

Press Release

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Ian Marchant becomes Chairman of UK Business Council for Sustainable Energy

Ian Marchant, Chief Executive of Scottish and Southern Energy plc has become the new Chairman of the UK Business Council for Sustainable Energy.

The UK Business Council brings together the Chief Executives of all of the UK's major energy companies. It works to support the fastest transition possible towards a sustainable energy economy consistent with the delivery of a secure and reliable energy infrastructure.

Ian Marchant succeeds Dr John Roberts CBE, Chief Executive of United Utilities as Chairman of the Council.

Commenting on his appointment, Ian Marchant says:

"We are on the verge of significant changes in the energy sector. We are moving to an energy market that not only places a real value on reducing carbon emissions, but that also sets this in the context of the UK's long standing leadership in tackling climate change. The UK's energy companies have a pivotal role to play and I look forward to working with my fellow CEOs to meet the scale of the challenge before us all."

"Since its creation just over four years ago, the Council has come to play a vital role in driving forward the delivery of a sustainable energy policy for the UK. John Roberts has helped create a firm base for the Council, my task is now to work with my colleagues to build on this."

The UKBCSE works to:

- Provide a high level forum for dialogue between the UK energy industry, government and other stakeholders on the key issues shaping the deployment of sustainable energy technologies;
- Promote the policies, investment and commitment needed to secure market growth, facilitate long term business planning and development;
- Highlight the scope for technological and market innovation to deliver key environmental goals.

John Roberts is to become a Vice President of the Council.

David Green remains the Chief Executive of the Council.

Ends

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www.bcse.org.uk

1. The UK Business Council for Sustainable Energy (UKBCSE) was established in 2002 to facilitate dialogue between business, NGOs and policy makers and advance the sustainable energy agenda in the UK internationally. The Council brings together the Chief Executives of Scottish & Southern plc, E.ON UK, EDF Energy, Scottish Power, National Grid, RWE npower, and United Utilities.
2. Ian Marchant was appointed SSE's Chief Executive in October 2002 having been Finance Director since 1998. He joined Southern Electric in 1992 and joined the Board on becoming Finance Director in 1996. Previously he worked for Coopers & Lybrand (now PwC), including a two year secondment to the Department of Energy working on electricity privatisation.

As well as becoming the new Chairman of the United Kingdom Business Council for Sustainable Energy, he is a member of the Forum for Renewable Energy Development in Scotland and on Ofgem's Environmental Advisory Group. His interests include; rugby (He played for his University); bridge (he loses regularly to his 15-year-old daughter) and reading (current book Vinny Jones - a biography).

3. The formal handover will take place at the UKBCSE Annual Dinner on 28 February 2006. The dinner is being held in collaboration with the TUC/CBI/Carbon Trust joint conference: 'A Sustainable Energy Policy for the UK' taking place during the day.