



# PRASEG NEWS



The weekly newsletter from the *associate*  
Parliamentary Renewable and Sustainable Energy Group



This newsletter is produced by PRASEG for distribution to members once a week. PRASEG seeks to provide readers with news and parliamentary information related to renewable and sustainable energy issues.

PRASEG is a cross-party parliamentary group with 126 parliamentary and 250 industry members. If you would like to become a member, please contact Rose Dickinson, the PRASEG Coordinator, at [info@praseg.org.uk](mailto:info@praseg.org.uk). For further information on the group, visit the PRASEG website at [www.praseg.org.uk](http://www.praseg.org.uk).

## 16<sup>th</sup> July 2010: This Week's Headlines...

### Climate Change Minister sets out vision for local energy economies

[DECC](#) - [BusinessGreen](#)

### DECC to re-launch consultation on energy planning

[NewEnergyFocus](#)

### Poor 'hardest hit' by fuel policies

[Press Association](#) - [BBC](#) -

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## 2. RECENT NEWS ARTICLES AND PRESS RELEASES

### **Headline news:**

#### **Climate Change Minister sets out vision for local energy economies - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Climate Change Minister Greg Barker is today launching the first stage of the Government's plans to help communities become more self-sufficient in the way they use heat and power, [DECC](#) - [BusinessGreen](#)

#### **DECC to re-launch consultation on energy planning - Thurs, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Energy minister Charles Hendry has today (July 15) announced plans to launch a re-consultation on the National Policy Statements (NPSs) for energy infrastructure in the autumn to ensure they are "fit for purpose", [NewEnergyFocus](#)

#### **Poor 'hardest hit' by fuel policies - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

People in fuel poverty are being hardest hit by climate change policies - without seeing much benefit from efforts to reduce energy use, a Government advisory group has warned, [Press Association](#) - [BBC](#) -

### **Other news:**

#### **BP shares rise on news of oil-well capping - Fri, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

BP report that Gulf of Mexico oil spill has been staunched sends company's shares towards top of the FTSE 100 leader board in early trading, [Guardian](#)

#### **BP stops oil leak in Gulf of Mexico for first time since April - Fri, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Gush of oil stopped for the first time in three months - but Obama administration warns cap might only be a temporary fix, [BusinessGreen](#)

#### **Government slated for missing microgeneration deadline - Fri, 16<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Coalition failed to beat cut-off point to introduce micro-wind and domestic heat pumps into the planning system, [BusinessGreen](#)

#### **Biofuels account for 3.3% of UK's road transport fuel - Thurs, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Energy companies supplied 1.6 billion litres of biofuels in the second year of the Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation (RTFO), accounting for 3.3% of the UK's total road transport fuel, according to provisional figures released by the Renewable Fuels Agency (RFA) today (July 15), [NewEnergyFocus](#)

#### **Guidance published to working safely at height in wind sector - Thurs, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

The final draft of a revised training standard for working at height and rescue within both onshore and offshore wind turbines has been published by RenewableUK, after closing for consultation, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

#### **Peel Energy reveals plans for 20MW biomass plant - Thurs, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

A subsidiary of property and holdings firm Peel Group has today (July 15) revealed plans to develop a 20MW biomass facility in Trafford, in Greater Manchester, which would use locally-sourced waste wood as its primary feedstock, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

#### **GE to finance solar projects in schools - Thurs, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Solar energy company Solarcentury has announced that technology development company General Electric (GE) has agreed to cover the up-front costs of installing solar panels on schools under its Solar4Schools programme, [NewEnergyFocus](#)



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**Tata completes first CDM offset project - Thurs, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Engineering giant obtains first carbon credits through new wind farm development, [BusinessGreen](#)

**UK, France and Germany team up to call for greater EU carbon cuts - Thurs, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Ministers warn that ducking the argument on 30 per cent will put us in the global slow lane, [BusinessGreen](#)

**Confusion surrounds Green Investment Bank funding - Thurs, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Report claims government will not use asset sales to help fund formation of Green Investment Bank, [BusinessGreen](#)

**Commission slams Poland over 'Gazprom clause' - Thurs, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Poland is preventing EU companies from buying its surplus Russian gas, infringing EU internal market rules, the European Commission said yesterday (14 July). [EurActiv](#)

**Clean Energy Beat Fossil Fuels for Share of New Power Generation in 2009 - Thurs, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Wind, solar and other forms of renewable power accounted for more new electricity generation than fossil fuels in the U.S. and Europe for a second year in 2009, the United Nations Environment Program said, [Bloomberg](#)

**Renewables see 'resilient growth' in 2009 - Thurs, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

The building of new renewable energy sources continued to outstrip new fossil fuel power plants in Europe and the US during 2009, a report has shown, [BBC](#)

**London 2012 Olympics: organisers unlikely to meet green targets for Games - Thurs, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

London 2012 Olympic Games organisers are struggling to find green energy sources after decommissioning a wind turbine and are unlikely to meet their target of having the Olympic Park driven by 20 per cent green energy, [Telegraph](#)

**E.ON Says European Utilities Need Financial Partners for Wind, Solar Push - Thurs, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

E.ON AG, Germany's largest power company, and European competitors need financial support from investors and partners to reach their renewable energy targets, said [Frank Mastiaux](#), who heads the company's renewable division, [Bloomberg](#)

**Utility giant considers its options in £1bn carbon capture initiative - Thurs, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE), the Perth-based utility giant, yesterday revealed that it is considering entering the £1 billion competition to develop clean power stations in the UK, [Herald Scotland](#)

**Scientist urges government to address 'peak phosphate' risk - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Expert warns that rapid rollout of anaerobic digestion plants to address looming shortage of crucial fertiliser, [Guardian](#)

**Zero-carbon homes too expensive, builders warn - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Zero-carbon homes are too expensive for consumers and are uneconomic to design, according to some of the UK's biggest housebuilders, who have urged the government to rethink building regulations on green homes, [H&V News](#)

**Google climate map offers a glimpse of a 4C world - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Interactive tool layering climate data over Google Earth maps shows the impact of an average global temperature rise of 4C, [Guardian](#)

**German Offshore Wind Parks Face Delay on Environmental Concern, FTD Says - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**



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The construction of new offshore wind parks in Germany may be delayed as a government agency refuses to grant building permits because of environmental concerns, Financial Times Deutschland reported, citing an internal document, [Bloomberg](#)

#### **BP delays critical tests to "capping stack" - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Government officials insist "additional analysis" is required before testing can get underway, [BusinessGreen](#)

#### **Rich countries to pay energy giants to build new coal-fired power plants - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

UN's Clean Development Mechanism to use European carbon offset credits to subsidise 20 'efficient' coal plants in India and China, [Guardian](#)

#### **Shortage of talent in renewables sector 'inflates salaries' - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Renewable energy companies are pushing up salaries in an attempt to hold on to 'key talent' and prevent defections to competitors, a study published today (July 14) by global management consultancy Hay Group has revealed, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

#### **Wiltshire council grants consent for Warminster biogas plant - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Wiltshire council has granted planning permission for the redevelopment of Bore Hill farm, in Warminster, which will include a biogas plant treating food waste and animal slurry using anaerobic digestion (AD) and combined heat and power (CHP) technology, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

#### **Europe halfway to reaching 20 per cent renewable target - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Some countries have almost reached their targets, but UK has steep mountain to climb, [BusinessGreen](#)

#### **Spain overtakes US with world's biggest solar power station - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

New solar plant takes country's output to 432MW, [BusinessGreen](#)

#### **Google Earth zooms in on dangerous climate change - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

The UK government has teamed up with the online mapping service Google Earth to highlight effects of global warming, [BusinessGreen](#)

#### **Adnams brews up biogas revolution - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Brewery completes work on first anaerobic digestion plant capable of feeding biomethane into the national grid, [BusinessGreen](#)

#### **British Gas urges religious leaders to look to the sun to generate funds - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

£34m in solar cash could help Britain's churches and other religious buildings, [BusinessGreen](#)

#### **Solar panels 'could raise £34m' for places of worship - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Installing solar panels on British churches and other religious buildings could raise £34 million per year through Feed-in Tariff (FiT) payments and electricity bill savings, according to figures released by British Gas, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

#### **UK had 'one of lowest' shares of renewable energy in 2008- Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Renewables contributed just 2.2% of the UK's total energy consumption in 2008, one of the lowest shares in the EU27, according to figures published by the European Union's statistical office yesterday (July 13), [BusinessGreen](#)

#### **Europe steps up response to gas supply crises - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

EU lawmakers agreed to speed up construction of new gas storage and interconnection facilities on Tuesday (13 July) in response to supply crises like those caused by the Russia-Ukraine gas dispute in 2008 and 2009, [EurActiv](#)



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**BP agrees £190m sell-off of pipelines as £10bn asset sale looms - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**  
giant BP is to sell some of its pipeline and oil storage assets to Magellan Midstream Partners for \$289 million (£190.7m), [Scotsman](#)

**GE launches \$200m competition for smart grid technology - Weds, 14<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Cash incentives on offer to speed up clean tech innovation, [BusinessGreen](#)

**Accounting rules could force businesses to disclose environmental impact - Tues, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

A new initiative by regulators may call on firms to publish information about their social and environmental impacts, [Guardian](#)

**EU carbon price falls through €14 a tonne - Tues, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Speculation mounting as to when utility buyers will return to the market, [BusinessGreen](#)

**Government accused of failing to meet microgeneration deadline - Tues, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Climate change minister Greg Barker was last night (July 12) forced to respond to allegations that the government has missed its deadline for introducing permitted development rights - which remove the need for a planning application - for micro-wind turbines and air source heat pumps, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

**Government to track UK contribution to palm oil deforestation - Tues, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Environment secretary Caroline Spelman to announce launch of palm oil research project, [BusinessGreen](#)

**Spain overtakes US with world's biggest solar power station - Tues, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

With the new La Florida plant, the nation's solar power production is now equivalent to output of a nuclear power station, [Guardian](#)

**Making UK homes energy efficient would cost less than £3,000 per house, survey claims - Tues, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

While homes are becoming more energy-efficient, says new research by the Energy Saving Trust, private rented housing stock lags far behind, [Guardian](#)

**Sweden leads the way in burying its depleted nuclear waste - Tues, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Underground rock cavities in south-east Sweden will contain radiation threat for 100,000 years, say scientists, [Guardian](#)

**South Korea Industries to Invest \$18.5 Billion in Clean Energy Projects - Tues, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

South Korea's 30 major industrial groups plan to invest 22.4 trillion won (\$18.5 billion) by 2013 in clean energy, including batteries and solar power, to benefit from the government's spending on environment-friendly projects, [Bloomberg](#)

**SKC Expects Sales to Increase 79% by 2012 on Rising Solar Panel, TV Demand - Tues, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

SKC Co., the world's biggest maker of polyester film used in solar cells and display panels, expects sales to surge 79 percent by 2012 as the company adds capacity to meet demand for renewable energy and televisions, [Bloomberg](#)

**Response to Fuel Poverty Advisory Group report - Tues, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Consumer Focus welcomes today's (13 July) report and is calling on the Government to act on the Fuel Poverty Advisory Group's recommendations, particularly those to improve energy efficiency schemes, mandate social tariffs and put an end to unfair energy pricing. The consumer champion is warning that the Government's 2016 target to end fuel poverty is simply unachievable with the current measures to tackle fuel poverty, and is stressing the need for a new Government strategy on this issue, [Consumer Focus](#)



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## **Falkland Oil & Gas tumbles as well comes in dry - Tues, 13<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Falkland Oil & Gas shares more than halved in value after the company admitted that it had been forced to plug and abandon a well after discovering it contained no oil, [Telegraph](#)

## **Chris Huhne calls for renewed focus on climate finance - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Chris Huhne warned today that a deal on climate finance is vital to breaking the climate deadlock. The Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change arrived in New York for a meeting of the High Level Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing, [DECC](#)

## **Egypt plans 100MW solar power plant - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Second major solar plant announced as country edges towards target of generating 20 per cent of energy from renewables by 2020, [Guardian](#)

