

Scottish European Green Energy Centre and North Sea Energy Grid

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Scottish Renewables Context

- Huge renewables resource – including 25% Europe's tidal resource and 10% wave
- Aspiration to be renewables powerhouse of Europe
- Target: 50% renewable electricity by 2020
- New Renewable Energy Framework to be published shortly

Scottish European Green Energy Centre (SEGEC)

- SEGEC announced by First Minister Feb 2008
- Will promote internationalisation of sustainable energy research
- Will promote partnerships between Scotland & EU countries in support of EU energy policy targets
- Will disseminate developments & good practice

SEGEC objectives

- Form alliance of Atlantic/North Sea partners to raise importance of wave & tidal energy research & development
- Promote offshore wind development & deployment
- Promote offshore grid links
- Develop partnerships on key policy priorities such as carbon capture & storage and renewable heat.
- Lead work to tackle policy and admin barriers to deployment of renewable technologies

Project 1: Innovative Foresight Planning for Business Development

- Interreg Project approved in May – partners from Scotland, parts of Denmark, Norway, and Netherlands.
- Aim for regional collaboration on business and research
- Scotland (SEGEC) leading on the energy element of project – focus on renewables and diversification from oil and gas.

Project 2: North Sea Initiative: Centres for Excellence on Renewables (NICER)

NICER Concept: Network of North Sea coastal sites leading on renewables including:

- Ports looking to develop renewables facilities
- Manufacturing sites
- Test centres
- Communities – economic regeneration and energy security

NICER: North Sea Energy Grid

- Early workstream proposed for NICER is to develop feasibility study for North Sea Energy Grid
- Rationale: enhanced energy security for Europe (reducing reliance on gas imports), and contribution towards meeting EU aspirations on renewables

North Sea Energy Grid

- Scottish Government already partnering Northern Ireland and Ireland on ISLES project (under Interreg Cross Border Programme) – major study next 2 years
- Scottish Government has already carried out pre-scoping work for NSEG
- Need to see if there is an economic case to generate & transmit shared renewable energy resource to energy markets

North Sea Energy Grid

- Potential partners: Norway, Sweden
Denmark, Germany, Netherlands
- Would like to apply for support under
Interreg North Sea Programme
- Happy to speak this afternoon