

Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee

Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill

SUBMISSION FROM IBioIC - Industrial Biotechnology Innovation Centre

General response

After reviewing the Climate Change Bill, IBioIC would like to express its support of the bill and the ambitious goal of reducing the greenhouse gas emissions to 90% from the baseline before 2050. Furthermore, as added to the bill, it is very important to have the option of revising the targets on an annual basis by considering the progress that has been reported.

There is a strong movement and desire in Scottish industry to transform current practices into sustainable processes that will be globally competitive. A significant contribution to achieving the timeline for the emission targets will in addition to the efforts of increased energy efficiency within the current industry, predominantly come from the adoption of biobased raw materials instead of fossil sources for the production of the chemicals and materials to be used in the future society.

To ensure the environmental sustainability of future manufacturing and support the growth of the emerging circular bioeconomy, access to renewable energy is of vital importance. We would like to press that reaching the target of 100% renewable energy should also be high on the agenda to be achieved in as short time as possible.

IBioIC consider the potential to access surplus renewable energy as significant competitive advantage for Scotland to establish new concepts of bioprocessing where sustainable chemical manufacturing can be achieved together with decarbonisation and growth of the hydrogen economy.