## **Coalition outlines microgeneration ambitions - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Greg Barker launches wide-ranging consultation exercise on how to boost renewable energy uptake, [BusinessGreen](#)

## **U.K. Energy Policy Threatens Thousands of Jobs, Civitas Says - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Thousands of U.K. manufacturing jobs are threatened by the government's drive to slash carbon dioxide emissions and boost renewable power, London-based policy analyst Civitas said in a report, [Bloomberg](#)

## **Green steps 'hurting people in fuel poverty' - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

People in fuel poverty face being unfairly hit by the costs of investment in energy infrastructure and reducing greenhouse gases, a report says, [BBC](#)

## **A NEW carbon capture plant is being built at Imperial College as part of an £8.9m (\$13.3m) refurbishment project - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

The new plant will use monoethanolamine scrubbing to capture the carbon; the carbon could then be stored in old underground oil and gas reservoirs. When open in 2011 the £1m plant will become one of only two operational carbon capture plants in the UK; however other power plants in the UK are being built so they are CCS ready, and can be updated with CCS technology at a later date, [tceToday](#)

## **Extra £100 to pay energy bill by cash or cheque - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Energy customers who pay their bill by cash or cheque are being charged an extra £100 a year more on their bills, compared with those that pay by direct debit, [Telegraph](#)

## **BioSNG 'could be economically attractive' for renewable heat - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

The conversion of biomass into bio synthetic natural gas (bioSNG) for injection into the natural gas grid could be an economically attractive option for the production of low carbon and renewable heat, according to a Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC)-funded report, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

## **EU mulls beefing up energy savings policy - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Günther Oettinger, the EU's energy commissioner, said last week (8 July) that he would assess the need for stronger EU regulation on energy efficiency in the context of a new policy "action plan" to be presented in 2011, [EurActiv](#)

## **Extra £100 to pay energy bill by cash or cheque - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Energy customers who pay their bill by cash or cheque are being charged an extra £100 a year more on their bills, compared with those that pay by direct debit, [Telegraph](#)

## **Egypt plans for solar power plant - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Egypt's electricity minister says his nation plans to build a 100-megawatt solar power plant to meet the



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country's increasing electricity demands, [Daily Express](#)

## **GE launches solar power scheme for schools - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

General Electric and a solar technology specialist, Solarcentury, will today launch a scheme to help schools to invest in renewable energy, [Independent](#)

## **Britain at risk of energy crisis, engineers warn - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Britain's competitiveness and future security will come under threat if the Government fails to act on energy policy, the Engineering Employers' Federation (EEF) will warn today, [Independent](#)

## **Eco Taxes to make bills rise by £550 - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

THE hidden costs of green policies are set to cause agony for Britain's already over-stretched households, campaigners claim, [Daily Express](#)

## **Climate change cuts could push up bills - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

The increasing costs of energy as a result of green policies could hit the UK's manufacturing sector - just as the country needs industry to help boost the economy, a think-tank warned today, [Independent](#)

## **U.K. Energy Policy Threatens Thousands of Jobs, Civitas Says - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Thousands of U.K. manufacturing jobs are threatened by the government's drive to slash carbon dioxide emissions and boost renewable power, London-based policy analyst Civitas said in a report, [Bloomberg](#)

## **New York talks to tackle climate financing deadlock - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

UN advisory group meets later today to find way to raise \$100bn a year in climate change funding for developing countries, [BusinessGreen](#)

## **First companies register for AD biofertiliser quality scheme - Sun, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Climate change minister Greg Barker yesterday (July 8) recognised a significant milestone for the AD industry as four companies became the first to formally register for quality certification for the biofertiliser they are producing from their Anaerobic Digestion plants, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

## **Lloyd's adds its voice to dire 'peak oil' warnings - Sun, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Business underestimating catastrophic consequences of declining oil, says Lloyd's of London/ISS report, [Guardian](#)

## **Energy companies urge move on nuclear build plans - Sun, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

The nuclear industry will meet Chris Huhne, the Energy Secretary, for the first time this week and urge him to push on with plans to build a new generation of nuclear power stations across the country, [Telegraph](#)

