

1. Copies of any correspondence between Michael Matheson MSP and Equinor during the months of May 2022 and March 2023.

1. Letter from Cab Sec NZET to Equinor

Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and
Transport
Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Net Zero, Cumhachd agus
Còmhdhail
Michael Matheson BPA/MSP

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

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Our Reference: 202200301299

31 May 2022

Dear David,

Thank you for your letter of 18 May 2022 to Cabinet Secretary Kate Forbes offering a meeting to discuss Peterhead CCS and other investments by Equinor in Scotland. The Cabinet Secretary has asked me to respond as energy matter falls under my portfolio responsibilities as Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero, Energy and Transport.

Subject to Parliamentary business, I would be delighted to accept your invitation.

Please contact my Assistant Private Secretary, [REDACTED] , at CabSecNetZET@gov.scot to make the necessary arrangements.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

MICHAEL MATHESON

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

Tha Ministearanna h-Alba, an luchd-comhairleachaidh sònraichte agus Rùnaire Maireannach fo chumhachan Achd Coiteachaidh (Alba) 2016. Faicibh www.lobbying.scot

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot

2. Briefings and records associated with Michael Matheson MSP's trip to Norway in May 2022 including the 'Energy Transition Summit, Kristiansand' (As referenced on the FOI request response, page 22*).

1. Briefing - Mr Matheson - IEA GOTCP summit – 3 May 2022

MINISTERIAL ENGAGEMENT BRIEFING: Cabinet Secretary Matheson

Copied to: Broadcasting Team

<p><i>Engagement Title</i></p>	<p>Pre-recorded keynote speech for the Opening Plenary Session at “The New Energy Economy”, an Energy Transition Summit. This is for the International Energy Agency Gas and Oil Technology Collaboration Programme – 3 & 4 May</p>
<p><i>Suggested tweet after event</i></p>	<p>Recommended: No tweet as this will be a recording rather than a Cabinet Secretary live appearance.</p>
<p><i>Organisation/Venue and full address including postcode</i></p>	<p>Media Centre, St Andrews House You will be pre-recording the keynote speech.</p>
<p><i>Date and Time of Engagement</i></p>	<p>Date(s): 26 April 2022 Time(s): 11:15 – 11:45</p>
<p><i>Background/Purpose</i></p>	<p>Purpose/Invitation History: Mr Matheson has been asked to participate as a keynote speaker during the summit's opening plenary session on the theme “Transitional Changes and the New Energy Economy”.</p> <p>The organisers have specifically asked Mr Matheson to address his perspective on offshore wind given the recent Scotwind leasing round. Offshore wind policy colleagues have advised that this would be a good event for Mr Matheson to participate in given the importance of Scotwind as well as Norway's interest in the INTOG leasing round.</p>
<p><i>Guest List or Meeting Attendees</i></p>	<p>Attendees include representatives from IMF, EU and the private sector.</p> <p>The other speakers in the same session will be Norway’s Minister of Petroleum and Energy Ms. Marte Mjøs Persen (confirmed), Dr. Fatih Birol, Executive Director of the International Energy Agency, Kristalina Georgieva, CEO in International Monetary Fund and Mr. Christian Bruch, CEO in Siemens Energy (not confirmed).</p>
<p><i>Speech/Speaking Points (if relevant)</i></p>	<p>The pre-recorded speech will be delivered at the conference and will be streamed worldwide.</p>

2. Speaking note – Mr Matheson - IEA GOTCP summit – 3 May 2022

CABINET SECRETARY PRE-RECORDED SPEECH

IEA Gas and Oil Technology Collaboration Programme

Energy Transition Summit - Transitional Changes and the New Energy Economy

Introduction

Good afternoon. I am delighted to speak to you today about the importance of offshore wind in the journey to net zero and how the recent Scotwind leasing auction has been a tremendous vote of confidence in Scotland.

Norway/ Scotland relations

Scotland and Norway share an aligned vision for net zero: from pioneering carbon capture and storage to promoting renewable energy technology.

The Scottish Government values our wide-ranging policy and economic ties with Norway. Our Director of Energy and Climate Change recently met with the Norwegian Energy Ministry's Technology and Industry department to discuss hydrogen, carbon capture and offshore wind.

I hope the opening of our Scottish Government office in Copenhagen later this year will help strengthen collaboration across the Nordic region.

Oil & Gas/ Just Transition

Scotland's position is clear that unlimited extraction of fossil fuels is not consistent with our climate obligations or our ambitious target to become net zero by 2045. The importance of accelerating the transition to renewable energy has also been brought into sharp relief by the illegal invasion of Ukraine.

