

Minute note - Cross Party Group on Oil and Gas

Held on Wednesday 21 February, 13:00-14:00, Committee Room 3

Committee Room 3, the Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

In Attendance

MSPs:

Alexander Burnett (chair)
Lewis Macdonald MSP
Tavish Scott

Non MSPs:

Kevin Swann, Wood Mackenzie
Alistair Dunbar, PwC
Louise O'Hara Murray, Oil & Gas UK
Rebecca Groundwater, Oil & Gas UK
Gareth Wynn, Oil & Gas UK
Justin Heath, Neptune
Murdo MacRitchie, CNRI
Mark Whittet, Scottish Energy News
Norman McLellan, RCIS
Thonda Miller, Total
Karri Tough, BP
Tim Smith, BP
John Taylor
Martin Fidler, Scottish Enterprise
Mike Pettigrew, Decom North Sea
Linsey Wilson, Scottish Government
Lewis Hurley, Scottish Government
Karen Freel, Perspectiva

Apologies:

Jenny Marra MSP

Non-MSPs:

Arthur McIvor, Dialogue Scotland Ltd
Neil Anderson, Ledingham chalmers
Craig Stevens, PwC
Roger Esson, OGTC
Susan Smart, ECITB
Peter Finnie, SEPA
Jill Glennie, Enquest
Megan Hine, Control Valve Solutions Ltd
Emma White, Statoil

Alexander Burnett MSP (AB) welcomed MSPs and non-MSP members to the Cross-Party Group and opened the meeting. Following this, AB introduced the speakers, Louise O'Hara Murray (LoHM) Environmental Manager from Oil & Gas UK, CNR and Fairfield Energy.

LoHM introduced Oil & Gas UK's overview of decommissioning looking at the position over the next decade; well plugging and abandonment; the regulatory framework and the estimated cost. Murdo MacRitchie, (MM), from CNR gave an overview of who they were and what they did as well as provide an example of their decommissioning work in the North Sea including their Murchison and Ninian North projects. Graeme Fergusson from DecomEnergy gave an overview of their work in the decommissioning space and provided a project overview of their Greater Dunlin Decommissioning work.

The meeting was then opened up into a question and answer session and covered such topics as: how projects were completed within the costings mentioned; the work of the industry in this space in sharing knowledge, meeting environmental and safety guidelines, retaining the work in the UK, the highly skilled workforce in the UK and the exportable knowledge they have which should be utilised. There were also questions around the heavy lift and one lift capability, deep water facilities, cold stacking and the role of the OGA and OSPAR in regulating the work.

AB then thanked all attendees for their input before formally closing the meeting.

The next meeting of the Oil and Gas CPG will be on Wednesday 18th April in Committee Room 4