

Cross-Party Group on Nordic Countries

Inaugural Meeting

Tuesday 28th March 2016 at 6:00-8:00pm

CR4

MEETING AGENDA

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Future Priorities and Upcoming Meetings**
- 4. Presentations:**
 - a. Jill Tully – Investment Manager – Statoil Energy Ventures**
 - b. Jason Ormiston – Manager Public and Regulatory Affairs & Stakeholders – Vattenfall**
- 5. Questions and Answers**
- 6. AOCB**

ATTENDEES:

MSPs:

Maurice Golden MSP
Angus MacDonald MSP
Finlay Carson MSP
David Torrance MSP
Mark Ruskell MSP
Jamie Greene MSP
Alexander Burnett MSP

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Harry Nimmo, Honorary Consul of Finland
Kristin Hannerdottir, Honorary Consul of Iceland
Gavin Donoghue, Public Affairs Manager Scottish Renewables
Amy Rice, MSP Staff
Paul Smith, MSP Staff
Gabriela Roca, MSP Staff
Jill Tully, Investment Manager New Energy Solutions
Jason Ormiston, Manager Public and Regulatory Affairs & Stakeholders Vattenfall
Mark Whittet, Scottish Energy News
Robin Parker, Public Affairs Manager WWF Scotland
Dr Alan Macniven, Head of Scandinavian Studies Edinburgh University

Nigel Holmes, CEO Scottish Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Association

Morgan Buckley, MSP Staff

Rebecca Bell, Senior Policy Officer RSPB

MEETING MINUTES

1. Welcome

1.A Welcome

Maurice Golden MSP welcomed attendees and speakers, and outlined purpose of the group.

1.B Introductions

Roundtable introductions were taken to familiarise members and note their particular interest in Nordic countries and renewable energies.

2. Apologies – None were received.

3. Future Priorities and Upcoming Meetings

3.A CPG Business

- Convenor called for ideas / themes for future meetings.
- Suggestion to focus on electric vehicles, particular focus on Norwegian policy and roll-out.
- Suggestion to analyse Danish/Dutch joint venture to build artificial island to harness wind energy.

4. Presentations

Speaker introductions and presentations.

4.A Presentation: Jill Tully

Jill Tully, Investment Manager, Statoil Energy Ventures

Jill outlined the goals of Statoil Energy Ventures, including considerable investment into renewable energies. (£4.5 billion investment in new energies, to facilitate company transition to renewables). Example project: 'Hywind' floating wind turbine off Peterhead set to be finished by end of 2017.

4.B Presentation: Jason Ormiston

Jason Ormiston, Manager Public and Regulatory Affairs & Stakeholders, Vattenfall

Jason presents Swedish Parliament objectives and parallels with Scottish Government. The Swedish Parliament has mandated decarbonisation by 2045 to be net neutral with the goal of having a negative draw by 2050. Decarbonisation plans include steel using hydrogen.

Vattenfall is focused on pursuing fossil free fuel technologies as directed by Swedish Government. Sweden currently has a rate of 52% renewables energies. Vattenfall has goal of seeing Northeast Scotland become global hub for renewable energies. Recognises need for significant growth of energy sector in Scotland.

7. Questions and Answers

Q. How 'Hywind' tech works in 'layman's terms'

A. Essentially floating lithium ion batteries

Q. Transport: What is the role of commercial opportunities for heat and transport.

A. Winter heat technologies like district heating. Also clear need for increased investment in electric vehicles.

Q. Statoil stance on carbon capture and storage. Examples in Scotland or Norway?

A. Several CCS trial facilities in Scotland

Q. Potential Electricity Market Integration?

A. Unknown in light of Brexit. Currently 'Nord Pool': one electricity market covering three nations (shared).

8. AOCB

Maurice Golden offered final thanks to speakers and encouraged attendees to submit ideas for upcoming meetings.

The meeting then broke for networking and refreshments.

ENDS