

Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum Keynote Seminar: Future of the National Grid

Date: 17th June 2010

Venue: Central London

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.45 - 9.00 Registration
- 9.00 - 9.05 Chairman's opening remarks
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 - 9.30 Introducing the smart grid
Themes: What is a smart grid? How does a smart grid make the supply of energy more efficient and as a result more sustainable? How will the development of smart grids aid a shift to renewable sources of energy? What examples can be drawn upon to demonstrate the use and success of smart grids?
Academic
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 - 10.30 Making the National Grid smart
Themes: What barriers exist to the development of a smarter grid? How will existing infrastructure be transformed and redeveloped as part of the construction of a smarter grid? What technical concerns exist regarding the integration of renewable sources of energy, such as wind and solar power, into a smarter grid? What implications arise over the cost and timescales for the development of a smarter grid? What steps will utility companies need to take in order to make their operations compatible with a smarter grid? How will the flow of energy data between supplier and consumer change? What is the role of the smart meter in doing this?
Guy Nicholson, Head of Grid, British Wind Energy Association
Senior representative, campaign group
Senior representative, smart meters
Senior representative, engineering
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 - 11.00 The view from the National Grid
Nick Winser, Executive Director, National Grid
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.00 - 11.05 Chairman's closing remarks
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.05 - 11.30 Coffee break
- 11.30 - 11.35 Chairman's opening remarks
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.35 - 12.30 Impacts of a smart grid: supplier and consumer
Themes: How will smart grids allow for greater supply side management and monitoring? How will the creation of a real time energy market affect both supplier and consumer? What issues regarding consumer privacy arise? Will a smart approach to energy supply change consumer habits in relation to consumption? What prospects for the re-trading of energy between consumers and suppliers will emerge? How will the pursuit of smarter approaches to energy create a greater need for green skills in the UK economy?
Senior representative, utility company
Senior representative, consumer group
Senior economist
Senior representative, green skills
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 - 12.55 The view from Ofgem
Steve Smith, Senior Partner, Ofgem
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 Chairman's and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum closing remarks
Senior Parliamentarian
Peter van Gelder, Director, Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum