

Accelerating & integrating next generation renewable energy technologies: challenges facing the UK

Mark Sommerfeld, Deputy Director of Policy November 2023



## Association for Renewable Energy And Clean Technology (REA)

# UK's largest trade association for renewable energy and clean technologies

550+ members operating across heat, power, transport, and the circular bioeconomy.

Not-for-profit representing renewable energy and clean technology companies operating in over fourteen sectors. Including the REA Finance Forum.

Member organisations range from major multinationals to sole traders

**Deputy Director for Policy:** helping manage the policy team across 14 technology forums. Largely focus on decarbonisation power, delivering flexibility and bioenergy.



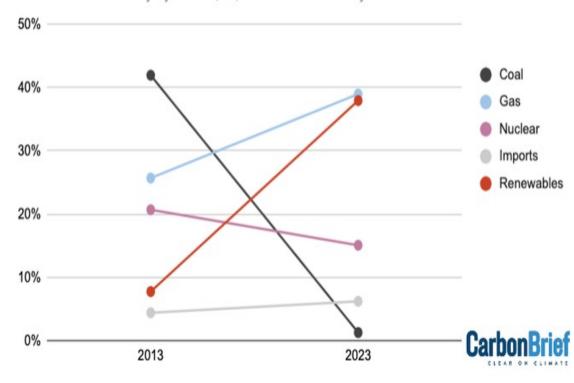


## Where are we at in the Energy Transition?

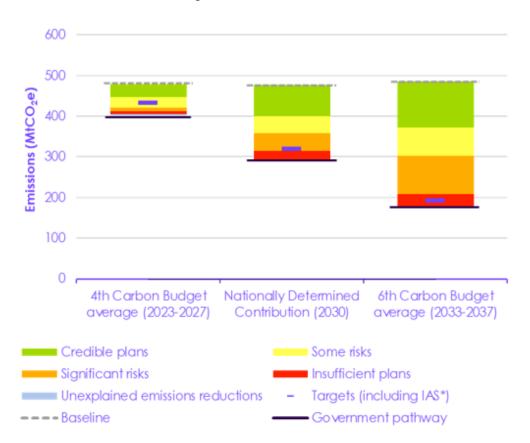
- Significant progress has been made, especially on decarbonising power, but we have a long way to go.
- Substantial policy gaps remain

### Electricity generation in Great Britain has been transformed

Share of GB electricity by source, %, latest 12mths vs 10yrs earlier



CCC, 2022 Progress Report Chart 2.12 Assessment of Policies and Plans





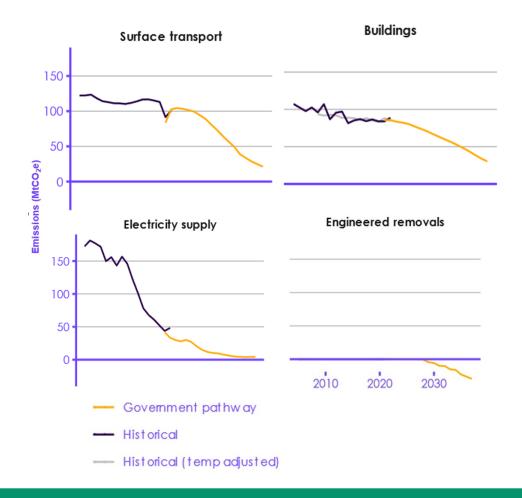
## Where are we at in the Energy Transition?

Energy Transition goes well beyond power production.

Energy security and affordability now central tenants.

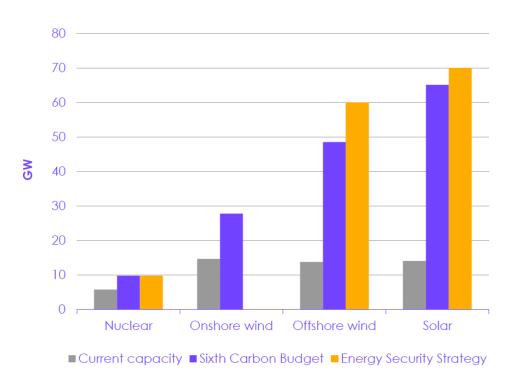
The Energy Crisis has changed the discussion. It is not just about decarbonisation.

Adapted from CCC progress report 2022, Fig 2.7, UK Historical Emissions Vs Government Pathway.



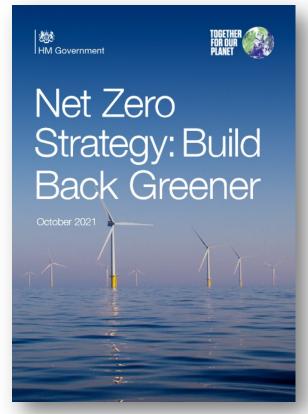
CCC, "Delivering a Reliable Decarbonised Power System"

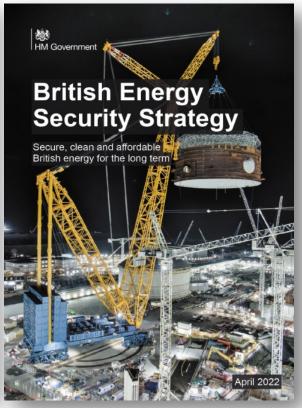
Figure 7 Zero-carbon capacity in the scenarios (2035)

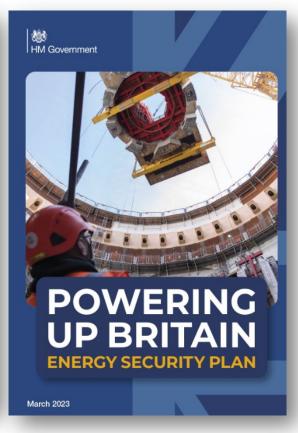




## **Net Zero and Energy Security in Context**









October 2021

**April 2022** 

March 2023

September 2023



# **Net Zero and the 'New Approach'**

### Badged as a 'Pragmatic' approach – but also evidently part of a wider election strategy.

- New oil and Gas licences for the North Sea.
- Phase out date for sales of new petrol and diesel cars and vans moved back to 2035, from the previous start date in 2030.
- Delay on the ban on installing oil and LPG boilers for off-gas-grid homes - to 2035 rather than 2026.
- "Rule out policy ideas that would require people to share cars, eat less meat and dairy, be taxed to discourage their flying, or have seven bins to hit recycling targets."

#### But also some good news:

- Increase in the Boiler Upgrade Scheme £7500 for heat pumps
- New spatial strategy for energy and sped up grid connections (with an approach prioritising those projects 'most ready') as well as faster planning processes for 'nationally significant' infrastructure.





## **Big Targets – Little Policy**

#### **Decarbonisation**

Carbon Budgets and 2050 Net Zero Target

#### Renewable Deployment

- 50 GW of Offshore Wind by 2030
- 70 GW Solar by 2035
- Annual CfD Allocation Rounds

#### **Innovation**

- 5 MTCO2/year of engineered Carbon removals by 2030
- 10 GW of Low Carbon Hydrogen production capacity by 2030
- 30 GW of low carbon flexible assets, including energy storage required by 2030

#### **Transport**

- ZEV mandate enters into effect January 2024 requirement for at least 22% on new cars and 10% of ne vans to be zero emission. Targets escalating each year.
- Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation Targets 5% increase by 2032.
- Sustainable Aviation Fuel Mandate 10% of fuel by 2030

#### Heat

600,000 heat pump installs a year by 2028

#### **Industry and Finance**

- 2023 Green Finance Strategy
- Financial Services and Market Act, inc. the Sustainability Disclosure Requirements
- UK ETS Evolution

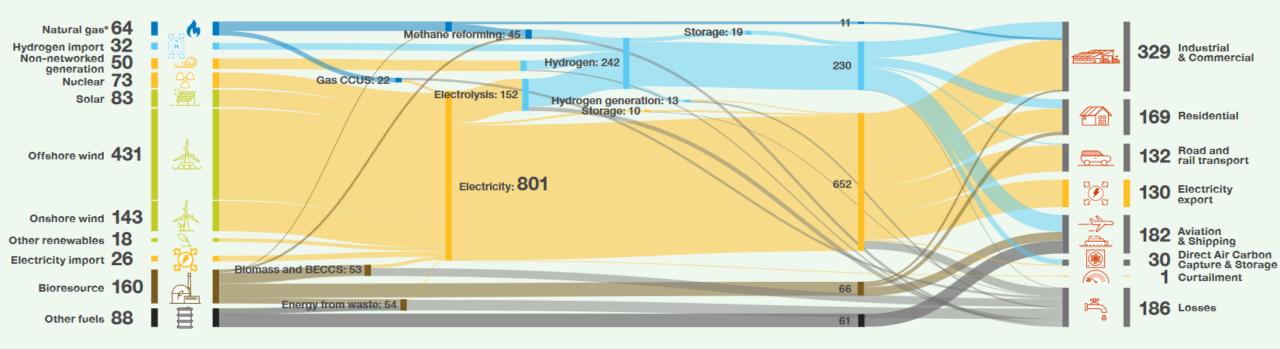


# What's Needed? Everything

## Energy supply and demand in 2050

#### Leading the Way (1167 TWh)

- Combination of hydrogen and electricity used in industry and to heat homes
- · Lowest level of electricity curtailment across the scenarios, due to the highest level of flexibility
- Lower bioresource use for negative emissions due to emissions reduction from land use change and Direct Air Carbon Capture and Storage (DACCS)
- Zero carbon fuels meet two thirds of aviation demand



# 'Next Generation' Technologies















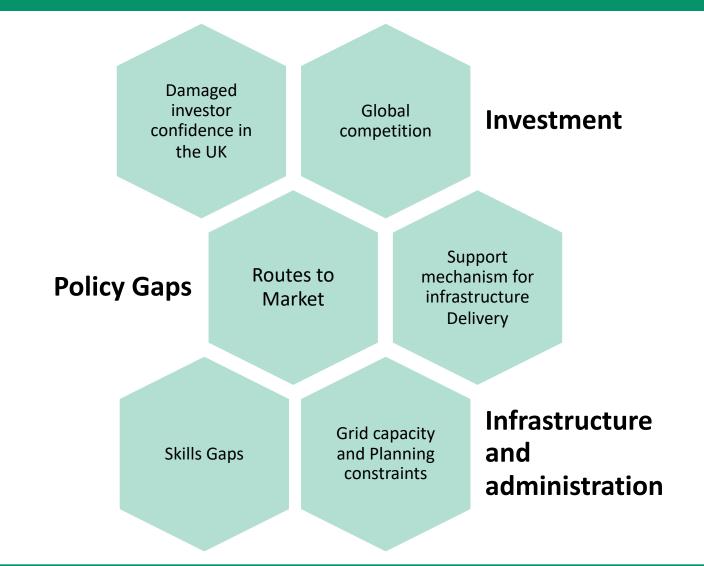








# **Ongoing Barriers**





## **Government Workstreams**

Domestic Support

Boiler Upgrade Scheme (Domestic)

