

Press Release

Tuesday 29 June 2010

Embargo: Immediate



GOVERNMENTS PLANNING REFORMS ARE VITAL FOR INVESTMENT

The Council welcomes the announcement today of the Government's commitment to continue to streamline the consent process for nationally significant infrastructure projects.

David Green, Chief Executive of the Council, comments:

"We welcome the recognition the Government has given to the importance of National Policy Statements and look forward to their early designation whilst further reform takes place."

"The Council also believes that the consents process needs to reflect the pressing national need for new energy infrastructure and to provide clarity for investors, while also ensuring there is meaningful dialogue with local people about proposals that may affect them"

A stable policy framework for planning decisions will be vitally important in attracting the right level of investment to achieve the UK's energy security and climate change goals.

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Notes to Editors

1. The UK Business Council for Sustainable Energy brings together Chief Executives from Centrica, EDF Energy, E.ON UK, RWE npower, Scottish and Southern Energy, Scottish Power and National Grid, working with government towards sustainable energy solutions. It is chaired by Steve Holiday (Chief Executive, National Grid), the Chief Executive is David Green.
2. UKBCSE has been working with the UK's major energy trade associations including the Association of Electricity Producers, the British Wind Energy Association, the Energy Networks Association, the Gas Forum and the Renewable Energy Association to drive forward changes in the planning reforms needed to achieve the UK's energy security and climate change goals.
3. For further information, please contact Jane Smith on 07836 668 449