

Subject: For Information: Acorn Project - potential announcement

Redacted. All redactions are based on regulation 11(2): personal data of a third party.

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy
Sent: Friday, July 28, 2023 12:46 PM
To: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot; Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero & Just Transition <CabSecTNZJT@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>; Andrew Hogg <Andrew.Hogg@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot; Callum McCaig Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot; Leanne Dobson <Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Kevin Pringle <Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot>
Subject: RE: For Information: Acorn Project - potential announcement

Hi [REDACTED],

Thank you for copying us in. Cab Sec has commented that Sir Ian Wood hinted at this at a dinner he attended yesterday evening. He thinks that we should prepare to be positive should this happen, but also consider quickly what we will need to do from our end to ensure this moves fast.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

Deputy Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy – Neil Gray MSP
The Scottish Government
St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG
Email: CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>
Sent: Thursday, July 27, 2023 8:43 PM
To: Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero & Just Transition <CabSecTNZJT@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>; Andrew Hogg <Andrew.Hogg@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; Leanne Dobson <Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister

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Good evening Minister,

I wanted to provide a brief update on Acorn and Track-2 following a Industrial Decarbonisation workshop we hosted today with the key stakeholders from Acorn and the Scottish Cluster. There is a sense from key stakeholders that the UKG are intending to make an announcement on Monday 31 Aug confirming Acorn as a Track-2 Transport and Storage system as part of the CCS Cluster Sequencing Programme.

It is important to note that whilst these rumours are from credible sources, the UKG have not confirmed that Acorn has been awarded Track-2 status. I have contacted DESNZ and their position remains: *We are still aiming to provide our update on Track 2 in the summer, but I'm afraid I can't offer any early insights into the outcomes at this stage or yet on exactly when that update will be made. When it is due we will give you as much forewarning as we're able.*

Whilst key stakeholders believe that the announcement will confirm Acorn Transport and Storage, I do not expect the announcement to confirm the associated industrial emitter/capture projects as that will be subject to a separate competitive process, as is the case with Track-1.

We will remain in close contact with colleagues at Acorn and with UKG colleagues and will provide an update when further information is available.

We are working with Comms colleagues and have made Spads aware.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - Head of CCUS and Industrial Decarbonisation - Directorate of Energy and Climate Change
Mob: [REDACTED]



If you receive this email late at night, early in the morning, or at the weekend - it means I am working flexibly. Flexibility works for me, but please do not feel that you should have to pick this up outside of your own normal working hours.

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From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Energy and the Environment
Sent: Friday, July 28, 2023 11:07 AM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Minister for Energy and the Environment
MinisterEE@gov.scot; Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero & Just Transition <CabSecTNZJT@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>; Andrew Hogg <Andrew.Hogg@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot; Callum McCaig Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot; Leanne Dobson <Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Kevin Pringle <Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot; Ross Ingebrigtsen Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot; Tom Thomson <Tom.Thomson@gov.scot>
Subject: Re: For Information: Acorn Project - potential announcement

Good Morning [REDACTED],

Thanks for this.

Ms Martin is on leave this weekend so will not be able to do any bids. Monday she is atthw Turriff show so it would be quite difficult.

Thanks
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>
Sent: Friday, July 28, 2023 9:47:32 AM
To: Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero & Just Transition <CabSecTNZJT@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>; Andrew Hogg <Andrew.Hogg@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Callum McCaig <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; Leanne Dobson <Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Kevin Pringle <Kevin.Pringle@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Ross Ingebrigtsen <Ross.Ingebrigtsen@gov.scot>; Tom Thomson <Tom.Thomson@gov.scot>
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Good morning Cabinet Secretaries and Minister.

Given the uncertainty around timing, I would be grateful for an indication of any availability over the weekend and on Monday from the Energy Minister or Energy Secretary, should we receive broadcast bids for comment following this announcement.

I am working with officials on a draft proactive statement and associated social media for issue in response once we know the detail of any announcement.

Best wishes.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>

Sent: 27 July 2023 20:43

To: Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero & Just Transition <CabSecTNZJT@gov.scot>; DG Net Zero

<DGNetZero@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>; Andrew Hogg

<Andrew.Hogg@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Callum McCaig

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We will remain in close contact with colleagues at Acorn and with UKG colleagues and will provide an update when further information is available.

We are working with Comms colleagues and have made Spads aware.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - Head of CCUS and Industrial Decarbonisation - Directorate of Energy and Climate Change

Mob: [REDACTED]



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ENERGY MINISTER ABERDEEN HYDROGEN AND CCUS VISIT – BRIEFING PACK

What	Hydrogen Stakeholder/Site Visit and Scottish Cluster Roundtable - Aberdeen
Where	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>Storegga Offices</p> <p>First Floor, Arnhall Business Park, Crown House, Prospect Rd, Westhill AB32 6FE</p> <p><i>[Redacted]</i></p> <p>There will be parking available at both locations.</p>
When	<p>Date: Thursday 13 April 2023</p> <p>Time: 09:30 – 12:30</p> <p><i>[Redacted]</i></p> <p><i>11:15 – 11:25 – Meeting with Storegga</i></p> <p><i>11:30 – 12:30 – Scottish Cluster Roundtable</i></p>
Key Message(s)	<p><u>[Redacted]</u></p> <p><u>CCUS</u></p> <p>As a government, we support the development of Carbon Capture Utilisation Storage (CCUS) as it is vital for a just transition to net zero by 2045.</p> <p>We are committed to supporting the development and deployment of the Scottish Cluster and will do all we can to urge the UK Government to progress the Track 2 sequencing process expediently.</p>
Who	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>An hour-long roundtable discussion will then take place at Storegga's offices with members of the Scottish Cluster, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Murphy (Storegga) • [Redacted](Storegga) • [Redacted](Storegga) • [Redacted](Shell) • [Redacted] (Shell) • [Redacted] (Harbour Energy)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Redacted] (NSMP) • Ronnie Quinn (NECCUS) • [Redacted] (SSE) • [Redacted] (INEOS) • [Redacted] (National Gas Transmission) 	
Why	<p>[Redacted]</p> <p>The roundtable discussion on Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) will provide the chance to meet and build relationships with members of the Scottish Cluster and discuss next steps on the back of the UK Government 'Powering Up Britain' announcements, which included details of the next stage of the CCUS cluster sequencing process (Track 2).</p>	
Supporting official <i>(incl. mobile no.)</i>	<p>Andy Hogg, Deputy Director for Energy Industries, [Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted], [Redacted], [Redacted]</p> <p>[Redacted], [Redacted], [Redacted]</p>	
Points to note	[Redacted]	
Annexes		Page(s)
Annex A	Summary & Agenda	4-5
Annex B	[Redacted]	6-9
Annex C	[Redacted]	10-13
Annex D	[Redacted]	14-16
Annex E	Scottish Cluster Roundtable	17-26
Annex F	CCUS Top Lines	27-28

Annex A – Summary & Agenda

Summary

[Redacted]

You will then attend the Scottish Cluster roundtable discussion to build relationships and discuss next steps on the CCUS cluster sequencing process (Track 2).

Agenda

Time	Item
09:30 – 10:45	[Redacted]
10:45 – 11:10	[Redacted]
11:15 – 12:30	<p><i>First Floor, Arnhall Business Park, Crown House, Prospect Rd, Westhill AB32 6FE</i></p> <p>Storegga</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>Scottish Cluster Roundtable</p> <p>11:30 – 12:30 – Welcomes, introductions, opening remarks, background on the cluster, reflections on Track-2 announcements, next steps</p> <p>Meeting with – Steve Murphy (Storegga), [Redacted] (Storegga), [Redacted] (Storegga), [Redacted] (Shell), [Redacted] (Shell), [Redacted] (Harbour Energy), [Redacted] (NSMP), Ronnie Quinn (NECCUS), [Redacted] (SSE), [Redacted] (INEOS), [Redacted] (National Gas Transmission)</p>
12:30 – 12:45	Depart

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• [Redacted]
[Redacted]	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• [Redacted]
[Redacted]	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• [Redacted]
[Redacted]	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• [Redacted]
[Redacted]	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• [Redacted]
[Redacted]	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• [Redacted]


[Redacted][Redacted]


[Redacted]

Annex E - Scottish Cluster Roundtable

Scottish Cluster Round Table – 11:30 – 12:30

You will be meeting with members of the Scottish Cluster and NECCUS (North East CCUS, pronounced Nexus) in a roundtable format where you will hear from Storegga about the Scottish Cluster and discuss the impact of the UK Government's 'Powering Up Britain' announcements for CCUS and the Track 2 cluster process, what this means for the Scottish Cluster and the next steps.

[Redacted]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [Redacted]
[Redacted]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [Redacted]
Steve Murphy 	Storegga <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steve is Chief Commercial Officer at Storegga, with responsibility for strategic activity across the Group. He has 35 years' broad energy industry experience covering business start-ups, financial stewardship and commercial management of energy projects around the world. Previous experience includes roles with Chevron, ENI, Baker Hughes, Helix Energy Solutions & Petrofac. Established CO2DeepStore in 2007 – the UK's first company focussed on developing carbon capture and storage as a business. Steve is a founding Director of Pale Blue Dot Energy – the pioneering Scottish CCS business leading the Acorn CCS project and Scottish Cluster. Responsible for growing the business from 4 people in 2013 to over 95 people today. A Founding Director of Storegga (owner of Pale Blue Dot Energy) and instrumental in securing inward investment from multiple blue-chip companies as shareholders. Non-Executive Director with Peterhead Port Authority since 2017
[Redacted]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [Redacted]

[Redacted]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Redacted]
[Redacted]	[Redacted]
<p>Ronnie Quinn</p> 	<p>NECCUS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ronnie is Chief Executive of NECCUS, the membership organisation supporting and representing members through the challenge and opportunity of industrial decarbonisation primarily through Carbon Capture and Hydrogen. • He has over 30 years' experience in general management, with specific experience in the renewables and electricity industries. • Ronnie's professional career began as a solicitor where he worked both in private practice and in local government. • He then moved into the electricity markets' sector where he was Managing Director of the company administering the market in Scotland. • Ronnie has worked for The Crown Estate where he led the transfer of its functions in Scotland to Scottish Ministers, being Crown Estate Scotland's first Chief Executive. • Ronnie also sits on the Board of Management of City of Glasgow College and is a Commissioner on Scotland's Just Transition Commission.
[Redacted]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Redacted]
[Redacted]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Redacted]

11:35 Round-table discussion covering:

- Opening remarks (Minister for Energy)
- Background on the Scottish Cluster (Storegga)
- Reflections Track-2 announcements (all)
- Next steps for the Scottish Cluster and securing Track-2 (all)

12:30 Meeting close

Opening remarks (led by Minister for Energy)

- The Scottish Government supports the development of Carbon Capture Utilisation Storage (CCUS) and is committed to supporting the development and deployment of the Scottish Cluster.
- CCUS is “mission critical” to achieve our net zero goals and I will do everything I can to support you, unfortunately Scotland doesn’t have all the levers required but I will be urging UK Government to provide the clarity you need.
- I am pleased that Acorn is one of the 2 projects that are “best able” to meet Track 2 eligibility, which is confirmation of the strength of the original proposition.
- Congratulations to everyone involved in the bid – if only the quality of it had been fully appreciated about 18 months ago.
- Despite that welcome recognition, we are bitterly disappointed that there is still no timetabled solution for Track-2 from UK Government. Stating that they “intend to provide an update in the summer” is not acceptable.
- I want to reassure you that Scottish Government fully supports the development and deployment of CCUS and we stand ready to provide up to £80 million investment from our Emerging Energy Technologies Fund.

Background on Scottish Cluster (led by Storegga)

[Info to be provided]

Questions you may wish to ask:

- I’m acutely aware that this has been going on for a long time and it will have tested your resilience and patience. What impact do the recent announcements have on your organisation and on the collective?

- What are the key risks to being successful with Track-2 and how can we work together to help mitigate those?
- [Redacted]
- What can we do to expand the cluster to increase the emitter base in order to capture and store more CO₂?
- I'm also interested in unlocking the storage potential of Scotland, how do you think we are positioned compared with other UK clusters and internationally, and what more do we need to do to convert geological advantage into competitive advantage.

CCUS BACKGROUND NOTES

- CCUS is vital for a just transition to net zero. Advice from the Climate Change Committee describes CCUS as a “necessity, not an option” to achieve net-zero emissions.
- The development of strategically located CCUS infrastructure in Scotland's industrial clusters in Grangemouth and the North-East could protect and ensure the just transition for important domestic industries into a low-carbon future, protecting jobs and utilising existing skills. There is no technological alternative currently available for key strategic and economically significant industries.
- As set out in the Bute House Agreement, the Scottish Government agrees that any strategy for deployment of CCUS must enable decarbonisation at pace and cannot be used to justify unsustainable levels of fossil fuel extraction or impede Scotland's just transition to net zero.
- Scottish Government economic scenario analysis shows CCUS would have a positive impact on the Scottish economy. In 2045 Scottish GDP could be 1.3-2.3% (£3.8Bn-£6.7Bn) higher in scenarios with CCUS, than without.
- Economic modelling by the Scottish Cluster estimates that by deploying CCUS, hydrogen and direct air capture technologies in Scotland, could support an average of 15,100 jobs between 2022-2050, with a peak of 20,600 jobs in 2031.

The Scottish Cluster

- The Scottish Cluster is a group of Industrial Emitters which will be linked to the Acorn Transport and Storage (T&S) system by pipeline to take advantage of Oil and Gas legacy infrastructure, with the aim of capturing and permanently storing 5 Mega Tonnes of CO₂- emissions per year by 2030. These include:
 - St Fergus – CO₂ extraction from St Fergus Gas at SAGE terminal, Acorn Carbon Capture and Acorn Hydrogen

- o Peterhead – Storegga Direct Air Capture, Peterhead CCS Power station (SSE)
- o Central Belt – The Grangemouth Project, Fife Hydrogen Hub
- In October 2021, UKG announced the Scottish Cluster (led by the Acorn Project at St Fergus) was unsuccessful in the Track-1 competition, however it was confirmed as a Track-1 “reserve”.
- In March 2023 Budget, the UK Government announced £20 billion funding for CCUS projects (Track 1 projects in East and North West England, and North Wales), however none of this money was allocated to Scotland.
- Also in March 2023, the UKG published “Powering Up Britain” which also confirmed the Track 2 sequencing process to establish 2 further clusters by 2030, the UK government considers Acorn and Viking T&S systems as “best placed” to meet Track 2 eligibility (subject to due diligence and value for money assessments).
- The UK Government, whilst confirming that Acorn meets the Track 2 criteria, have, inexplicably decided to open up the Track 2 process by inviting other clusters to submit an expression of interest (EOI). Should any EOI be received by the end of April, that will necessitate a selection and assessment stage (competitive procurement). The expectation is that other clusters will submit an EOI.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Scotland's advantages

- Scotland remains among the best placed nations in Europe to deploy CCUS due to our unrivalled access to vast CO₂ storage potential in the North Sea and opportunities to repurpose existing oil and gas infrastructure for CO₂ transport and storage.
- Scotland's significant CO₂ storage potential and the presence of the Scottish Cluster provides an economic opportunity for Scotland to be at the centre of a European hub for the importation and storage, via shipping, of CO₂ from Europe.
- The Carbon Capture and Storage Association (CCSA) predicts the global CCUS supply chain in 2050 will be £181 billion per year for industry CCUS and £54 billion per year CO₂ transport and storage; the UK Government predicts CCUS will “*deliver £4-5 billion in Gross Value Added by 2050 through*

exports". This offers Scottish businesses a huge international market to be a part of in the future and will deliver significant economic opportunities

Annex F – CCUS Top Lines

The Scottish Government supports Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage – as a common whole-system decarbonisation infrastructure with the flexibility to adapt over time to play a central role across the decarbonisation strategies of key sectors such as heat, industry and power.

- CCUS can play a pivotal role in achieving a just transition for our workforces, capitalising on existing skills and expertise to create many good, green jobs in the coming years.
- Scotland can be considered among the best placed nations in Europe to deploy CCS, with our unrivalled access to a vast CO₂ storage potential of up to 46 gigatonnes and our opportunities to repurpose existing oil and gas infrastructure. This presents us with an economic opportunity in future to be at the centre of a European hub for the importation and storage of CO₂ from Europe.

While we welcome the UK Government's confirmation that the Scottish Cluster is eligible for Track 2, there is still no certainty around when funding will be awarded.

- The Scottish Cluster is absolutely vital for a just transition to net zero - not just in Scotland, but across the UK.
- The UK Government's decision not to give the Scottish Cluster clear and definitive Track-1 status in its CCUS cluster sequencing process is illogical.
- We do not hold all the necessary legislative and regulatory levers needed to support the Scottish Cluster, as they are not devolved. We continue to call on the UK Government to work with us, and provide the certainty and support required to accelerate the Scottish Cluster project.
- In March 2023 Budget, the UK Government announced £20 billion funding for CCUS projects (Track 1 projects in East and North West England, and North Wales), however none of this money was allocated to Scotland.
- Also in March 2023, the UKG published "Powering Up Britain" which also confirmed the Track 2 sequencing process to establish 2 further clusters by 2030, the UK government considers Acorn and Viking T&S systems as "best placed" to meet Track 2 eligibility (subject to due diligence and value for money assessments).
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We are committed to supporting the continued growth and development of the Scottish Cluster to ensure that Scotland reaches its net zero goals by 2045.

- We have provided funding and policy support since 2017 to the Scottish Cluster's Acorn CCS project at St. Fergus through its feasibility and development phases.
- We have offered on several occasions to assist the UK Government with the affordability of delivering the Scottish Cluster. This includes our offer to His

Majesty's Treasury to deploy £80m funding from our EETF. We stand ready to deliver on this commitment.

- Due to delays with UK Government announcing the Scottish Cluster, we have re-profiled our offer of financial support into subsequent years.

Advice from the Climate Change Committee describes CCUS as a “necessity, not an option” to achieve net-zero emissions.

- All credible evidence advice and analysis has demonstrated that CCUS is critical for meeting statutory emissions targets – not just in Scotland, but across the UK.
- Our ambition to reach net zero by 2045 is based on the Climate Change Committee's advice, which noted Scotland can achieve this in part due to “the excellent opportunities to remove CO2 from the atmosphere through carbon capture and storage in Scotland”.
- Without the swift deployment of CCUS in Scotland our pathway to net-zero emissions, set out in the Climate Change Act, becomes extremely challenging.
- Scotland's commitment to a just transition includes supporting industries whose only realistic route to decarbonise is via CCUS.
- The Aug 2021 agreement between the Scottish Government and the Scottish Green Party recognises that “*CCUS technologies will play a part in a just transition*”.
- The agreement also states that “*(t)he Scottish Government remains supportive of these technologies as part of the energy transition and in particular it remains committed to supporting the delivery of the Acorn project*”.

The Global CCS Institute's (GCCSI) latest Global Status Report 2022 identified a total of 30 successful CCS projects in operation, a further 11 under construction and 153 in development.

- The oldest operational project, Sleipner in Norway, has operated for over 25 years and is estimated to have reduced emissions by 1MT/year over its lifespan.
- There are also many more CCS facilities already operating on a pilot or demonstrator basis, or that are at advanced stages of development.
- CCS projects, like any new industrial scale technologies, may experience challenges in construction and operation. This is normal and to be anticipated, will be project specific, often relating to engineering, and expected to decrease as more projects are built and knowledge and experience shared. The global experience so far has demonstrated that such challenges can be managed. This is not a reason not to deploy CCS, nor to consider the technology ‘not proven’.
- A recent study shows that the probability of CO2 leaks from a regional CCS industry is low. If they do occur, the spatial scale of impact will be small, and the potential environmental impacts will be minimal.

ENERGY MINISTER ABERDEEN HYDROGEN AND CCUS VISIT – BRIEFING PACK

What	Hydrogen Stakeholder/Site Visit and Scottish Cluster Roundtable - Aberdeen
Where	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Storegga Offices</p> <p>First Floor, Arnhall Business Park, Crown House, Prospect Rd, Westhill AB32 6FE</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>There will be parking available at both locations.</p>
When	<p>Date: Thursday 13 April 2023</p> <p>Time: 09:30 – 12:30</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p><i>11:15 – 11:25 – Meeting with Storegga</i></p> <p><i>11:30 – 12:30 – Scottish Cluster Roundtable</i></p>
Key Message(s)	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p><u>CCUS</u></p> <p>As a government, we support the development of Carbon Capture Utilisation Storage (CCUS) as it is vital for a just transition to net zero by 2045.</p> <p>We are committed to supporting the development and deployment of the Scottish Cluster and will do all we can to urge the UK Government to progress the Track 2 sequencing process expediently.</p>
Who	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>An hour-long roundtable discussion will then take place at Storegga's offices with members of the Scottish Cluster, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Murphy (Storegga) • [REDACTED] (Storegga) • [REDACTED] (Storegga) • [REDACTED] (Shell) • [REDACTED] (Shell) • [REDACTED] (Harbour Energy)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [REDACTED] (NSMP) • Ronnie Quinn (NECCUS) • [REDACTED] (SSE) • [REDACTED] (INEOS) • [REDACTED] (National Gas Transmission) 	
Why	[REDACTED] The roundtable discussion on Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) will provide the chance to meet and build relationships with members of the Scottish Cluster and discuss next steps on the back of the UK Government 'Powering Up Britain' announcements, which included details of the next stage of the CCUS cluster sequencing process (Track 2).	
Supporting official <i>(incl. mobile no.)</i>	Andy Hogg , Deputy Director for Energy Industries, [REDACTED] [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]	
Points to note	[REDACTED]	
Annexes		Page(s)
Annex A	Summary & Agenda	4-5
Annex B	[REDACTED]	6-9
Annex C	[REDACTED]	10-13
Annex D	[REDACTED]	14-16
Annex E	Scottish Cluster Roundtable	17-26
Annex F	CCUS Top Lines	27-28

Annex A – Summary & Agenda

Summary

[REDACTED]

You will then attend the Scottish Cluster roundtable discussion to build relationships and discuss next steps on the CCUS cluster sequencing process (Track 2).

Agenda


Time	Item
09:30 – 10:45	[REDACTED]
10:45 – 11:10	[REDACTED]
11:15 – 12:30	<p><i>First Floor, Arnhall Business Park, Crown House, Prospect Rd, Westhill AB32 6FE</i></p> <p>Storegga</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Scottish Cluster Roundtable</p> <p>11:30 – 12:30 – Welcomes, introductions, opening remarks, background on the cluster, reflections on Track-2 announcements, next steps</p> <p>Meeting with – Steve Murphy (Storegga), [Redacted] (Storegga), [REDACTED] (Storegga), [REDACTED] (Shell), [REDACTED] (Shell), [REDACTED] (Harbour Energy), [REDACTED] (NSMP), Ronnie Quinn (NECCUS), [REDACTED] (SSE), [REDACTED] (INEOS), [REDACTED] (National Gas Transmission)</p>
12:30 – 12:45	Depart


[REDACTED]

Annex E - Scottish Cluster Roundtable

Scottish Cluster Round Table – 11:30 – 12:30

You will be meeting with members of the Scottish Cluster and NECCUS (North East CCUS, pronounced Nexus) in a roundtable format where you will hear from Storegga about the Scottish Cluster and discuss the impact of the UK Government's 'Powering Up Britain' announcements for CCUS and the Track 2 cluster process, what this means for the Scottish Cluster and the next steps.

[REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [REDACTED]
Steve Murphy 	Storegga <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steve is Chief Commercial Officer at Storegga, with responsibility for strategic activity across the Group. He has 35 years' broad energy industry experience covering business start-ups, financial stewardship and commercial management of energy projects around the world. Previous experience includes roles with Chevron, ENI, Baker Hughes, Helix Energy Solutions & Petrofac. Established CO2DeepStore in 2007 – the UK's first company focussed on developing carbon capture and storage as a business. Steve is a founding Director of Pale Blue Dot Energy – the pioneering Scottish CCS business leading the Acorn CCS project and Scottish Cluster. Responsible for growing the business from 4 people in 2013 to over 95 people today. A Founding Director of Storegga (owner of Pale Blue Dot Energy) and instrumental in securing inward investment from multiple blue-chip companies as shareholders. Non-Executive Director with Peterhead Port Authority since 2017
[REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Ronnie Quinn 	NECCUS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ronnie is Chief Executive of NECCUS, the membership organisation supporting and representing members through the challenge and opportunity of industrial decarbonisation primarily through Carbon Capture and Hydrogen. • He has over 30 years' experience in general management, with specific experience in the renewables and electricity industries. • Ronnie's professional career began as a solicitor where he worked both in private practice and in local government. • He then moved into the electricity markets' sector where he was Managing Director of the company administering the market in Scotland. • Ronnie has worked for The Crown Estate where he led the transfer of its functions in Scotland to Scottish Ministers, being Crown Estate Scotland's first Chief Executive. • Ronnie also sits on the Board of Management of City of Glasgow College and is a Commissioner on Scotland's Just Transition Commission.
[REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [REDACTED]

11:35 Round-table discussion covering:

- Opening remarks (Minister for Energy)
- Background on the Scottish Cluster (Storegga)
- Reflections Track-2 announcements (all)
- Next steps for the Scottish Cluster and securing Track-2 (all)

12:30 Meeting close

Opening remarks (led by Minister for Energy)

- The Scottish Government supports the development of Carbon Capture Utilisation Storage (CCUS) and is committed to supporting the development and deployment of the Scottish Cluster.
- CCUS is “mission critical” to achieve our net zero goals and I will do everything I can to support you, unfortunately Scotland doesn’t have all the levers required but I will be urging UK Government to provide the clarity you need.
- I am pleased that Acorn is one of the 2 projects that are “best able” to meet Track 2 eligibility, which is confirmation of the strength of the original proposition.
- Congratulations to everyone involved in the bid – if only the quality of it had been fully appreciated about 18 months ago.
- Despite that welcome recognition, we are bitterly disappointed that there is still no timetabled solution for Track-2 from UK Government. Stating that they “intend to provide an update in the summer” is not acceptable.
- I want to reassure you that Scottish Government fully supports the development and deployment of CCUS and we stand ready to provide up to £80 million investment from our Emerging Energy Technologies Fund.

Background on Scottish Cluster (led by Storegga)

[Info to be provided]

Questions you may wish to ask:

- I’m acutely aware that this has been going on for a long time and it will have tested your resilience and patience. What impact do the recent announcements have on your organisation and on the collective?

- What are the key risks to being successful with Track-2 and how can we work together to help mitigate those?

[REDACTED]

- What can we do to expand the cluster to increase the emitter base in order to capture and store more CO₂?
- I'm also interested in unlocking the storage potential of Scotland, how do you think we are positioned compared with other UK clusters and internationally, and what more do we need to do to convert geological advantage into competitive advantage.

CCUS BACKGROUND NOTES

- CCUS is vital for a just transition to net zero. Advice from the Climate Change Committee describes CCUS as a “necessity, not an option” to achieve net-zero emissions.
- The development of strategically located CCUS infrastructure in Scotland's industrial clusters in Grangemouth and the North-East could protect and ensure the just transition for important domestic industries into a low-carbon future, protecting jobs and utilising existing skills. There is no technological alternative currently available for key strategic and economically significant industries.
- As set out in the Bute House Agreement, the Scottish Government agrees that any strategy for deployment of CCUS must enable decarbonisation at pace and cannot be used to justify unsustainable levels of fossil fuel extraction or impede Scotland's just transition to net zero.
- Scottish Government economic scenario analysis shows CCUS would have a positive impact on the Scottish economy. In 2045 Scottish GDP could be 1.3-2.3% (£3.8Bn-£6.7Bn) higher in scenarios with CCUS, than without.
- Economic modelling by the Scottish Cluster estimates that by deploying CCUS, hydrogen and direct air capture technologies in Scotland, could support an average of 15,100 jobs between 2022-2050, with a peak of 20,600 jobs in 2031.

