

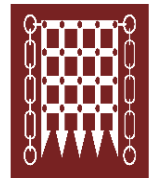
Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference:

Next steps for UK offshore wind

Timing: Morning, Friday, 8th May 2026

Taking place online

Draft agenda subject to change



WESTMINSTER ENERGY
ENVIRONMENT &
TRANSPORT FORUM

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord Hunt of Kings Heath, former Minister of State, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (2024-2025)
- 9.05 **Offshore wind in the UK - key considerations for policy and implementation**
Professor Deborah Greaves, Professor, Civil Engineering, University of Oxford
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 **Delivery of AR7 projects - planning, consenting and environmental protection**
addressing obstacles to consenting and streamlining planning and consenting processes - alignment with Clean Power 2030 Action Plan targets - assessing progress in AR7 project delivery and translating CfD awards into operational capacity and delivery milestones - implementation timelines and sequencing across project development - practicalities for Marine Spatial Planning and the impact of compensatory environmental measures reform for consenting timelines - priorities for enabling floating offshore wind - reform to auction design, eligibility and budget setting for future auction rounds and the introduction of the Other Deepwater Offshore Wind category
Eleri Wilce, Head, Offshore Consents UK&I, RWE
Dr Douglas Parr, Chief Scientist and Policy Director, Greenpeace UK
Jen Ashwell, Director, Planning and Compulsory Purchase Team, Burges Salmon
Paolo Pizzolla, Technical Director, Offshore Wind, Haskoning
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.10 **Environmental Compensatory Measures Reforms and marine protection for offshore wind**
Senior representative, policy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.30 **Chair's closing remarks**
Lord Hunt of Kings Heath, former Minister of State, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (2024-2025)
- 10.35 Break
- 10.45 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.50 **'Shaping the deepwater wind pipeline: GBE's role and priorities'**
Dr Iliana Cardenes, Head, Energy Supply Chain Policy and Fund Design, Great British Energy
- 11.00 **Accelerating UK offshore wind development - priorities for infrastructure, investment, supply chain and the workforce**
identifying supply chain constraints, manufacturing capacity gaps and workforce needs to deliver targets - scaling domestic production and the role of the GBE Supply Chain Fund - implications of the removal of tariffs on offshore wind components for manufacturing capacity - the role of the Clean Industry Bonus and Fair Work Charter in addressing skills gaps - implications of the Offshore Wind Industrial Growth Plan and Clean Energy Jobs Plan for workforce development and expansion - implications of Crown Estate leasing rounds for spatial availability, competition for viable sites and alignment with infrastructure development - interaction between leasing rounds, project pipelines and infrastructure planning - infrastructure readiness for floating offshore wind and associated port development - opportunities for innovation in installation, fabrication and port infrastructure - strategies to address rising supply chain costs across turbines, foundations and installation vessels - the role of investor confidence in AR7 and key priorities ahead of AR8, overcoming barriers to investment and improving policy certainty
Will Apps, Director, Offshore Wind Strategy, The Crown Estate
Andrew Elmes, Head, Government Affairs, Siemens Energy
Stephen Barrett, Director, Membership and Strategic Engagement, Energy and Utility Skills
Andrew Macdonald, Senior Innovation Manager, Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult
Senior representative, infrastructure
- 11.20 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Next steps for offshore wind interconnectors and implications for network planning**
Rebecca Sedler, Managing Director, Interconnectors, National Grid
- 11.55 **Grid and connections reform - readiness, sequencing, and delivering capacity for accelerated deployment**
progress on Holistic Network Design and the transition to the Centralised Strategic Network Plan - managing transmission pipeline constraints and improving connection queue management - implications of connections reform for project delivery and sequencing of network infrastructure - developing interconnectors for offshore wind connection to both the grid and neighbouring power systems - addressing curtailment costs and approaches to manage cost pressures across the transmission supply chain - reform to transmission charging to support Scottish offshore wind viability - implications of the Strategic Spatial Energy Plan for transmission costs, siting and coordination between generation and network investment planning
Dr Malcolm Barnacle, Senior Manager, Energy System Planning, SSEN Transmission
Senior speaker confirmed from **Prysmian Group**
Senior representative, consultancy
- 12.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 **Connecting offshore wind farms to the electricity network - priorities moving forward**
Bea Filkin, Director, Major Projects, Ofgem
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Sean Cudmore, Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum