Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum Keynote Seminar Next steps for the UK renewable energy sector: priorities, subsidies, and 2030 targets

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 24th February 2015

Venue: Royal Society, 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG

Agenda subject to change	
8.30 - 9.00	Registration and coffee
9.00 - 9.05	Chair's opening remarks Julian O'Halloran, Writer and Broadcaster



9.05 - 9.15 Progress towards 2020 targets and the options for 2030 renewable deployment

Dr Nina Skorupska, Chief Executive, Renewable Energy Association

9.15 - 9.40 The 2030 framework for climate and energy policy

Marie Donnelly, Director for Renewables, Research and Innovation, Energy Efficiency, DG Energy,

European Commission

Questions and comments from the floor

9.40 - 10.30 Renewables development: priorities, innovation, and connecting to the Grid

With EU targets of 40% emissions reduction and a 27% share for renewable energy by 2030, what impact might this have for the UK renewables sector? What lessons have been learnt, in terms of renewable energy deployment, from the drive towards 2020 objectives and how can this feed into 2030 strategy? Where is innovation being seen most strongly within renewable energy; how should this be supported and what should be the role of government, the sector itself and other parties in moving forward? How well does Electricity Market Reform fit into that support and how might the existing policy framework adapt to future demands? In light of issues with governmental and community backing for onshore wind projects, what is the future for this form of renewable energy deployment? In what ways can the current planning framework help sustain small scale community renewable developments? How well are network operators, technology providers and others addressing the remaining challenges in linking renewable projects - including solar, onshore and offshore wind, wave, tidal, and biomass - to the Grid and what more widely could be done to encourage innovation in these technologies?

David Baldock, Executive Director, Institute for European Environmental Policy

Ross Fairley, Partner, Head of Energy, Burges Salmon

Dr Stephen Wyatt, Strategy & Commercialisation Director, Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult

Tony Glover, Director of Policy, Energy Networks Association

Questions and comments from the floor with Dr Nina Skorupska, Chief Executive, Renewable Energy Association

10.30 - 10.35 Chair's closing remarks

Julian O'Halloran, Writer and Broadcaster

10.35 - 11.05 Coffee

11.05 - 11.10 Chair's opening remarks

Mike Weir MP, Energy and Climate Change Spokesperson, Scottish National Party

11.10 - 11.40 Renewable development in Scotland and Wales

Dr Paul Gardner, Principal Engineer, Strategy and Policy Studies, Renewables Advisory, DNV GL - Energy **Matthew Quinn**, Director of Environment and Sustainable Development, Welsh Government Questions and comments from the floor

11.40 - 12.30 Next steps for renewable finance: Contracts for Difference, subsidies, and the Renewables Obligation

In light of the EU 2030 framework, what is the most appropriate balance between renewable and decarbonisation technologies as energy and climate targets are discussed and what should be the key areas of focus for investment moving forward? What impact will recent plans by Government to decrease subsidies within solar energy have on long-term investment and growth in the sector, and on finance for alternative renewable technology more widely? What will the initial Contracts for Difference (CfD) regime mean for renewable projects that have been selected and what does the future hold for those technologies not awarded a CfD? How well has the £7.6bn Levy Control Framework, which runs until 2021, supported renewable investment in the UK and what can be done to tailor this budget for future 2030 targets? How will the transition from the Renewable Obligation (RO) regime to CfDs affect UK investment and what more can be done to protect developers who have existing projects under the RO?

Anna Czajkowska, Head of European Policy, Bloomberg New Energy Finance

Leonie Greene, Head of External Affairs, Solar Trade Association

Martin Murphy, Managing Director, Tidal Energy Bruce Nelson, Director, Compass Renewables Questions and comments from the floor

12.30 - 12.55 The future for UK policy

Olivia Knibbs, Head of Renewables Delivery, Department of Energy and Climate Change Questions and comments from the floor

12.55 - 13.00 Chair's and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum closing remarks

Mike Weir MP, Energy and Climate Change Westminster Spokesperson, Scottish National Party **Sean Cudmore**, Deputy Editor, Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum