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Scottish Executive: Clean Energy Programme and Consents

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Overview

- Targets and strategic framework
- Achievements to date
- Speeding up Consents
- Policy review and new focus
- Planning context – SPP6
- Grid
- Developer opportunity



Scottish Renewables Policy

- Set out in “Securing a Renewable Future: Scotland’s Renewable Energy” 2003
- Followed introduction of ROS 2002
- Environmental imperative
- Plus economic development aim
- Still applies



The Potential

Technology	Capacity (GW)
Onshore wind	11.50
Offshore wind	25.00
Wave	14.00
Small hydro	0.30
Tidal stream	7.50
Landfill Gas	0.07
Forestry Residues	0.09
Energy Crops	0.14
Agricultural Wastes	0.40
Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)	0.10
TOTAL	59.10 GW

- **This total equates to nearly ten times current peak demand**



Scottish Renewables Targets

- 18% electricity generation to be sourced from renewables by 2010
- 40% by 2020
- Expressed as % of demand – comes to about 6GW of installed capacity
- Current study to establish impact of renewables on grid – eye to future



Achievements to date

- About 150 renewable generating stations currently operating in Scotland
- Means about 2.4GW installed capacity
- 2004 renewable generation was 16% of demand
- Mainly hydro and onshore wind



Outlook: windy

- Change to BETTA + ROS created “rush for wind”
- Already about 1.47GW consented (not all built)
- Another 5GW in S.36 consents process
- Plus nearly 3GW in scoping



Consents Process

- Appears to take so long (average 18 mths)
- Complex & often contentious
- Increase in cases going to local inquiry
- Have to go through due process



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Speeding up the process

- Aim: more fit for purpose
- Commitment to renewables
- And also fair, transparent, with public support



Measures to speed up consents

- More resources to planning authorities
- Encouraging planning authorities to be more pro-active and strategic, & to minimise delays



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Reviewing S 36 consents regime

- Revising Scoping opinion process
- Streamlining all business processes
- Case management system
- Overhauling website



Developer responsibilities

- Applications are not in a queue
- “Perfect” applications would be fast-tracked
- Developers need to engage on tough issues
– particularly at pre-application stage



Renewables Policy review 2006

- Current ROS results in on-shore wind
- How far does this achieve policy aims of environment plus economic development?
- What about security of supply?
- What about diverse renewables resources?



New Clean Energy Programme

- Set out by Deputy First Minister in May
- Built on economic devt, environment, and security of supply
- Designed to encourage **diversity** of resources
- Focus on Marine, Biomass and Hydrogen



Marine Generation

- Untapped resource and young sector
- Head start in Scotland:
 - EMEC
 - Developers
 - SEA



Clean Energy Programme: Marine

- Amending Renewables Obligation (Scotland) to support marine
- Consultation out today
- £8M marine support fund
- Prize: 10% of 2020 target from marine



Biomass Generation

- Untapped potential and sector lacks Scottish foothold
- Much to learn from elsewhere in Europe
- Some support already available through FCS and wood fuel officers



Clean Energy Programme: Biomass

- High-profile Demonstrators (QMUC)
- Community focus through SCHRI
- £7.5M biomass support scheme

- Future strategy devt: Biomass Action Plan and Renewable Heat Strategy



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Clean Energy Programme: Hydrogen

- Untapped potential and very young sector
- FREDs: HEG report published
- Response is £1.5M hydrogen support scheme



Clean Energy Programme: microgeneration

- Maintain commitment to SCHRI – rate of applications from households continues to increase (now 120 per mth – up from 70 in May)
- Microgeneration vision to be covered in Energy Efficiency Strategy (by end of year)



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Plus off-shore wind

- Talisman demonstrator project
- New SEA
- Other potential projects



Planning context

- Draft updated planning guidance on renewables
- Recently closed to consultation
- Requires local authorities to define suitable areas for renewables developments
- And to quantify likely local contributions
- Want to see target for microgen in new developments
- Looking at extending PDR to microgen on existing buildings
- Highlights economic benefit as material consideration
- John McNairney on panel



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Regulatory issues: Executive pushing Ofgem

- Grid – access and availability
- Transmission charges
- Islands connections
- Marine access



Role of private sector

- 40% target = Market opportunity
- Define economic benefit
- Create additional benefit (enterprise agencies will help)
- (Developers initiative – buying protocol)
- Take advantage of support schemes