The Scottish Cluster

- The Scottish Cluster is a group of Industrial Emitters which will be linked to the Acorn Transport and Storage (T&S) system by pipeline to take advantage of Oil and Gas legacy infrastructure, with the aim of capturing and permanently storing 5 Mega Tonnes of CO₂- emissions per year by 2030. These include:
 - St Fergus – CO₂ extraction from St Fergus Gas at SAGE terminal, Acorn Carbon Capture and Acorn Hydrogen
 - Peterhead – Storegga Direct Air Capture, Peterhead CCS Power station (SSE)

- o Central Belt – The Grangemouth Project, Fife Hydrogen Hub
- In October 2021, UKG announced the Scottish Cluster (led by the Acorn Project at St Fergus) was unsuccessful in the Track-1 competition, however it was confirmed as a Track-1 “reserve”.
- In March 2023 Budget, the UK Government announced £20 billion funding for CCUS projects (Track 1 projects in East and North West England, and North Wales), however none of this money was allocated to Scotland.
- Also in March 2023, the UKG published “Powering Up Britain” which also confirmed the Track 2 sequencing process to establish 2 further clusters by 2030, the UK government considers Acorn and Viking T&S systems as “best placed” to meet Track 2 eligibility (subject to due diligence and value for money assessments).
- The UK Government, whilst confirming that Acorn meets the Track 2 criteria, have, inexplicably decided to open up the Track 2 process by inviting other clusters to submit an expression of interest (EOI). Should any EOI be received by the end of April, that will necessitate a selection and assessment stage (competitive procurement). The expectation is that other clusters will submit an EOI.

[REDACTED]

Scotland’s advantages

- Scotland remains among the best placed nations in Europe to deploy CCUS due to our unrivalled access to vast CO₂ storage potential in the North Sea and opportunities to repurpose existing oil and gas infrastructure for CO₂ transport and storage.
- Scotland’s significant CO₂ storage potential and the presence of the Scottish Cluster provides an economic opportunity for Scotland to be at the centre of a European hub for the importation and storage, via shipping, of CO₂ from Europe.
- The Carbon Capture and Storage Association (CCSA) predicts the global CCUS supply chain in 2050 will be £181 billion per year for industry CCUS and £54 billion per year CO₂ transport and storage; the UK Government predicts CCUS will “*deliver £4-5 billion in Gross Value Added by 2050 through exports*”. This offers Scottish businesses a huge international market to be a part of in the future and will deliver significant economic opportunities

Annex F – CCUS Top Lines

The Scottish Government supports Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage – as a common whole-system decarbonisation infrastructure with the flexibility to adapt over time to play a central role across the decarbonisation strategies of key sectors such as heat, industry and power.

- CCUS can play a pivotal role in achieving a just transition for our workforces, capitalising on existing skills and expertise to create many good, green jobs in the coming years.
- Scotland can be considered among the best placed nations in Europe to deploy CCS, with our unrivalled access to a vast CO₂ storage potential of up to 46 gigatonnes and our opportunities to repurpose existing oil and gas infrastructure. This presents us with an economic opportunity in future to be at the centre of a European hub for the importation and storage of CO₂ from Europe.

While we welcome the UK Government's confirmation that the Scottish Cluster is eligible for Track 2, there is still no certainty around when funding will be awarded.

- The Scottish Cluster is absolutely vital for a just transition to net zero - not just in Scotland, but across the UK.
- The UK Government's decision not to give the Scottish Cluster clear and definitive Track-1 status in its CCUS cluster sequencing process is illogical.
- We do not hold all the necessary legislative and regulatory levers needed to support the Scottish Cluster, as they are not devolved. We continue to call on the UK Government to work with us, and provide the certainty and support required to accelerate the Scottish Cluster project.
- In March 2023 Budget, the UK Government announced £20 billion funding for CCUS projects (Track 1 projects in East and North West England, and North Wales), however none of this money was allocated to Scotland.
- Also in March 2023, the UKG published "Powering Up Britain" which also confirmed the Track 2 sequencing process to establish 2 further clusters by 2030, the UK government considers Acorn and Viking T&S systems as "best placed" to meet Track 2 eligibility (subject to due diligence and value for money assessments).
- The UK Government, whilst confirming that Acorn meets the Track 2 criteria, have, inexplicably decided to open up the Track 2 process by inviting other clusters to submit an expression of interest (EOI). Should any EOI be received by the end of April, that will necessitate a selection and assessment stage (competitive procurement). The expectation is that other clusters will submit an EOI.

We are committed to supporting the continued growth and development of the Scottish Cluster to ensure that Scotland reaches its net zero goals by 2045.

- We have provided funding and policy support since 2017 to the Scottish Cluster's Acorn CCS project at St. Fergus through its feasibility and development phases.
- We have offered on several occasions to assist the UK Government with the affordability of delivering the Scottish Cluster. This includes our offer to His

Majesty's Treasury to deploy £80m funding from our EETF. We stand ready to deliver on this commitment.

- Due to delays with UK Government announcing the Scottish Cluster, we have re-profiled our offer of financial support into subsequent years.

Advice from the Climate Change Committee describes CCUS as a “necessity, not an option” to achieve net-zero emissions.

- All credible evidence advice and analysis has demonstrated that CCUS is critical for meeting statutory emissions targets – not just in Scotland, but across the UK.
- Our ambition to reach net zero by 2045 is based on the Climate Change Committee's advice, which noted Scotland can achieve this in part due to “the excellent opportunities to remove CO2 from the atmosphere through carbon capture and storage in Scotland”.
- Without the swift deployment of CCUS in Scotland our pathway to net-zero emissions, set out in the Climate Change Act, becomes extremely challenging.
- Scotland's commitment to a just transition includes supporting industries whose only realistic route to decarbonise is via CCUS.
- The Aug 2021 agreement between the Scottish Government and the Scottish Green Party recognises that “*CCUS technologies will play a part in a just transition*”.
- The agreement also states that “*(t)he Scottish Government remains supportive of these technologies as part of the energy transition and in particular it remains committed to supporting the delivery of the Acorn project*”.

The Global CCS Institute's (GCCSI) latest Global Status Report 2022 identified a total of 30 successful CCS projects in operation, a further 11 under construction and 153 in development.

- The oldest operational project, Sleipner in Norway, has operated for over 25 years and is estimated to have reduced emissions by 1MT/year over its lifespan.
- There are also many more CCS facilities already operating on a pilot or demonstrator basis, or that are at advanced stages of development.
- CCS projects, like any new industrial scale technologies, may experience challenges in construction and operation. This is normal and to be anticipated, will be project specific, often relating to engineering, and expected to decrease as more projects are built and knowledge and experience shared. The global experience so far has demonstrated that such challenges can be managed. This is not a reason not to deploy CCS, nor to consider the technology ‘not proven’.
- A recent study shows that the probability of CO2 leaks from a regional CCS industry is low. If they do occur, the spatial scale of impact will be small, and the potential environmental impacts will be minimal.

T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP
Secretary of State
Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET
Secretary.State@energysecurity.gov.uk

15 June 2023

Dear Grant

Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS)

I note your correspondence with the Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy, Neil Gray, and Cabinet Secretary for New Zero and Just Transition, Màiri McAllan, on 21 April 2023 regarding the CCUS Track-2 process which you launched in March and am writing to you regarding that.

Whilst I was disappointed that the Acorn Transport & Storage (T&S) system was given 'reserve' status for Track-1, I welcome the *Powering up Britain* announcement on 30 March of its inclusion as 1 of the 2 projects which are 'best placed' to meet Track-2 eligibility. However, I was also disappointed to note that despite confirming the strength of the Acorn proposition, the Track-2 process introduced an Expressions of Interest (Eol) opportunity for other T&S systems to submit their Eol by 28 April. As part of that process, you confirmed that you "*intend to provide an update in the summer, following the closure of the expression of interest process*". As we are now approaching mid-summer and that the Eol process has been closed for over six weeks, I would be grateful if you could confirm a concrete timeline for Track-2, so that industry, investors and the workforce gets the certainty it requires.

As you have recognised, the Acorn project and the Scottish Cluster is one of the most advanced CCUS projects in the UK with an ability to deploy and scale at pace, which will make a considerable contribution to your requirement of storing 10Mt CO₂ per year by 2030 from Track-2 clusters. Whilst I support these 2030 ambitions, I am struck by the time it has taken to progress Track-1. The Track-2 guidance states that you "*expect any Track-2 assessment process to be streamlined, building on lessons learned from Track-1*". I urge you to confirm that you will streamline the Track-2 process to ensure that the award of Acorn, and the confirmation of and negotiations with capture projects are concluded at pace.

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Finally, the Mission Zero (Skidmore) review stated that “*government should take a pragmatic approach to cluster selection...allowing the most advanced clusters to progress more quickly*”. It is unfortunate that, as stated in the Track-2 guidance note, you are only ‘considering’ this recommendation. I am calling on you to confirm that you accept this recommendation and that you will take a pragmatic approach, having accepted that Acorn is one of the most advanced Transport & Storage systems.

I look forward to hearing from you. My officials are ready to engage with your team further on this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gillian Martin', with a stylized, flowing script.

Gillian Martin

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www.gov.scot

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Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP
Secretary of State
Department for Energy Security
& Net Zero
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

www.gov.uk

Gillian Martin MSP
Minister for Energy

June 2023

Dear Gillian,

Thank you for your letter date 15 June 2023 regarding Track-2 of the carbon capture, usage and storage (CCUS) cluster sequencing process, the Acorn transport and storage system and the Scottish Cluster.

The UK is ideally positioned to lead the global development and deployment of CCUS, with the world class industrial experience and world leading capital investment landscape to enable innovation, development, and growth.

On 30 March 2023 we launched the Track-2 process and at this stage are seeking to identify two transport & storage (T&S) systems. We announced the Acorn T&S system as one of the leading contenders for Track-2, and opened an expression of interest (Eoi) process for other T&S systems that believe they meet the eligibility criteria. The intention of the Eoi process has always been to test our view that the Acorn and Viking T&S systems are best placed to deliver Government's objectives for Track-2.

We are grateful for the Scottish Cluster's continued engagement and have recognised the maturity of the proposals in stating our view that, based on engagement to date and the Track-1 process, Acorn meets the Track-2 eligibility criteria and need not submit an Eoi. However, allowing all eligible T&S systems an opportunity to express an interest in the Track-2 process is in line with our objectives of ensuring that Track-2 optimises delivery and represents value for money.

The government will provide an update on next steps for Track-2 in the summer, considering the information gathered through the Eoi process, and taking into account the recommendations of the Net Zero Review.

Your sincerely,

RT HON GRANT SHAPPS MP
Secretary of State for Energy Security & Net Zero

T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP
Secretary of State
Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET
Secretary.State@energysecurity.gov.uk

15 June 2023

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I look forward to hearing from you. My officials are ready to engage with your team further on this matter.

Yours sincerely

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Liam Kerr MSP
M2.17
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

15 June 2023

Dear Mr Kerr,

CCUS Cluster Sequencing – Funding

As Minister with responsibility for energy policy the First Minister has asked me to respond to your letter.

“When we look to invest and to unleash the potential of the green economy in the north-east, what do we get from the Tory UK Government? We get complete and utter inaction. There is not a single penny of funding towards the Scottish cluster or the Acorn project.”

While we welcome previous funding the UK Government has contributed through the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund and Innovation Funding, it is a matter of fact that the UK Government has provided no funding through the cluster sequencing process for Acorn or the Scottish Cluster, and continues to delay the process. As a result the First Minister is correct in his observation.

I would ask that you reflect that despite the narrative from UK Government about supporting CCUS, they continue to fail to provide a clear timeline or funding for Track 2. As you have expressed an interest in the cluster sequencing process for Acorn I hope you will now write to the UK Government and call for them to end their delays and provide the necessary funding to allow this vital contribution to Scotland's green economy to move forward.

As to integrity, I am happy to confirm that we in the Scottish Government remain wholly committed to supporting the development and deployment of CCUS and stand firmly behind our commitment to make available up to £80m of financial support. Despite professing support in the past, and despite this issue being raised with the Prime Minister, the UK Government has sadly failed to take the action needed to match its rhetoric on this matter.

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Yours sincerely

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The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Liam Kerr MSP
Member of the Scottish Parliament for North East Scotland Region

Humza Yousaf MSP
First Minister
Scottish Government, St. Andrews House
Regent Road
Edinburgh
EH1 3DG

LK1796

14th June 2023

Dear First Minister,

Misleading the chamber

During a response to questioning from Douglas Ross MSP on the 1st June 2023, at First Minister's Questions, you said that the United Kingdom Government has given "...not a single penny of funding towards the Scottish cluster or the Acorn project..." [Meeting of the Parliament: 01/06/2023 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

At the conclusion of that session I raised a point of order, saying "Anyone who was in command of his brief would know that the UK Government has, in fact, given more than £40 million to the Scottish cluster... will the Presiding Officer advise the First Minister on how he might correct his latest gaffe?"

The Presiding Officer advised, *inter alia*, "We would always expect that the content of responses address specific questions that have been put and, when members become aware of any inaccuracy, that they take the measures that are available to them in order to make any corrections."

To the best of my knowledge, you have yet to correct the record and set out the accurate position.

The people of Scotland expect their First Minister to conduct himself with integrity and honesty. I therefore remind you of the Presiding Officer's remarks and ask that you both correct the record immediately and make a public apology to the people of Scotland for making misleading and incorrect statements to their Parliament.

Yours sincerely,

Liam Kerr
Member of the Scottish Parliament for North East Scotland Region

M 2.17 The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP
Liam.Kerr.msp@parliament.scot
0131 348 6973



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Liam Kerr MSP
M2.17
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

15 June 2023

Dear Mr Kerr,

CCUS Cluster Sequencing – Funding

As Minister with responsibility for energy policy the First Minister has asked me to respond to your letter.

“When we look to invest and to unleash the potential of the green economy in the north-east, what do we get from the Tory UK Government? We get complete and utter inaction. There is not a single penny of funding towards the Scottish cluster or the Acorn project.”

While we welcome previous funding the UK Government has contributed through the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund and Innovation Funding, it is a matter of fact that the UK Government has provided no funding through the cluster sequencing process for Acorn or the Scottish Cluster, and continues to delay the process. As a result the First Minister is correct in his observation.

I would ask that you reflect that despite the narrative from UK Government about supporting CCUS, they continue to fail to provide a clear timeline or funding for Track 2. As you have expressed an interest in the cluster sequencing process for Acorn I hope you will now write to the UK Government and call for them to end their delays and provide the necessary funding to allow this vital contribution to Scotland's green economy to move forward.

As to integrity, I am happy to confirm that we in the Scottish Government remain wholly committed to supporting the development and deployment of CCUS and stand firmly behind our commitment to make available up to £80m of financial support. Despite professing support in the past, and despite this issue being raised with the Prime Minister, the UK Government has sadly failed to take the action needed to match its rhetoric on this matter.

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Yours sincerely

Gillian Martin

Minister for Energy and the Environment

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EIR 202300369649: Any correspondence involving the current Minister for Energy on the topic of the Acorn carbon capture and storage facility between the dates 1/1/2020 and 2/7/2023.

Information in scope

DOCUMENT 1

For Information Acorn Project - potential announcement (Email sent Friday, July 28, 2023 12:46 PM) – attached separately

DOCUMENT 2

For Information Acorn Project - potential announcement (Email sent Friday, July 28, 2023 11:07 AM) – attached separately

DOCUMENT 3

Briefing - Ms Martin and Claire Mack Intro Meeting - Final - 17 May 2023

Body of the email [IN FULL]:

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 1:31 PM

To: Minister for Energy <MinisterEnergy@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; McCaig C (Callum) <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; Low R (Ragne) <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; SCU Briefings <SCUBriefings@gov.scot>; DECC: Operations Team Mailbox <DOT@gov.scot>

Subject: Briefing - Ms Martin and Claire Mack Intro Meeting - Final - 17 May 2023

[REDACTED], as advised, please find updated briefing (14 pages) to reflect the items for discussion that Scottish Renewable provided us with today.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [she/her] Strategic Co-ordination Team Leader | Strategic Coordination Unit

Directorate for Energy and Climate Change | Scottish Government |  [REDACTED] |

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Attachment 1 of 1 [EXTRACT]:

MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING: Gillian Martin MSP

Annex B – Energy Ambitions

Energy Demand:

[REDACTED AS OUT OF SCOPE]

- **Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage:** The Scottish Government recognises that these technologies will play a part in a just transition and remains supportive of CCUS as part of the energy transition and in particular it remains committed to supporting the delivery of the Acorn project.
- We agree that any strategy for deployment of these technologies must enable decarbonisation at pace and cannot be used to justify unsustainable levels of fossil fuel extraction or impede Scotland's just transition to net zero.

DOCUMENT 4

Briefing for Aberdeen Visit - Thursday 13 April - 09:30 - 12:30

Body of the email [IN FULL]:

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>

Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 9:53 AM

To: Minister for Energy 2023 <MinisterEnergy@gov.scot>

Cc: Hogg A (Andrew) <Andrew.Hogg@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; McCaig C

(Callum) <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: Briefing for Aberdeen Visit - Thursday 13 April - 09:30 - 12:30

Dear PO,

Please note there has been a slight revision in the schedule for Thursday – the Minister will now be having a virtual call with Sarah Potts, Storegga's Head of Hydrogen, rather than her discussion with [REDACTED], their Hydrogen Asset Manager, the time and location of the Storegga meeting has not changed.


I've attached a revised briefing to this thread – the relevant page to replace is **page 9**.

If printing is no longer possible, updated details are as follows:

Storegga One to One – 11:15 – 11:25

You will be meeting virtually with Sarah Potts, Head of Hydrogen for Storegga, who will provide an update on Cromarty Hydrogen, which was shortlisted for UKG funding under the Hydrogen Business Model. The meeting will be facilitated in person by [REDACTED], who is also arranging the following roundtable.

See Annex C for more details

<p>Sarah Potts</p> 	<p>Storegga</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head of Hydrogen at Storegga, previously their Hydrogen Commercial Specialist • Gave evidence at the Scottish Affairs Committee's inquiry into Hydrogen and Carbon Capture in Scotland on importance of connecting demand and market and ensuring transport and storage business models are in place. • Prior to Storegga she worked for Shell in London as a Transition Manager and in Amsterdam as its VP of Innovation Excellence.
<p>[REDACTED]</p>	<p>Storegga</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [REDACTED]

Best,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Policy Adviser | Hydrogen Strategy Team | Energy Industries Division | The Scottish Government | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 11 April 2023 15:09

To: Minister for Energy 2023 <MinisterEnergy@gov.scot>

Cc: Hogg A (Andrew) <Andrew.Hogg@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

[illegible]

(Callum) <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>

Subject: Briefing for Aberdeen Visit - Thursday 13 April - 09:30 - 12:30

Dear PO,

Please find attached a copy of the briefing for Ms Martin's visit to Aberdeen on Thursday 13 April.

To note, the Co Leader of Aberdeen City Council, Ian Yuill, will be present to greet the Minister at the ACHES site in the morning – I have added SpAds into this email chain for awareness.

Please let me know if the Minister has any further questions in advance of the visit.

Best,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Policy Adviser | Hydrogen Strategy Team | Energy Industries Division | The Scottish Government | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 06 April 2023 13:24

To: Minister for Energy 2023 <MinisterEnergy@gov.scot>

Cc: Hogg A (Andrew) <Andrew.Hogg@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>

Subject: Agenda for Aberdeen Visit - Thursday 13 April - 09:30 - 12:30

Dear PO,

Please see below a summary of the agenda for Ms Martin's visit to Aberdeen on Thursday 13 April – full briefing will be provided on Tuesday 11 April as requested.

The visit has been designed to give the Minister hands on experience of long standing hydrogen infrastructure in Aberdeen, through a visit to ACHES hydrogen refuelling station, which has been in operation since 2017. This will be followed by a meeting with key stakeholders in Aberdeen City Council and bp, who are joint venture partners in the Aberdeen Hydrogen Hub. The AHH aims to be a scalable renewable hydrogen production, storage and distribution facility powered by renewable energy, and has been supported by Scottish Government in line with our commitment in the Hydrogen Action Plan to a regional hub approach to hydrogen production.

The Minister will then travel to Storegga's offices, where she will have a short one-

on-one with [REDACTED], Storegga's Hydrogen Asset Manager, to discuss the company's hydrogen ambitions, including its work in partnership with Scottish Power on the Cromarty Hydrogen Project, which was just shortlisted for UK Government funding. Storegga, a hydrogen and carbon capture development company, is one of the partners involved in Acorn Hydrogen and will be present at the following roundtable.

Ms Martin will then attend the Scottish Cluster roundtable discussion to build relationships and discuss next steps on the back of the UK Government 'Powering Up Britain' announcements, which included details of the next stage of the CCUS cluster sequencing process (Track 2).

The Scottish Cluster is a group of Industrial Emitters that will be linked to the Acorn Transport and Storage (T&S) system by pipeline to take advantage of Oil and Gas legacy infrastructure, with the aim of capturing and permanently storing 5 Mega Tonnes of CO2 emissions per year by 2030. These include:

- St Fergus – CO2 extraction from St Fergus Gas at SAGE terminal, Acorn Carbon Capture and Acorn Hydrogen
- Peterhead – Storegga Direct Air Capture, Peterhead CCS Power station
- Central Belt – The Grangemouth Project, Fife Hydrogen Hub

Time	Item
09:30 – 10:45	<p><i>Langdykes Rd, Cove Bay, Aberdeen AB12 3F</i></p> <p>ACHES – Hydrogen Refuelling Site</p> <p>09:30 – 10:05 – Welcomes, tour of facility, opportunity to refuel hydrogen car</p> <p>Meeting with – TBC [REDACTED] (Aberdeen City Council)</p> <p>Aberdeen Hydrogen Hub (AHH)</p> <p>10:05 – 10:45 – Stakeholder meeting with Aberdeen City Council and bp, joint venture partners in AHH. Updates on AHH work to date.</p> <p>Meeting with – TBC [REDACTED] (ACC) & Oliver Taylor (bp)</p>
10:45 – 11:10	<p>Depart ACHES site and travel to Storegga offices</p>
11:15 – 12:30	<p><i>First Floor, Arnhall Business Park, Crown House, Prospect Rd, Westhill AB32 6FE</i></p> <p>Storegga</p> <p>11:15 – 11:25 – Side room discussion with Storegga on their hydrogen plans and recent shortlisting for Hydrogen Production Business Model funding</p>

	<p>Meeting with – [REDACTED] (Storegga)</p> <p>Scottish Cluster Roundtable</p> <p>11:30 – 12:30 – Welcomes, introductions, opening remarks, background on the cluster, reflections on Track-2 announcements, next steps</p> <p>Meeting with – [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (Storegga), [REDACTED], [REDACTED] (Shell), TBC (NSMP), Ronnie Quinn (NECCUS), TBC (SSE)</p>
12:30 – 12:45	Depart

Best,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Policy Adviser | Hydrogen Strategy Team | Energy Industries Division | The Scottish Government | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ

Attachment 1 of 1: ENERGY MINISTER ABERDEEN HYDROGEN AND CCUS VISIT – BRIEFING PACK – attached separately

DOCUMENT 5

DECC-Ms Martin Briefing- Meeting with Scottish Enterprise - - Short version 17 May 2023 (003)

Body of the email [IN FULL]:

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, May 15, 2023 2:26 PM

To: Minister for Energy <MinisterEnergy@gov.scot>

Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; McCaig C (Callum) <Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>; Low R (Ragne) <Ragne.Low@gov.scot>; Pacitti F (Frances) <Frances.Pacitti@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Quinn M (Michelle) <Michelle.Quinn@gov.scot>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; SCU Briefings <SCUBriefings@gov.scot>; DECC: Operations Team Mailbox <DOT@gov.scot>

Subject: DECC-Ms Martin Briefing- Meeting with Scottish Enterprise - - Short version 17 May 2023 (003)

[REDACTED], please find attached briefing (11 pages) for Ms Martin's meeting with Mr Gillespie on 17 May. I have also attached separately the powerpoint slides submitted by SE. These are attached as an erdm link to ensure it doesn't crash inboxes.

CEO SG Briefing Pack April 2023 - SHORT VERSION FINAL (002) details -
Objective ECM (scotland.gov.uk)

As confirmed Fran Pacitti, DD Offshore Wind, will be providing official support,
please forward the diary invite is forwarded to her.

Many thanks

[REDACTED] [she/her] Strategic Co-ordination Team Leader | Strategic
Coordination Unit
Directorate for Energy and Climate Change | Scottish Government | 📞 **[REDACTED]** |
[REDACTED] **[REDACTED]**@gov.scot

Attachment 1 of 1 [EXTRACT]: OFFICIAL – Introductory Meeting with Adrian
Gillespie, Chief Executive, Scottish Enterprise, 17 May 2023, Minister for Energy

**OFFICIAL – Introductory Meeting with Adrian Gillespie, Chief Executive,
Scottish Enterprise, 17 May 2023, Minister for Energy**

**MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING: GILLIAN MARTIN, MINISTER FOR
ENERGY**

ANNEX B

ENERGY AMBITIONS

Energy Demand:

[REDACTED AS OUT OF SCOPE]

- **Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage:** The Scottish Government recognises that these technologies will play a part in a just transition and remains supportive of CCUS as part of the energy transition and in particular it remains committed to supporting the delivery of the Acorn project.
- We agree that any strategy for deployment of these technologies must enable decarbonisation at pace and cannot be used to justify unsustainable levels of fossil fuel extraction or impede Scotland's just transition to net zero.

DOCUMENT 6

ENERGY BILL - Briefing for Ms Martin and Mr Bowie meeting on 27 April 2023 - Part
1 of 2

Body of the email [IN FULL]:

From: **[REDACTED]**@gov.scot>

Sent: Monday, April 24, 2023 4:45 PM

To: Minister for Energy 2023 <MinisterEnergy@gov.scot>

To: Minister for Energy 2023; Martin G (Gillian), MSP; Ragne Low; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Kersti Berge; [REDACTED]; Andrew Hogg; [REDACTED];

[REDACTED]; Sue Kearns; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

Subject: Minister Bowie, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero

When: 27 April 2023 09:30-10:00 (UTC+00:00) Dublin, Edinburgh, Lisbon, London.

Where: Queen Elizabeth House

Hi,

Please prepare briefing using the appropriate templates and guidance from Saltire and send to Private Office by **4pm on Monday 24 April**.

Official support is expected at all meetings and engagements unless otherwise agreed with Private Office. Please note that there is a requirement for an official note of all meetings to be produced – this should be done by the most appropriate official supporting the Minister in line with published guidance.

If diary timings do not match the event times you are providing in briefing then please flag this to Private Office immediately.

If there will be external stakeholders attending a Scottish Government building (not Parliament), please submit visitor forms as appropriate.

Please do not forward on this invite - if you require anyone else to be invited please let Private Office know.

Please call to discuss if you have any queries or are likely to miss the deadline.

Thank you very much,

[REDACTED] (she/her)

Assistant Private Secretary to Minister for Energy

T: [REDACTED] | E: MinisterEnergy@gov.scot

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Regent Road, EDINBURGH EH1 3DG

Attachment 1 of 1 [EXTRACT]:

MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING: GILLIAN MARTIN, MINISTER FOR ENERGY

Annex D

Action the UK Government must take to support our net zero energy system

In recent meetings with officials, you (and Mr Gray) asked for a list of issues to raise with UK Government counterparts, in advance of your meeting with Mr Bowie. Issues are summarised below and in the following table.

- 1. Carbon Capture and Storage** – On 30 March ('Green Day') UKG confirmed Acorn as "best placed" to meet the Track 2 eligibility criteria but opened up the Track-2 process inviting other clusters to submit an expression of interest (EOI). Should any EOI be received by the end of April, that will necessitate a selection and assessment stage (competitive procurement). There is also still no timetabled solution for when UKG will confirm Track-2.

What we need:

- While welcoming the UK Government including Acorn as one of the 2 projects that are best able to meet Track 2 eligibility, **we continue to urge the UK Government to provide a clear timetable for when Track 2 clusters will be awarded.**

[REDACTED]Why: CCUS will form a vital part of our just transition to a net zero future, but the Scottish Government does not hold all the necessary legislative and regulatory levers needed to support the Scottish Cluster, as they are not devolved. UKG support including access to UKG business models is therefore essential to providing the certainty and support required to accelerate the Scottish Cluster project.

[REDACTED AS OUT OF SCOPE]

A list of top issues for the UK Government to act on to facilitate the energy transition

<p>UK Government action to support delivery of the Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan</p>
--

[REDACTED AS OUT OF SCOPE]

ESJTP theme 3 - Energy Demand	
Carbon Capture and Storage	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. While welcoming the UK Government including Acorn as one of the 2 projects that are best able to meet Track 2 eligibility, we continue to urge the UK Government to provide a clear timetable for when Track 2 clusters will be awarded. 2. [REDACTED]

DOCUMENT 7

Energy Minister Ms Martin - Briefing for Aberdeen Visit - Thursday 13 April

Body of the email [IN FULL]:

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2023 3:09 PM

To: Minister for Energy 2023 <MinisterEnergy@gov.scot>

Cc: Hogg A (Andrew) <Andrew.Hogg@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;
[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; McCaig C (Callum)
<Callum.Mccaig@gov.scot>

Subject: Briefing for Aberdeen Visit - Thursday 13 April - 09:30 - 12:30

Dear PO,

Please find attached a copy of the briefing for Ms Martin's visit to Aberdeen on Thursday 13 April.

To note, the Co Leader of Aberdeen City Council, Ian Yuill, will be present to greet the Minister at the ACHES site in the morning – I have added SpAds into this email chain for awareness.

Please let me know if the Minister has any further questions in advance of the visit.

Best,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Policy Adviser | Hydrogen Strategy Team | Energy Industries Division | The Scottish Government | Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 06 April 2023 13:24

To: Minister for Energy 2023 <MinisterEnergy@gov.scot>

Cc: Hogg A (Andrew) <Andrew.Hogg@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;
[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;
[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;
[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;
[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>

Subject: Agenda for Aberdeen Visit - Thursday 13 April - 09:30 - 12:30

Dear PO,

Please see below a summary of the agenda for Ms Martin's visit to Aberdeen on Thursday 13 April – full briefing will be provided on Tuesday 11 April as requested.

The visit has been designed to give the Minister hands on experience of long standing hydrogen infrastructure in Aberdeen, through a visit to ACHES hydrogen refuelling station, which has been in operation since 2017. This will be followed by a meeting with key stakeholders in Aberdeen City Council and bp, who are joint venture partners in the Aberdeen Hydrogen Hub. The AHH aims to be a scalable renewable hydrogen production, storage and distribution facility powered by renewable energy, and has been supported by Scottish Government in line with our commitment in the Hydrogen Action Plan to a regional hub approach to hydrogen production.

The Minister will then travel to Storegga's offices, where she will have a short one-

on-one with [REDACTED], Storegga's Hydrogen Asset Manager, to discuss the company's hydrogen ambitions, including its work in partnership with Scottish Power on the Cromarty Hydrogen Project, which was just shortlisted for UK Government funding. Storegga, a hydrogen and carbon capture development company, is one of the partners involved in Acorn Hydrogen and will be present at the following roundtable.

Ms Martin will then attend the Scottish Cluster roundtable discussion to build relationships and discuss next steps on the back of the UK Government 'Powering Up Britain' announcements, which included details of the next stage of the CCUS cluster sequencing process (Track 2).

The Scottish Cluster is a group of Industrial Emitters that will be linked to the Acorn Transport and Storage (T&S) system by pipeline to take advantage of Oil and Gas legacy infrastructure, with the aim of capturing and permanently storing 5 Mega Tonnes of CO2 emissions per year by 2030. These include:

- St Fergus – CO2 extraction from St Fergus Gas at SAGE terminal, Acorn Carbon Capture and Acorn Hydrogen
- Peterhead – Storegga Direct Air Capture, Peterhead CCS Power station
- Central Belt – The Grangemouth Project, Fife Hydrogen Hub

Time	Item
09:30 – 10:45	<p><i>Langdykes Rd, Cove Bay, Aberdeen AB12 3F</i></p> <p>ACHES – Hydrogen Refuelling Site</p> <p>09:30 – 10:05 – Welcomes, tour of facility, opportunity to refuel hydrogen car</p> <p>Meeting with – TBC [REDACTED] & [REDACTED] (Aberdeen City Council)</p> <p>Aberdeen Hydrogen Hub (AHH)</p> <p>10:05 – 10:45 – Stakeholder meeting with Aberdeen City Council and bp, joint venture partners in AHH. Updates on AHH work to date.</p> <p>Meeting with – TBC [REDACTED] (ACC) [REDACTED] (bp)</p>
10:45 – 11:10	Depart ACHES site and travel to Storegga offices
11:15 – 12:30	<p><i>First Floor, Arnhall Business Park, Crown House, Prospect Rd, Westhill AB32 6FE</i></p> <p>Storegga</p>

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;
[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;
[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;
[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;
[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;
[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Palmer MR (Mike) <Mike.Palmer@gov.scot>

Subject: Briefing Assessment of Labour Proposals

Dear POs/Cab Secs/Ministers,

Please find attached a briefing providing an initial assessment, for information, of the Labour Party's 'Make Britain a Clean Energy Superpower' proposals launched on 19 June.

Best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (He/Him)
Senior Policy Manager
Negative Emissions & Thermal Electricity
Energy Strategy and Markets Unit
Energy and Climate Change Directorate
Scottish Government
T:[REDACTED]



If you receive this email late at night, early in the morning, or at the weekend - it means I am working flexibly. Flexibility works for me, but please do not feel that you should have to pick this up outside of your own normal working hours.

Attachment 1 of 1 [EXTRACT]:

From: **[REDACTED]**
Energy Strategy and Markets, Energy and Climate Change Directorate
26 June 2023

Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work and Energy

Minister for Energy and Environment

1. Labour Green Prosperity Plan Announcement – Assessment of Energy Proposals

1.1 Priority and Purpose

1. To provide an initial assessment, for information, of the Labour Party's 'Make Britain a Clean Energy Superpower' proposals launched on 19 June.

1.2 Context and Issues

[REDACTED AS OUT OF SCOPE]

Annex B: Lines

[REDACTED AS OUT OF SCOPE]

- A) Proposal:** Deliver industrial decarbonisation in Grangemouth protecting thousands of jobs in heavy industry and creating more in CCS and hydrogen.
Lines to take:

[REDACTED AS OUT OF SCOPE]

- The deployment of CCUS via the Scottish Cluster and the development of a domestic hydrogen sector is necessary to accelerate decarbonisation. These technologies will play an important role in supporting a just transition, and present significant long-term economic opportunities (SG assessment is large-scale hydrogen production and export could create and protect more than 300,000 jobs).
- The Scottish Cluster is absolutely vital for a just transition to net zero – not just in Scotland where the target of reaching Net Zero is 2045, but also for the UK's 2050 target.
- The Scottish Government welcomes the inclusion of Acorn as one of the 2 projects that are best able to meet Track 2 eligibility, which is confirmation of the strength of the original proposition. However, the Scottish Government is bitterly disappointed that there is still no timetabled solution for when UK Government will confirm Track-2, which adds further delay to an already delayed process.
- Despite the narrative from UK Government about supporting CCUS they continue to fail to provide a clear timeline for Track 2, merely confirming that they "intend to provide an update in the summer, following the closure of the expression of interest process". This is entirely unacceptable and layers further uncertainty on top of never-ending delays which compromises our climate change commitments and just transition ambitions.
- Low carbon (blue) hydrogen coupled with CCS offers strong opportunities for transition of the oil and gas industry in line with the recommendations of the Just Transition Commission.
- CCUS will establish the opportunities to decarbonise industry and pave the way for establishing the transportation and storage infrastructure to support the growing hydrogen economy in Scotland. The Scottish Government encourage industry to transition as quickly as possible away from production and use of unabated hydrogen and achieve the lowest possible emissions rates as part of their decarbonisation planning.

[REDACTED AS OUT OF SCOPE]

DOCUMENT 9

Body of the email [IN FULL]:

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot>

Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2023 6:04 PM

To: zzzCabinet Secretary for Net Zero & Just Transition <CabSecNZJT@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands <CabSecRALRI@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Wellbeing Economy, Fair Work & Energy <CabSecWEFWE@gov.scot>; Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance <DFMCSF@gov.scot>; Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>; Minister for Green Skills, Circular Economy and Biodiversity <MinisterforGSCEB@gov.scot>; Minister for Local Government Empowerment & Planning <MinisterLGEP@gov.scot>; Minister for Small Business, Innovation, Tourism and Trade <MinisterSBITT@gov.scot>; Minister for Transport <MinisterFT@gov.scot>; Minister for Zero Carbon Buildings, Active Travel & Tenants' Rights <MinisterforZCBATTR@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Berge K (Kersti)

<Kersti.Berge@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@transport.gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@transport.gov.scot>; DG Net Zero <DGNetZero@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Fitzgerald J (John) <John.Fitzgerald@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Fuller S (Simon) <Simon.Fuller@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Gillespie G (Gary) <Gary.Gillespie@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Johnston K (Kathy)

<Kathy.Johnston@gov.scot>[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Laing C (Catriona)

<Catriona.Laing@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@transport.gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Raines P (Philip) <Philip.Raines@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@forestry.gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@forestry.gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Signorini D (David) <David.Signorini@gov.scot>; Corbett

GN (Gavin) <Gavin.Corbett@gov.scot>; Dobson L (Leanne)

<Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot>; Huyton H (Harry) <Harry.Huyton@gov.scot>;

McAllister C (Colin) <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>

Subject: 2021 GHG STATS: Draft Parliamentary Statement, SCANCE note, Briefing Pack and Official Statistics publication

OFFICIAL - SENSITIVE: The attached documents contain pre-release Official Statistics and cannot be shared with others until after 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday 20 June 2023

Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net-Zero and Just Transition

copy - PS/First Minister, Private Offices of members of the Cabinet Sub-Committee for the Climate Emergency, SpAds and officials with pre-release access (PRA) as above

This is to provide the above noted package of policy advice and briefing materials in relation to the Scottish 2021 GHG emissions statistics, ahead of publication at 09:30 on Tuesday 20 June. A pre-meet for the Cabinet Secretary TNZJT with officials is scheduled for tomorrow morning 10:30 (16 June).

This advice builds from the earlier submission of 13 June. The present documents – in particular the briefing pack for the Q&A session following the parliamentary statement (currently overlength) – have been prepared so as to be stand-alone. The briefing pack is structured so critical information is contained within 15 pages (Annexes A – D). This is followed by a series of subject specific briefs covering the wider policy context.

[REDACTED]

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Team Leader – Climate Adaptation & Legislation
Climate Change Division | Scottish Government

Mobile: **[REDACTED]**



 Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

Attachment 1 of 4 [Extract]:

[REDACTED AS OUT OF SCOPE]

[REDACTED] Attachment 2 of 4: [REDACTED AS OUT OF SCOPE]

Attachment 3 of 4: [REDACTED AS OUT OF SCOPE]

Attachment 4 of 4 [EXTRACT]:

CABINET SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, NET ZERO & JUST TRANSITION

BRIEFING FOR STATEMENT ON 2021 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS STATISTICS

[REDACTED AS OUT OF SCOPE]

INDUSTRY (INC. BUSINESSES)

[REDACTED AS OUT OF SCOPE]

ISSUE - UKG delays in confirming Track 2 status for Acorn CCUS system and the Scottish Cluster: The UK Government needs to provide urgent certainty on the timeline and funding for awarding Track 2 status to Acorn and the Scottish Cluster. Despite the narrative from UK Government about supporting CCUS, they continue to fail to provide a clear timeline or funding for Track 2. This is entirely unacceptable and layers further uncertainty on top of never-ending delays which are impacting investor confidence and compromises our climate change commitments and just transition ambitions.

Scotland is committed to a just transition to net-zero by 2045 and decarbonisation of industry is 'mission critical', unfortunately the key levers to bring about large-scale industrial emissions reductions are reserved to UKG.

- This includes the deployment of carbon capture utilisation and storage (CCUS), fuel switching of industrial processes, regulation, subsidy (through providing capital and revenue support to incentivise technologies and investment decisions) and trading of carbon allowances and credits via the UK Emissions Trading Scheme.

Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (CCUS)

- CCUS is vital for a just transition to net zero. Advice from the Climate Change Committee describes CCUS as a “necessity, not an option” to achieve net-zero emissions.
- The development of strategically located CCUS infrastructure in Scotland’s industrial clusters in Grangemouth and the North-East could protect and ensure the just transition for important domestic industries into a low-carbon future, protecting jobs and utilising existing skills.
- Scottish Government welcome the inclusion of the Acorn project as one of two that are best able to meet Track 2 eligibility for UK Government Cluster Sequencing Programme, which is confirmation of the strength of the original proposition.
- However, we are bitterly disappointed that there is still no timetabled solution for when UK Government will confirm Track-2, which adds further delay to an already delayed process and impacts progress against our climate change commitments.

[REDACTED AS OUT OF SCOPE]

DOCUMENT 10

Body of the email [IN FULL]:

From: DESNZ cabinet committees <desnz.cabinetcommittees@beis.gov.uk>
Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2023 3:43 PM
To: Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>
Cc: DESNZ cabinet committees <desnz.cabinetcommittees@beis.gov.uk>; Secretary Of State (Grant Shapps) <Secretary.State@energysecurity.gov.uk>; secretaryofstate@ukgovscotland.gov.uk; SOMinCorr@ukgovscotland.gov.uk
Subject: Correspondence from the Minister for Energy and the Environment - CCUS Track-2 process (DESNZ Ref: CC2023/14702)

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached response from DESNZ SoS to the Minister for Energy and the Environment' letter of 15 June (also attached for ease of reference), concerning the cluster sequencing for carbon capture, usage and storage (CCUS) - Track-2 process.

Please note that this correspondence is only being issued by email.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero

[REDACTED]
Cabinet Correspondence Officer | PSPO
Tel: [REDACTED] | Mobile: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@beis.gov.uk
Cabinet Committees, Special Advisers' Office,
Abbey 1, 8th Floor, 1 Victoria Street, London
SW1H 0ET
www.gov.uk/desnz

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot <[REDACTED]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** MinisterEE@gov.scot
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2023 1:00 PM
To: Secretary Of State (Grant Shapps) <Secretary.State@energysecurity.gov.uk>
Cc: MinisterEE@gov.scot
Subject: Correspondence from the Minister for Energy and the Environment

Good Afternoon,

Please see attached correspondence from the Minister for Energy and the Environment.

[REDACTED]

Private Secretary to Minister for Energy and the Environment – Gillian Martin

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | [REDACTED]

All emails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Office do not keep official records of such emails or attachments.

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Communications with the Scottish Government may be monitored or recorded in order to secure the effective operation of the system and for other lawful purposes. The views or opinions contained within this e-mail may not necessarily reflect those of the Scottish Government.

Attachment 1 of 2 (Letter from Minister for Energy and Environment to Secretary of State for DESNZ) – attached separately

Attachment 2 of 2 (Letter in response from Secretary of State for DESNZ to Minister for Energy and Environment) – attached separately

DOCUMENT 11:

Body of the email [IN FULL]:

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Energy and the Environment

Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2023 1:00 PM

To: Secretary.State@energysecurity.gov.uk

Cc: Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>

Subject: Correspondence from the Minister for Energy and the Environment

Good Afternoon,

Please see attached correspondence from the Minister for Energy and the Environment.

[REDACTED]

Private Secretary to Minister for Energy and the Environment – Gillian Martin

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | [REDACTED]

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Attachment 1 of 1 (Letter from Minister for Energy and Environment to Secretary of State for DESNZ) – attached separately.

DOCUMENT 12:

Body of the email [IN FULL]:

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Energy and the Environment

Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2023 12:18 PM

To: [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; Leanne Dobson <Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Andrew Hogg <Andrew.Hogg@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>

Subject: RE: FM response to Liam Kerr MSP 15 June 22

Good Afternoon [REDACTED],

Thanks for this.

I have now sent the letter and have attached for reference.

[REDACTED]

Private Secretary to Minister for Energy and the Environment – Gillian Martin

The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | [REDACTED]

All emails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Office do not keep official records of such emails or attachments.

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot>

Sent: 15 June 2023 09:45

To: Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; Leanne Dobson <Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Andrew Hogg <Andrew.Hogg@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>;

[REDACTED]@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>
Subject: FM response to Liam Kerr MSP 15 June 22

PO,

The First Minister received a letter from Liam Kerr MSP (attached) and has requested that given the matter relates to energy, that Ms Martin responds.

Please find attached a draft response for Ms Martin's consideration.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - Head of CCUS and Industrial Decarbonisation - Directorate of Energy and Climate Change
Mob: [REDACTED]



If you receive this email late at night, early in the morning, or at the weekend - it means I am working flexibly. Flexibility works for me, but please do not feel that you should have to pick this up outside of your own normal working hours.

Attachment 1 of 2 (Email Message)

From: [REDACTED]@gov.scot> **On Behalf Of** Minister for Energy and the Environment
Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2023 12:18 PM
To: Liam.Kerr.msp@parliament.scot
Cc: Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>
Subject: Correspondence from the Minister for Energy and the Environment

Good Afternoon,

Please see attached correspondence from the Minister for Energy and the Environment.

[REDACTED]

Private Secretary to Minister for Energy and the Environment – Gillian Martin
The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG | [REDACTED]

All emails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Office do not keep official records of such emails or attachments.

Attachment 2 of 2 (Letter from Minister for Energy and the Environment to Liam Kerr MSP) – attached separately.

DOCUMENT 13:

Body of the email [IN FULL]:

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, June 15, 2023 9:45 AM

To: Minister for Energy and the Environment <MinisterEE@gov.scot>

Cc: First Minister FMQs <FirstMinisterFMQs@gov.scot>; Leanne Dobson <Leanne.Dobson@gov.scot>; Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; Andrew Hogg <Andrew.Hogg@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; [REDACTED]@gov.scot>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>

Subject: FM response to Liam Kerr MSP 15 June 22

PO,

The First Minister received a letter from Liam Kerr MSP (attached) and has requested that given the matter relates to energy, that Ms Martin responds.

Please find attached a draft response for Ms Martin's consideration.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - Head of CCUS and Industrial Decarbonisation - Directorate of Energy and Climate Change
Mob: [REDACTED]



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Attachment 1 of 2 (Letter from Liam Kerr MSP to First Minister) – attached separately.

Attachment 2 of 2 (Draft letter from Minister for Energy and the Environment to Liam Kerr) – attached separately