## **Nuclear targets 'at risk' - Sat, 10<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Britain needs to replace its ageing power plants, but needs better investment incentives to do it, [Telegraph](#)

## **Pressure on grid heats up as summer temperatures soar - Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Firms urged to curb energy use in response to heat wave, [BusinessGreen](#)

## **EU and US intensify power plant emissions crackdown - Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

New rules crank up pressure on energy firms to curb emissions of nitrogen oxides, sulphur dioxide and particulates, [Guardian](#)



## 3. RECENT REPORTS AND PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITY

### Select Committees

Most of the proposed memberships of select committees have now been approved by Parliament. [Click here](#) for a full list. The Environmental Audit Committee is awaiting approval.

- Business, Innovation and Skills - Adrian Bailey (Chair), Brian Binley, Rebecca Harris, Margot James, Nicky Morgan, Nadhim Zahawi, Luciana Berger, Jack Dromey, Chi Onwurah, Rachel Reeves, David Ward
- Communities and Local Government - Clive Betts (Chair), Bob Blackman, George Freeman, Mike Freer, George Hollingbery, James Morris, Heidi Alexander, Clive Efford, Toby Perkins, Chris Williamson, Stephen Gilbert
- Energy and Climate Change - Tim Yeo (Chair), Dan Byles, Phillip Lee, Christopher Pincher, Laura Sandys, Tom Greatrex, Albert Owen, John Robertson, Alan Whitehead, Gemma Doyle, Sir Robert Smith
- Environment, Food and Rural Affairs - Anne McIntosh (Chair), Nigel Adams, George Eustice, Neil Parish, Amber Rudd, Dave Anderson, Tom Blenkinsop, Thomas Docherty, Bill Esterson, Mary Glendon, Dan Rogerson

### Bills and debates

On Tuesday morning there was a Westminster Hall debate on the offshore energy industry, led by Malcolm Bruce MP, who highlighted concerns over infrastructure and development in Aberdeen. This included investment in the ports and roads which Mr Bruce claimed is essential for resource extraction. To read the write-up, click [here](#).

On Tuesday afternoon there was a Westminster Hall debate on the future of nuclear power stations, led by Ian Liddell-Grainger MP, who highlighted the potential benefits of allowing some business rates and business activities to be kept locally, and the link between this and a good planning process. To read the full write-up, click [here](#).

On Wednesday afternoon there was a Westminster Hall debate on Renewable Energy Projects, led by John Woodcock, who highlighted the potential benefits of local communities receiving a share of the business rates of renewable energy projects in their area. The potential role of energy co-operatives was also highlighted. To read the full write-up, click [here](#).

### Private Members' Bills

Ones to watch:

- Robert Ffello MP's **Sustainable Livestock Bill**: Second Reading: 12<sup>th</sup> November
- Rebecca Harris MP's **Daylight Saving Bill**: Second Reading: 3<sup>rd</sup> December



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- Joan Walley's **Public Bodies (Sustainable Food) Bill**: Second Reading: 12<sup>th</sup> November
- Nigel Adam's **Protection of Local Services (Planning) Bill**: Second Reading: 21<sup>st</sup> January 2011

## Written Statements

The Minister of State for Energy and Climate Change made a statement this week announcing the re-consultation in the autumn on the draft National Policy Statements due to changes which have been made to the Appraisal of Sustainability for the Overarching Energy National Policy Statement. Read the statement [here](#).

## Parliamentary Questions

Chris Heaton-Harris MP and Heidi Alexander MP asked oral questions to the Department for Communities and Local Government on planning ([here](#)).

The next oral questions in the House to DECC and DEFRA will be after recess.

## Written Questions

Written questions that have received answers from DECC and other government departments in the last week are summarised below in date order.

Monday's DECC answers included topics such as wind power in Yorkshire and the Humber, departmental lighting, departmental training, and the BP oil spill.

Defra answered a question on the emissions profile of biofuels used in domestic boilers ([here](#)).

