

# Energy Innovation Board

## Summary note

7<sup>th</sup> June 2016

### Attendees

**Board members & alternates:** Government Chief Scientific Adviser (Chair); DECC Chief Scientific Adviser; Director of Science and Innovation, DECC; Director, Infrastructure Systems, Innovate UK; Director Programme Delivery, EPSRC; Chief Scientific Adviser, DfID; Head of Low Carbon Fuels Division, Energy Technology & International Directorate, DfT; Associate Partner Costs & Outputs and Technical, Ofgem.

**Observers:** Policy Advisor Energy, Environment & Agriculture, Enterprise & Growth Unit, HMT; Senior Livelihoods Advisor Agricultural Research, DfID; Director Infrastructure and Materials, BIS; Energy Innovation Board Secretariat.

### Agenda

#### **Rationale for the Board and Draft Terms of Reference (ToR)**

The Board noted it was being brought together to strengthen the coordination of cross-Government support for energy innovation and followed recommendations in NAO and Select Committee reports. The DECC Secretary of State's letter to Departments proposing the new Board had set out high-level objectives for the Board. The Board discussed draft Terms of Reference (ToR) on the remit and aims of the Board, its membership, communications, operational aspects and a list of reserved matters, including a list of core tasks and agreed to finalise the draft ToR and publish this online.

#### **Special Advisory Function**

The Board considered a proposal to establish an external advisory and analytical support function to support the Board's work. The Board agreed that arrangements for an advisory function would not be set in stone at this stage. The objective would be to steer others and to provide an access point for external organisations to advise and challenge energy innovation policy and support and its coordination.

#### **Independent Board Members**

The Board agreed to recruit 3 independent members. The Board hoped to benefit from their commercial and technical experience as well as international expertise. The aim would be to have independents represented on the Board as soon as possible.

#### **Address from DECC Secretary of State**

The Secretary of State set out the importance of energy innovation as part of the Government's and DECC's policy priorities and in achieving the scale of transition needed. Significant funding had been made available, the focus now must be to ensure we maximise its impact and demonstrate that this has happened. The Secretary of State noted that that should be the central role of the new Board.

#### **Mapping the Government's energy innovation landscape**

The Board took a paper mapping the objectives, budgets, themes and status of each of the major public funders' energy innovation programmes. The Board considered how to prioritise different themes for future meetings and that it should intervene before key decisions were reached. Mission Innovation and ODA budgets were selected for the next Board meeting, plus Smart Systems.

**DECC innovation programme**

The Board took a paper on DECC's energy innovation programme and options on how best to balance support – on R&D, demonstration, and by theme (Smart, Built Environment, Renewables, Industry, and a cross-cutting theme.) Noted that the Board's input would help to refine DECC's work as proposals were developed further.

**AOB**

None.