Energy Innovation Board

Summary note

13th November 2017

Attendees

Board members & alternates: Interim, Government Chief Scientific Adviser (Chair); Chief Scientific Adviser, DFID; Deputy Director Science and Innovation, BEIS; CEO Energy, Atkins (Independent Board member); Director, Infrastructure Systems, Innovate UK; Associate Partner, Costs & Outputs and Technical, Ofgem.

Observers: EIB Secretariat; Head of Energy, Innovate UK; Go Science; HMT; Welsh Government; Scottish Government.

Agenda

Update on the Clean Growth Strategy

The Board received an update on how the Clean Growth Strategy had been received by stakeholders. The forward plan was now with Ministers and it remains a priority to align with the Industrial Strategy.

Energy in the Industrial Strategy

The Board received a paper and presentation on energy in the Industrial Strategy. In discussion the Board noted the importance of supportive policies, seen as the biggest challenge with the 2050 roadmaps released with the Clean Growth Strategy. While Power and Smart Systems had strong policies, Heat and Built Environment still required some planning. Ofgem had a part to play in this to allow innovation to thrive. Innovation in the construction sector remains a challenge.

The journey between innovation ideas and deployment was considered and a better ownership of each component part was highlighted as a more effective way of transitioning research into commercialisation. Board members flagged the success of offshore wind and what went well. This example could be used to learn lessons and as a precedent for other themes. Wind has reached a stage in terms of investment where it is generating enough money to fund its own R&I.

Review of Innovation Challenges, current plans and discussion of future priority areas for the Board

Following the publication of the Clean Growth Strategy, the Board debated the best way to move forward. Deep dives had been commissioned to identify gaps for potential research and innovation. The Board agreed some priorities for its attention during future meetings:

- Reviewing which areas have gone well and which can still improve to spot potential gaps
- Mapping of future projects based on the Clean Growth Strategy
- Considering a whole systems approach including digital aspects
- Considering spend in each thematic sector and whether this was enough
- Continuing with deep dives on specific projects in thematic themes to look for gaps

AOB

None.