The Treasury answered a question on energy subsidies ([here](#)) and the Climate Change Levy ([here](#))

The FCO answered a question on the establishment of a UN body to adjudicate climate change disputes ([here](#))

Tuesday's DECC answers included topics such as energy efficiency, feed-in tariffs, Standard Assessment Procedure, energy subsidy reform, the Carbon Reduction Commitment, gas security, nuclear power installations and renewable heat.

Defra answered a question on Anaerobic Digestion ([here](#)).

Wednesday's DECC answers included topics such as onshore electricity transmission lines, subsidies for wind turbines, fuel poverty, nuclear power subsidies, and the Warm Home and Energy Conservation Act 2000.

DfID answered a question on the International development and climate change ([here](#)).

Thursday's DECC answers included topics such as the Office of Renewable Energy Development, Oil rigs, Feed-in Tariffs, and wind power.

BIS answered a question on electric vehicles ([here](#)).



## ***House of Lords highlights***

Parliamentary written and oral questions that have received answers this week in the House of Lords include:

- Lord Pearson of Rannoch's written question on the annual cost of meeting the requirements of the Climate Change 2008 ([here](#));

## ***Reports***

### **Civitas report: British Energy Policy and the Threat to Manufacturing Industry - Mon, 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

A newly published report from the independent think tank Civitas reveals that the increased costs of energy arising from 'green' energy policies are set to increase significantly. Increased costs will hurt manufacturing at a time when much depends on the sector to generate the economic growth the country needs, and to rebalance the economy.

Click [here](#) to access the report. Click [here](#) for the press release. See coverage - [Bloomberg](#) -

### **Ren21 Report: Renewables 2010 Global Status Report - Thurs, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

The year 2009 was unprecedented in the history of renewable energy, despite the headwinds posed by the global financial crisis, lower oil prices, and slow progress with climate policy. Indeed, as other economic sectors declined around the world, existing renewable capacity continued to grow at rates close to those in previous years, including grid-connected solar PV (53 %), wind power (32 %), solar hot water/heating (21 %), geothermal power (4 %), and hydropower (3 %). Annual production of ethanol and biodiesel increased 10 % and 9 %, respectively, despite layoffs and ethanol plant closures in the United States and Brazil.

Click [here](#) to access the executive summary. Click [here](#) for the press release. See coverage - [BBC](#) -

## **4. EXTERNAL EVENTS OF INTEREST**

### **National Energy Foundation courses**

[Wood Fuel Heating & CHP](#), November 8<sup>th</sup>, Milton Keynes

For further information, click [here](#).

### **Upcoming RenewableUK events**

#### **Event: [RenewableUK 2010](#)**

**Date:** Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November - Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2010

**Location:** Glasgow

**Description:** Over 4,000 people will attend RenewableUK's 32nd annual conference and exhibition, to be held over 2nd - 4th November 2010 at the SECC, Glasgow. Delegates will include senior government officials, investors, financiers, manufacturers, developers and all others with an interest in wind and marine energy. Over 200 companies will be on display at the exhibition, which is open to industry and the wider public alike.



Further details: Click [here](#)

## National Heat Pump Awards

**Date:** 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2011

**Location:** International Convention Centre (ICC), Birmingham

**Description:** The awards will act as a focus of excellence, to show what the latest technology can achieve and highlight outstanding work by the people and organisations driving developments forward.

The event takes place on 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2011, at the International Convention Centre (ICC) in the heart of Birmingham. The gala black-tie evening at only £145 plus VAT will include a pre-dinner drinks reception, a sumptuous four-course dinner, wine at table plus top flight professional presentation with celebrity entertainment. There are ten award categories, and organisations and individuals are now invited to enter:

- Installation of the year:
  - Domestic, air source
  - Domestic, ground/water source
  - Commercial, air source
  - Commercial, ground/water source
- Product innovation of the year
- Training excellence award;
- Public sector project of the year
- Installer of the year;
- Consultant of the year;
- Heat pump champion.

The closing date for entries is 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2011.

**Further details:** To register and for further details go to [www.national-heat-pump-awards.co.uk](http://www.national-heat-pump-awards.co.uk)

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