



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. For further information on the group, visit the PRASEG website at www.praseg.org.uk.

2010: This Week's Headlines...

Heat map reveals extent of rural fuel poverty

[24 Dash](#) - [Guardian](#)

DECC reveals under sea CO2 storage licensing plans

[NewEnergyFocus](#)

Cairn confirms Greenland oil find

[Guardian](#) - [Financial Times](#) - [Bloomberg](#) - [Telegraph](#) - [Press Association](#)

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Upcoming PRASEG Events

PRASEG and Green Alliance Seminar **Renewables and energy security in an age of austerity**

Speakers: Charles Hendry MP, Minister of State, Department of Energy and Climate Change

Date: Tuesday, 19th October 2010

Time: 17:00 - 19:00

Location: Committee Room 17, House of Commons

Date for the Diary! **PRASEG and APSRG Seminar** **Energy from Waste: Realising the potential.** **Anaerobic Digestion and Beyond**

Date: 7th December 2010

Time: 15:00 - 17:00

Location: Portcullis House, Boothroyd Room

Date for the Diary! **PRASEG Seminar** **Planning reform: implications for renewables**

Date: 2nd November 2010

Time: 16:00 - 18:00

Location: Committee room 17

Speakers: Helen Phillips, CEO, Natural England



Date for the Diary!
PRASEG Christmas Reception
Wednesday, 8th December 2010
12:30 - 15.00, House of Commons Terrace
(Marquee)



2. RECENT NEWS ARTICLES AND PRESS RELEASES

Headline news

Heat map reveals extent of rural fuel poverty - Tues, 24th August 2010

A new heat map showing the extent of rural fuel poverty across England was published today, [24 Dash - Guardian](#)

DECC reveals under sea CO2 storage licensing plans - Fri, 27th August 2010



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The government has today (August 27) set out how it will license the storage of carbon dioxide under the seabed, following responses to its consultation on the geological storage of CO₂, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

Cairn confirms Greenland oil find - Tues, 24th August 2010

- Cairn says well has found gas and oil-bearing sands in Arctic
- Greenpeace ship already in area protesting against drilling, [Guardian](#) - [Financial Times](#) - [Bloomberg](#) - [Telegraph](#) - [Press Association](#)

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Other news

"Smarter" grid needed to face renewables needs - Fri, 27th August 2010

Cabling company Nexans has highlighted the importance of developing "smarter grids" in order to better manage networks to help face new needs such as the deployment of renewable energy, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

Port infrastructure 'key' to UK securing Round 3 manufacturing - Fri, 27th August 2010

Port infrastructure must be put in place in the next six months to a year if the UK is going to benefit from the manufacturing opportunity presented by Round 3 offshore wind projects, the head of offshore renewables at RenewableUK has stressed, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

North Sea renewable energy cooperation - Thurs, 26th August 2010

The UK and Norway will cooperate on offshore renewable energy in the North Sea, according to a joint ministerial statement on climate change and energy security, [Renewable Energy Focus](#)

UK and Norway team up to tap North Sea potential - Thurs, 26th August 2010

Ministers agree to work together on offshore wind energy and CCS, as well as oil and gas, [BusinessGreen](#)

B9 Coal proposes 500MW CCS project - Thurs, 26th August 2010

UK-based company B9 Coal has today (August 26) unveiled plans to develop a carbon capture and storage (CCS) project as part of a consortium, which will be put forward to the Department of Energy and Climate Change's (DECC) demonstration competition, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

New partner for Irish onshore wind project - Thurs, 26th August 2010

Canadian energy producer Finavera Renewables Inc has sold its majority interest for Cloosh Valley Wind Project, County Galway, Ireland, to Scottish & Southern Energy (SSE), [Renewable Energy Focus](#)

EU demands new rules for controversial CDM gas projects - Thurs, 26th August 2010

Connie Hedegaard reveals EU is planning to take independent action to address concerns over integrity of UN offset scheme, [BusinessGreen](#)

Food crisis caused by biofuels? - Thurs, 26th August 2010

There are conflicting opinions over a World Bank report which suggests biofuels have forced global food prices up by 75%, [Renewable Energy Focus](#)

Firms line up to enroll on green building course - Thurs, 26th August 2010

UK Green Building Council set to launch introductory STEP course next month, [BusinessGreen](#)

Waste firm SITA establishes dedicated energy division - Thurs, 26th August 2010

Waste and recycling company SITA UK has today (August 26) established a dedicated energy recovery division of its workforce to help concentrate its efforts on producing renewable energy from waste,



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NewEnergyFocus

US offers international help with shale gas extraction - Thurs, 26th August 2010

Dirty gas better than dirty coal, US energy officials argue, [BusinessGreen](#)

Anaerobic digestion offers farmers food for thought - Thurs, 26th August 2010

Farmgen starts work on £30m anaerobic digestion project as Heathrow signs deal to turn food waste into fertiliser, [BusinessGreen](#)

Wave Hub cable brought ashore at Hayle - Thurs, 26th August 2010

The latest stage of development of the Wave Hub renewable energy project has seen the export cable successfully pulled to the top of the beach at Hayle, in Cornwall, where it will be joined to onshore cables linked to a new electricity substation, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

Commission slams US government over oil spill oversight - Thurs, 26th August 2010

Bob Graham: "We should be clear - this disaster represents an enormous, and shared, failure of public policy", [BusinessGreen](#)

Installation of foundations completed at Walney 1 - Thurs, 26th August 2010

Danish energy giant DONG Energy has announced that all of the 51 monopiles and 51 transition pieces have now been installed at the Walney 1 offshore wind farm, located in the Irish Sea off the coast of Cumbria, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

Suntech signs South African solar deal - Thurs, 26th August 2010

South Africa set to get 100MW solar farm as California approves first new solar thermal plant in 20 years, [BusinessGreen](#)

Sterecycle explores AD and biomass potential - Thurs, 26th August 2010

Waste treatment technology company Sterecycle has revealed "very exciting" plans to recover energy from the fibre produced by its autoclave process by building a biomass power plant at its Yorkshire facility, [Lets Recycle](#)

British Gas introduces solar PV panel scheme - Thurs, 26th August 2010

The utility firm takes advantage of the UK Government's recent feed-in-tariff (FITs) to encourage people to generate their own low-carbon energy including solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, [Renewable Energy Focus](#)

The sun king: Charles to generate his own power with solar panels on Clarence House - Thurs, 26th August 2010

Prince Charles has been granted planning permission to install solar panels on the roof of his 180-year-old home Clarence House, [Daily Mail](#)

Prince gets green light to install solar panels - Thurs, 26th August 2010

The Prince of Wales was granted permission yesterday to install dozens of solar panels on his home at Clarence House in the latest move to cut his carbon footprint, [Scotsman](#)

Biden: US renewables policy is working - Weds, 25th August 2010

Vice president insists stimulus dollars will lead to a doubling of US renewable energy capacity by 2012, [BusinessGreen](#)

Ofgem publishes total Renewables Obligation for 2009/10 - Weds, 25th August 2010

Energy regulator Ofgem has published the total Renewables Obligation (RO) on electricity suppliers across the UK for the 2009/10 financial year, which stands at more than 30 million Renewables Obligation



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Certificates (ROCs), [NewEnergyFocus](#)

Scottish offshore wind worth £7.1bn - Weds, 25th August 2010

Scotland's offshore wind industry could contribute £7.1 billion of investment and create up to 28,000 direct jobs by 2020, according to Scottish Renewables and Scottish Enterprise, [Renewable Energy Focus](#)

UK's nuclear reactor programme falls behind schedule - Weds, 25th August 2010

Regulator and builders blame each other for construction hold-up as designs await approval, [Guardian](#)

California starts to lay energy storage foundations - Weds, 25th August 2010

New bill edges US state towards creation of renewables-ready grid, [BusinessGreen](#)

Poorer nations hit with 'exorbitant' consultancy fees for carbon offset projects - Weds, 25th August 2010

Nepalese government has paid a Norwegian consultancy €150,000 (£123,000) to get UN certification for biogas projects, [Guardian](#)

France's €10bn offshore wind plan sets sail - Weds, 25th August 2010

Government to launch tenders for 10 offshore wind farms next month, [BusinessGreen](#)

Scotland throws down gauntlet in battle to become offshore wind hub - Weds, 25th August 2010

Report claims investment in offshore wind industry could create up to 28,000 jobs by 2020, [BusinessGreen](#)

Shell reaches agreement on \$12bn Brazilian biofuel venture - Weds, 25th August 2010

Shell and Cosan sign binding agreements to create one of the world's largest biofuel firms, [BusinessGreen](#)

Port investment vital for Scotland's offshore wind - Weds, 25th August 2010

Any failure to invest in grid and port facilities could jeopardise Scotland's potential to maximise its offshore wind industry, Scottish Renewables warned today (August 25), [NewEnergyFocus](#)

Daewoo targets boom in offshore wind power - Weds, 25th August 2010

Korean shipbuilding giant becomes latest engineering firm to set its sights on fast-expanding wind energy market, [BusinessGreen](#)

Farmgen starts work on AD tanks for Carr Farm project - Weds, 25th August 2010

Renewable energy firm Farmgen has started building work on the first of two anaerobic digestion tanks for its Carr Farm facility near Preston which is the first project to be developed under its plan to expand the UK's on-farm AD capacity, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

UK and Norway to cooperate on North Sea offshore wind - Weds, 25th August 2010

Energy ministers from the UK and Norway have today (August 25) signed a joint ministerial statement pledging to encourage the wind energy industry to exchange information on the development of offshore North Sea wind projects, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

Growing dangers in new oil exploration - Weds, 25th August 2010

Cairn, the next BP? asks the stencilled message that has appeared on various walls and pavements across Scotland since the start of the climate change protests last week. It is a neat epigram for the dilemma facing humanity in the wake of the Deepwater Horizon disaster, [Herald Scotland](#)

Renewable energy helps pay the bills - Weds, 25th August 2010

Sonya Bedford, head of renewable energy at Stephens Scown's says renewable energy is ideally suited to rural areas and energy sources including wind farms can earn landowners a steady income, [This is Plymouth](#)



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Scotland's offshore wind sector could produce 28,000 jobs - Weds, 25th August 2010

Scotland's offshore wind industry could create 28,000 direct jobs and generate £7.1bn of investment over the next decade, according to a new report, [BBC](#)

Is the government about to cut the sustainable schools unit - Tues, 24th August 2010

Trewin Restorick makes the business case for saving the sustainable schools unit, [BusinessGreen](#)

Offshore wind farms reject "seal-killer" tag - Tues, 24th August 2010

Wind farm developers refute allegations their vessels caused seal mutilations, [BusinessGreen](#)

British Gas launches solar panels scheme with '£1k a year profit' claim - Tues, 24th August 2010

Energy company says 12 million homeowners could save £1,000 a year, as it looks to take advantage of government scheme, [Guardian](#) - [BusinessGreen](#)

Can tar sands ever be sustainable? - Tues, 24th August 2010

The Canadian government would like to think so, but environmentalists are not about to be convinced, [BusinessGreen](#)

Funding issues blamed for Renewable Heat Incentive delay - Tues, 24th August 2010

Senior policy advisors in the renewables industry have claimed the Treasury is to blame for the hold-up on an announcement on the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI), while it grapples with how the scheme will be financed, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

UK green energy college breaks ground following government grant - Tues, 24th August 2010

Delayed construction work starts on Merseyside's Green Energy Training Centre for microgeneration technologies, [BusinessGreen](#)

Carbon traders demand EU action to restore ebbing market confidence - Tues, 24th August 2010

International Emissions Trading Association writes to Brussels warning that failure to clarify proposed emission trading reforms is undermining Clean Development Mechanism, [BusinessGreen](#)

Mitsubishi and GE face off over anti-trust accusations - Tues, 24th August 2010

Both sides attempt to declare victory as judge stays court case into alleged wind turbine monopoly, [BusinessGreen](#)

Greenland happy to be the new oil frontier - Tues, 24th August 2010

Cairn Energy's oil and gas find sparks hopes that Greenland can ditch its reliance on fishing and tourism, [Guardian](#)

RES to contest wind farm refusal in Aberdeenshire - Tues, 24th August 2010

Wind farm developer RES has submitted an appeal against Aberdeenshire council's refusal to grant full planning permission for the proposed 10MW Mекle Carewe wind farm near Stonehaven, [NewEnergyFocus](#)

Will wind farms pick up the tab for new nuclear? - Tues, 24th August 2010

Wind farm developers fear National Grid proposals designed to accommodate nuclear power plants will lead to a huge increase in backup costs, [BusinessGreen](#)

For deniers, politics beats the science. Handouts beat both - Mon, 23rd August 2010

From Australia to the US, the rightwingers who claim climate change is a leftwing conspiracy will grab green subsidies, [Guardian](#)

Small businesses demand government help to drive green gains - Mon, 23rd August 2010

Federation of Small Businesses argues increased incentives are required if its members are to effectively cut



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carbon emissions, [BusinessGreen](#)

Danish warship blocks Greenpeace Arctic oil protest - Mon, 23rd August 2010

The Danish navy has warned that the Esperanza will be boarded by armed personnel if it breaches the exclusion zone, [Guardian](#)

Greens enjoy kingmaker role as Australia heads for hung parliament - Mon, 23rd August 2010