Our focus is on achieving the fastest possible, just transition— one that delivers jobs, provides economic benefit and ensures our energy security. The oil and gas industry is fundamental in helping countries secure a sustainable future.

The discussion today on technology collaboration is vital. Industry and government must work together to build the energy technologies of the future; delivering commercial innovations that can protect the environment and build energy security.

Scotwind/ Offshore Wind

The Scottish Government expects offshore wind, both fixed and floating, to play a significant role in decarbonising Scotland's energy system.

In January this year, Crown Estate Scotland announced the winners of ScotWind; the world's largest commercial leasing round for floating offshore wind, putting Scotland at the forefront of global developments. I was pleased to see 3 Norwegian companies were successful in bidding.

The combined ambition of ScotWind projects is 25GW of generating capacity, which if approved, would deliver far in excess of our current planning assumption.

Hydrogen

Many successful bidders are also keen to develop green hydrogen. We are assessing ScotWind projects to identify opportunities to meet our ambition of generating 5GW of green and low-carbon hydrogen by 2030 and at least 25GW by 2045, as set out in our draft Hydrogen Action Plan.

With highly specialised technical companies, a skilled workforce, and significant offshore wind resources Scotland is uniquely placed to deliver large scale green hydrogen production. This presents a future export opportunity where Scotland can help meet green hydrogen demand from the UK and Europe.

INTOG

In June this year we expect to open the Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas Decarbonisation (INTOG). This new seabed leasing round will target delivery of 4.5GW of new offshore wind projects. It will support small-scale innovative projects testing new technology or solutions, the outputs of which may contribute to larger ScotWind projects or the development of green hydrogen.

Networks/ Interconnectors

We welcome the UK Government's Offshore Transmission Network Review to improve network infrastructure. Accelerating electricity network investment will be critical in allowing ScotWind projects to connect to the electricity system.

We are also engaging with the UK Government on interconnector policy and regulation including plans to enable multi-purpose interconnectors, which would combine offshore wind connections with links to neighbouring markets.

CCUS

Scotland also has a vast potential for CO2 storage. The depleted gas fields and aquifers identified as suitable for injection of CO2 in the Central North Sea are far larger than the totality of Scotland's carbon emissions. Scotland's 'over-supply' of storage assets presents us with an opportunity to be at the centre of a European hub for the importation and storage of CO2.

The Acorn Carbon Capture and Storage project led by Pale Blue Dot expects to be storing between 5-6 million tonnes of CO2 per annum by 2030, growing to 20 million tonnes per annum within a decade of operation and unlocking access to over 20 gigatons of CO2 storage resource within the Central North Sea.

Conclusion

I would like to thank the International Energy Agency for inviting me here today. There is a clear opportunity for us to work together as governments and industry to address the current energy crisis, develop new energy systems that will provide affordable energy for all as well as delivering on our collective ambitions for a net zero future.

Word count: 710

Allocated speaking time: 5 mins 54 seconds

We have agreed a speech of between 5 – 6 minutes.

ANNEX A

Bullet point Summary and media handling (key issues, and issues to avoid)

Key messages to get across on this visit:

- 1. Scotland is leading the way with offshore wind development with the largest commercial leasing round for offshore floating wind in the world.*
- 2. Scotland is using the experience of oil and gas and our offshore and onshore wind experience to develop our hydrogen export offer.*
- 3. Scotland sees Norway as a key partner in the delivery of net zero and we are keen to collaborate at all levels and will use our new Scottish Nordic Hub in Copenhagen to do this.*

Top Facts and figures to mention for increased public/ stakeholder awareness:

1. The combined ambition of ScotWind projects is 25GW of generating capacity.
2. As set out in our draft Hydrogen Action Plan? our ambition is to generate 5GW of green and low-carbon hydrogen by 2030 and at least 25GW by 2045.
3. The Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas Decarbonisation (INTOG) leasing round will target delivery of 4.5GW of new offshore wind and should open for bids in June.

Defensive lines to take on any sensitive issues:

- *Not applicable as no Q&A.*

Case studies:

Not applicable for this speech

Stakeholder support:

- Not applicable for this event.

Have you ensured Scottish Government website is up to date? Link here:

[ScotWind Offshore Wind Leasing Round: statement by the Net Zero Secretary - 18 January 2022 - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/gov.scot)

[Hydrogen action plan: draft - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/gov.scot)

3. Briefings and records associated with Michael Matheson MSP's trip to Norway in March 2023 (as recorded on the 'Ministerial engagements, travel and gifts' document for March 2023).

We have no record of Mr Matheson travelling to Norway in 2023. I have reviewed the document "Ministerial engagements, travel and gifts' document for March 2023" and there is no mention of such a trip.