**Great British Insulation** Scheme

Zero rated VAT on energy **Saving Materials** 

Non-Domestic Support

> **Public Sector** Decarbonisation Scheme

> > Capital Allowances

**Transport** Support

> Plug-in Car Grant

> Electric Vehicle Home Charge Scheme

Workplace Charging Scheme

On -street Residential ChargePoint Scheme

In Development

Clean Heat Market Mechanism

**Industrial Energy** Transformation Fund next phase

> Investment Taxonomy

Review of Electricity Market Arrangements

Power BECCS, ICC and GGR Business Models

Hydrogen Business Model and Low Carbon Hydrogen Standard

Long Duration Energy Storage Support Mechanisms

**ZEV** and **SAF** Mandate

#### **Net Zero Innovation Portfolio**

**CCUS/ Hydrogen BECCS/ Direct Air Capture** 

**Long Duration Energy Storage** 

**Green Home** 

**Finance** 

**Biomass Feedstock** Innovation **Programme** 

Al for

**Decarbonisation** 

**Flexibility Innovation Programme** 

**Industrial Fuel Switching** 

**AMR Nuclear** 

**Space Based Solar** 

**Floating Offshore** Wind

**Heat Pump Ready** 

**Industrial Hydrogen Accelerator projects** 



## **Grid Connection and Planning Reform Workstreams**









## **Energy Network Association Connections Action Plan**

<u>Action 1)</u> Reforming the distribution network connection queue

<u>Action 2)</u> Changing how transmission and distribution coordinate connections

<u>Action 3)</u> Greater Flexibility for storage distribution customers

Expecting implementation of analysed solutions in second half of 2023

## National Grid ESO – Five Point Plan and Connections Reform

- Transmission entry capacity; Amnesty till Apr
   23
- Update modelling assumptions for current connection rates
- 3. Changing treatment of battery storage
- Developing new contractual terms for connection contracts
- 5. Non-firm (stage) for all connections

# Nick Winser OBE Electricity Networks Commissioner Recommendations

was honoured to be asked to investigate and report on how to accelerate the ployment of strategic electricity transmission infrastructure in Great Britain delighted to present my findings and r work supported by Energy Systems Catapult ( CATAPULT every part of the process and can be rega We should celebrate the extraordinary developing offshore wind generation and ou **Electricity Networks** Commissioner – secure, affordable electricity, but that magni cannot get the power to homes and b able to build wind generation faster tha **Companion Report Findings** istomers will be serious; very high conges and Recommendations transmission circuits have been built in the las hallenging to meet if we fail to stream teneration can be built in half this time. So ransmission by three years, and ultimately b that we must hit the more ambitious end of th design and the overall energy system. Regul tailed design must be agreed, affected inc

Nationally Significant
Infrastructure Projects
(NSIPs) and National
Planning Policy Framework
reviews ongoing.



## **Energy ACT 2023**

Receive royal assent last week, wide ranging bill that includes powers for the Secretary of State to:

- Establishment of Future System Operator
- Regulation of Load Control and energy smart appliances
- ECO Buy-out Mechanism and Threshold change for Suppliers.
- Powers to Review Energy Performance of Buildings Regulations
- Hydrogen and Carbon Capture Business Models
- Heat Network Regulation
- Heat Network Zoning
- Low carbon heat scheme





### What about Labour?

Approaches to net zero becoming an increasingly dividing line between the two parties.

Labour have put out bullish targets for decarbonisation, including decarbonisation of power system by 2030.

Policy proposals still very much in development, but expectation to see heavy focus on deployment of cheapest renewables, especially solar and wind.

Making the establishment of 'GB Energy' a flagship policy

Still a lot of detail required to understand how these ambitions would work and be realised. However, election could see shift in policy focus.





Ed Miliband to announce Labour plan to boost energy independence and cut bills





#### **Power and Flex**

- Ensure the Future System Operator (FSO) is operating by the end of 2024.
- Provide capital allowances for investments in new low carbon generation technology,
- Within the new administration's first Spring Budget.
- Implement a cap and floor support mechanism for long duration energy storage

#### **Transport**

- Immediately reinstate the initial 2030 phase-out date for sales of new petrol and diesel cars.
- Introduce a national scrappage scheme by 2025, financially compensating people with the most polluting cars, and supporting them with interest free credit to buy an EV.
- Ensure an ambitious Sustainable Aviation Fuel Mandate to start in 2025

#### <u>Heat</u>

- Incentivise non-domestic heat for small and medium enterprises with a fuel switching tariff, to enable organisations to switch from fossil fuels to a range of low carbon
- alternatives including heat pumps, biomass, green gas and hydrogen
- Incentivise large scale industrial heat decarbonisation projects through establishment of
- a Heat Contracts for Difference mechanism.

#### Plus Much More.....



# Mark Sommerfeld Deputy Director of Policy msommerfeld@r-e-a.net

