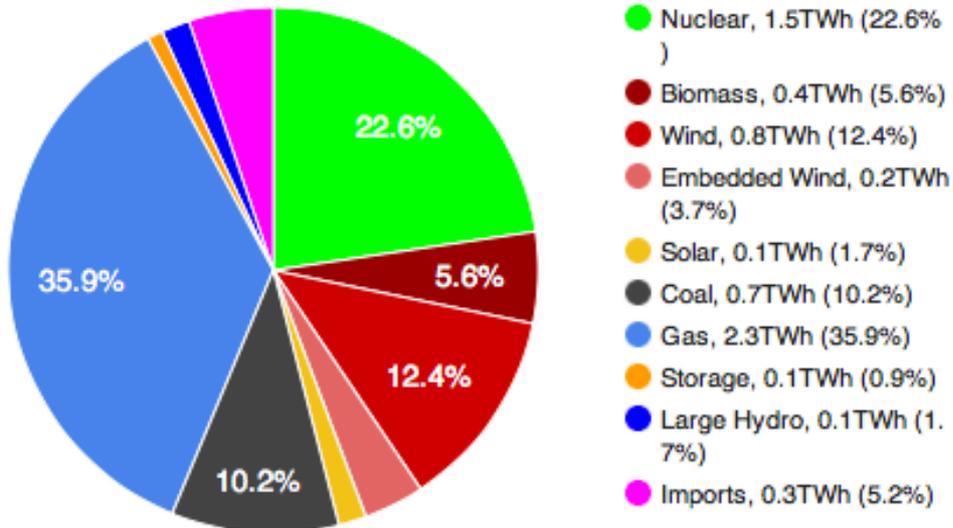


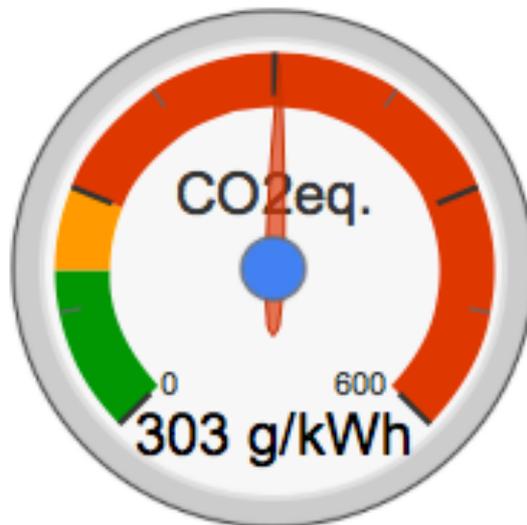
UK Energy Report 16 February – 23 February 2017

GB electricity generation, last 7 days



Source: charts provided by www.mygridgb.com

GB carbon emissions, last 7 days



Source: charts provided by www.mygridgb.com

HEADLINES

Shell shared plans to launch its first UK hydrogen refuelling station – on the M25 motorway. The Cobham station will be the first of three earmarked by Shell for this year, towards its target of 400 sites in several countries by 2023. Matthew Tipper, Vice President, Future Fuels at Shell, noted “hydrogen has the potential to become a clean and versatile transport fuel for the future.” Read more [here](#).

ScottishPower is urging ministers for clarity over Britain’s energy market: do they want a competitive system, or full price regulation? Keith Anderson, Chief Corporate Officer, believes the current ‘halfway house’ situation is rather a mess. ScottishPower believes market competition is having the desired effect. Read more [here](#).

POLICY AND PARLIAMENT

The **Commons Scottish Affairs Select Committee** collected evidence this week on the subject of the oil and gas industry and worker engagement in corporate governance. Witnesses include representatives from **Oil and Gas UK, Opito, Accord Energy, Woollard and Henry, Institute of Directors Scotland** and the **Federation of Small Businesses**. Watch the full stream [here](#). During the inquiry, **John McDonald**, Interim Chief Executive of Opito, claimed that the Government’s apprenticeship levy would have ‘unacceptable’ implications for the Scottish oil and gas sector. Mr McDonald believes it will result in fewer training opportunities. Read more [here](#). Twitter: [@OPITOGlobal](#), [@CaroleLeslie](#), [@IoD_Scotland](#), [@fsb_policy](#)

The **House of Lords Science and Technology Committee** began its inquiry this week into the UK’s priorities for nuclear research and technology. Evidence is being provided by leading academics at **Manchester University, the Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre** and **Imperial College London**. Also giving evidence will be representatives from **Sellafield, Rolls-Royce Nuclear** and **NuScale Power**. Read more [here](#) or watch the meeting [here](#). Twitter: [@SellafieldLtd](#), [@RollsRoyce](#), [@NuScale_UK](#)

The **House of Commons Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee** began hearing this week from **Energy UK** and **Ofgem** as part of its inquiry into competition within the UK energy market. Read more [here](#). Twitter: [@ofgem](#), [@EnergyUKcomms](#), [@CommonsBEIS](#)

Jesse Norman, Minister for Energy, responded to a question this week previously tabled by **Tom Blenkinsop**, Labour MP for Middlesbrough South and East Cleveland, on the potential effects of leaving the **European Atomic Energy Community**. Mr Norman responded that withdrawal from the Euratom Treaty would not diminish the UK’s nuclear ambitions. He added that there is already a framework in place for the UK, as some non-EU countries have a relationship with Euratom through international nuclear cooperation agreements (NCAs). Read more [here](#). Twitter: [@TomBlenkinsop](#), [@Jesse_Norman](#)

Mr Norman also responded to a question from **Dan Jarvis**, Labour MP for Barnsley Central, on when Government plans to publish its strategy on climate change. The plan is due this year and will set out how to reduce emissions through the 2020s. Read more [here](#). Twitter: [@DanJarvisMP](#)

BIOMASS

The consultation process proposed by **Norr Consultants** on the £32.5m Bertha Park Secondary School in Scotland is due to close this week. The school would include its own biomass energy plant as part of the area's wider development over the next 30 years. Read more [here](#).

COAL

The amount of electricity generated from coal fell this week to 10.2% from 12.8% last week.

NATURAL GAS

The GMB Union has claimed that Holyrood and Westminster politicians are at fault for not being prepared for North Sea oil and gas decommissioning which could result in losing out on millions of dollars of potential work. Instead, the money is going to Norwegian yards and Italian energy firms. Read more [here](#). Twitter: [@GMB_union](#)

Totnes residents wrote a Valentine's Day card opposing hydraulic fracturing procedures. The card was signed by more than 200 residents before being given to **Dr Sarah Wollaston**, MP for Totnes in Devon. The card was created as part of the national 'For The Love Of' campaign, which is dedicated to taking action on climate change by engaging with politicians to show them the importance of the climate change issue. Read more [here](#). Twitter: [@sarahwollaston](#)

Cuadrilla faced issues at its Preston New Rose site as this week eight protesters blocked the site entrance. The protest disrupted traffic for more than an hour. Read more [here](#). Twitter: [@CuadrillaUK](#)

NUCLEAR

Labour's new Shadow Secretary of State for BEIS has wasted no time in expressing her disapproval of the Government's current industrial strategy. **Rebecca Long-Bailey MP** questioned the Prime Minister's commitment to the **NuGen** nuclear plant at Moorside in Cumbria and criticised the Government for deciding to rush leaving the Euratom nuclear partnership. Read more [here](#). Twitter: [@RLong_Bailey](#), [@NuGENInc](#)

SOLAR

The **UK Energy Research Centre (UKERC)** warns that the Government must act urgently to support greater network flexibility within the power system or

otherwise risk escalating system costs. The report supports a move towards a more flexible and smarter grid, which includes battery storage facilities. **Leonie Greene**, Head of External Affairs at the **Solar Trade Association**, responded to the report's findings saying that it amplifies the calls to open up the UK market including incorporating solar into the UK's grids. Read more [here](#). Twitter: [@UKERCHQ](#), [@LeonieGreene](#), [@thesolartrade](#)

STORAGE

Nothing of note to report this week.

TIDAL

RenewableUK is calling for wave and tidal power to be integrated into the Government's forthcoming industrial strategy. RenewableUK chief **Hugh McNeil** said the sector is a growth area that is delivering industrial and economic benefits to the UK. Read more [here](#). Twitter: [@RenewableUK](#)

WIND

Nothing of note to report this week.

CONCLUSIONS

Issues of competition within power markets and the Government's position on crucial energy policy continue to drive debate despite the domination of broader headlines on Brexit and the industrial strategy consultation. New innovations continue to surface in the private sector and the Government remains keen to see them positioned to stimulate the next generation of economic growth.