Climate change policy likely to play key role in coalition negotiations as Greens and independents are thrown into the spotlight, [BusinessGreen](#) - [Edie](#) - [9News](#) - [theage](#)

China lays groundwork for electric car charging grid - Mon, 23rd August 2010

Chinese government poised to announce new standards for electric vehicle charging points as technology firms rush to take advantage of burgeoning market, [BusinessGreen](#)

Statoil reaffirms renewables commitment - Mon, 23rd August 2010

Energy giant insists it will continue to invest in renewables despite reports it is considering off-loading its wind energy projects, [BusinessGreen](#)

UK government held secret peak oil talks - Mon, 23rd August 2010

Observer obtains documents showing that Whitehall privately accepts its response to the threat of peak oil has not been good enough, [BusinessGreen](#)

International pressure mounts as Iran fires up first nuclear power plant - Mon, 23rd August 2010

Iran fired up its first nuclear reactor at the weekend after Russian engineers completed the project, [Edie](#)

EU quietly continues renewables revolution - Mon, 23rd August 2010

Report shows almost a fifth of EU energy was generated from renewable sources last year, [BusinessGreen](#)

Ministers to help UK energy firms win deals abroad - Sun, 22nd August 2010

David Cameron and other British ministers will "get out there" lobbying Russia and other oil-rich countries to give UK energy companies new business, according to Charles Hendry, the energy minister, [Telegraph](#)

Minister with the energy to bat for Britain - Sun, 22nd August 2010

He might be a Cameronite working for a Lib Dem secretary of state, but Britain's Energy Minister has some old-school Tory allegiances. For Charles Hendry's obsession with promoting British industry makes him a self-confessed "Michael-Heseltin-ian" - a man who claims to think "business before breakfast, before lunch, before tea", [Telegraph](#)

Mitsubishi drops electric vehicle price in readiness for sales war - Sun, 22nd August 2010

Company slashes price of iMiev as it prepares to take on the Nissan Leaf, [BusinessGreen](#)

Sinar Mas faces fresh strife after spinning palm oil report - Fri, 20th August 2010

Independent auditor issues clarification after palm oil firm is accused of misrepresenting report criticising its plantation practices, [BusinessGreen](#)

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3. RECENT REPORTS AND PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITY

Parliament is now in recess. The Commons will return on 6 September 2010, the Lords on 5 October 2010.



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4. EXTERNAL EVENTS OF INTEREST

Carbon Connect Inquiry

Event: Inquiry session examining private sector investment opportunities created by Feed-in-Tariffs.

Date: Wednesday 13th October 2010

Time: 10.00am - 12.00pm

Location: Portcullis House, Westminster

Description: Carbon Connect is conducting a research inquiry to examine how private sector organisations can develop sustainable business strategies that reduce GHG emissions and stimulate investment in renewable technologies. This inquiry session will examine how businesses of all shapes and sizes can unlock the commercial value of FiTs, secure upfront capital and overcome implementation hurdles. If you feel that your expertise would be able to contribute to this debate please contact thomas.moody@policyconnect.org.uk. A final report is to be launched in Parliament in March 2011.

Further details: [click here](#).

National Energy Foundation courses

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

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

Upcoming RenewableUK events

Event: [RenewableUK 2010](#)

Date: Tuesday 2nd November - Thursday 4th 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](#)

The Rushlight Awards Clean Technologies Show and Gala Dinner

Host organisation: Rushlight Awards

Date: 27th January 2011

Location: Church House, Westminster



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More information: Click [here](#)

The Rushlight Awards promote and celebrate the leading energy, resource and environmental technologies and innovations by organizations throughout UK and Ireland.

With 24 separate categories covering renewable energy, clean fuels, energy efficiency, power generation, green products and services, water, waste and environmental monitoring and management, these awards will highlight the technologies and innovations that are shaping the energy, transport, environment and industry sectors in the future.

If you have developed a technology or innovation that is pertinent to one of these categories, then do not hesitate to enter as you have so much to gain:

- There are over £100,000 worth of prizes to be won
- As an RSA accredited event, all group category winners will automatically be nominated for the UK entries for the European Business Awards for the Environment and all entrants.
- All entrants can be included in the Book of Entries published each year
- All entrants are eligible for a significant discount on the price of a stand at the Rushlight Clean Technologies Show on 27 January 2011 at Central Hall Westminster, London

The Rushlight Awards 2010 are now open for entries. The closing date for entries is 31 October 2010 and the Gala Awards Dinner will follow on 27 January 2011 at Church House Westminster, London.

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