

## Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference:

### Next steps for UK offshore wind

Timing: Morning, Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2026

\*\*\*Taking place online\*\*\*

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Offshore wind in the UK - key considerations for policy and implementation**  
Senior academic  
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  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.05 **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**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.35 Break
- 10.45 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.50 **Priorities for building a sustainable offshore wind pipeline**  
**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  
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*  
**Andrew Macdonald**, Senior Innovation Manager, Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult  
Senior representative, transmission  
Senior representative, manufacturer
- 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



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