order to encourage greater investment in the Welsh energy sector? What policy steps should government take to help develop the nuclear supply chain in light of the proposals to develop a nuclear site at Wylfa? In what ways can the involvement of local companies and businesses in large energy infrastructure projects such as the nuclear plant or the construction of a tidal lagoon in the Severn estuary be encouraged and facilitated? How can the potential benefits of these large-scale energy projects be maximised for local communities in a sustainable way? What more needs to be done to ensure that Wales has the necessary skills to benefit from large infrastructure projects? How can the success of the Anglesey Enterprise Zone in establishing the island as a centre for energy research and production be replicated in other areas of Wales? What steps should be taken to ensure a leading position for Wales in the development and implementation of innovative energy technologies?

Sam White, Senior Consultant, Miller Research and Author, Skills Needs Research in the Energy Sector in Wales

Dr John Rhys, Senior Research Fellow, Oxford Institute of Energy Studies, University of Oxford

Jonathan Wilkinson, Chairman, Montgomeryshire Against Pylons

Benjamin Russell, Head of Policy and External Affairs, Horizon Nuclear Power

Dr Ian Rees, Principal, Coleg Menai, Gwynedd and Executive Director, Regeneration and External Affairs, Grŵp Llandrillo Menai Questions and comments from the floor with **Maxine Frerk**, Interim Senior Partner,

Smarter Grids and Governance: Distribution, Ofgem

12.55 - 13.00 Chair's and Policy Forum for Wales closing remarks

Jeff Cuthbert AM, Member, Environment and Sustainability Committee, National Assembly for Wales **Jonny Roberts**, Associate Editor, Policy Forum for Wales



