

THE FUTURE
OF ENERGY

THE FUTURE
OF ABERDEEN



Pioneering Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group (AREG) is at the cutting edge of the UK race to build a credible sustainable energy footprint.

AREG is a highly unusual and innovative private-public partnership that not only acts as a

catalyst for change, especially with regard to the transfer of upstream oil and gas expertise to offshore renewables. It also undertakes flagship projects, not least the Aberdeen offshore wind demonstrator project and Energy Futures Centre.

AREG was launched almost 10 years ago, when offshore renewables were barely on the UK energy agenda, and is perfectly placed to position the North East of Scotland on the global green, sustainable energies map ... to make Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire as famous for renewables as they are in offshore petroleum.

In short, AREG is a strategic tool, not just for its immediate locale but for Scotland, the wider UK and Europe. However, because of its unique position within the global energy network, thanks to North Sea oil and gas, AREG and its members already reach to the four corners of the globe.

MEMBERSHIP

AREG can really make a difference to any business that wants to take advantage of the North East's position as international leaders in the field of green, clean renewable energy propositions.

Working on behalf of more than 100 members, AREG acts as a centralised hub of key business, research, technology and industry-wide contacts which have the ability to lead Scotland into the next generation of power via clean, renewable energy options.

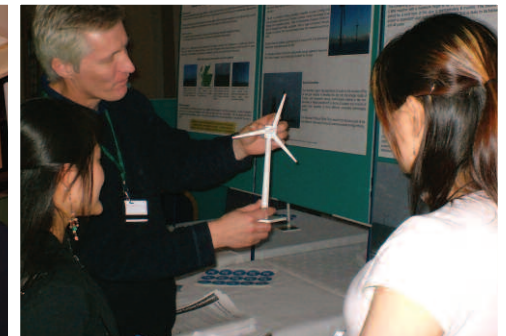
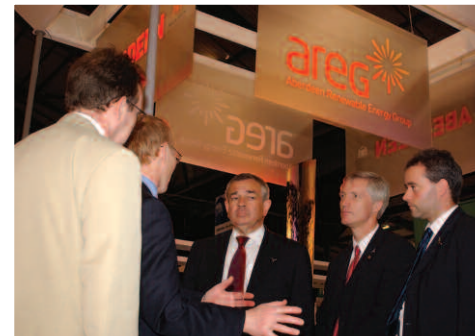
AREG helps members access business opportunities and influential industry players. Membership is open to individuals, businesses and companies involved in the renewable sector.

The group is dedicated to harnessing the vast array of energy-based talent and expertise rooted in Aberdeen City and Shire and channelling it into renewable, green energy solutions.

Membership benefits include joint marketing and promotional schemes, participation in seminars, conferences and workshops, and access to the most up-to-date market intelligence with news and progress information.

Throughout the year, AREG energetically pursues business, industry and project opportunities for its members through a series of key industry events and hosts a variety of energy-based meetings, conferences and workshops.

By taking the lead in renewable energy issues, we are helping Scotland to stand out through our determination to deliver a series of key, visionary renewable energy projects that will impact on the region and industry for many years to come.



KEY PROJECTS

ENERGY FUTURES CENTRE

Ambitious moves are afoot to develop a world-class, state-of-the-art Research Centre for Energy Futures in Aberdeen. The centre would reinforce one of AREG's key roles – to lead the way nationally and globally in research and development – and become synonymous with Aberdeen's Energy Capital status.

The iconic flagship building will be home to new facilities including commercial office space, meeting and conference suites, training, research and the latest in renewable energy technologies and solutions. Prominently located at Aberdeen's beach boulevard, it will merge the energy sector with the city's business and leisure industries in one easy-to-access site.

Championing the 'future of energy' in the city, the centre will be a visible, long-term statement of the region's commitment to renewable energy, bringing together key players in oil and gas and renewable, green and clean energy and creating a hub for the energy industry.

It will be dedicated to promoting industry collaboration, energy policy development, knowledge sharing and leadership on sustainable energy projects with engineering technology research, ICT and green energy applications at its core.

Enhancing the facilities will be a number of specialist careers, employment and recruitment zones, which will be further complemented by a public science centre and viewing gallery.

It is envisaged that the centre will become a hub for oil and gas and renewable industry professionals around the world as well as an international visitor attraction.

ABERDEEN OFFSHORE WINDFARM

This project is one of the most exciting developments for the future of Aberdeen City and Shire and will act as a catalyst by firmly establishing the North East of Scotland as a global renewable energy hub.

Already internationally-renowned as an energy centre of excellence for the international upstream oil and gas industry, the city's rapidly-growing reputation for being a world player in renewable energy is being further reinforced by the creation of the Scottish European Green Energy Centre in the Granite City.

A joint venture between AREG and Swedish utility company Vattenfall, the windfarm project will have the capacity to generate a significant quantity of green electricity for the region and enable its business community to capitalise on the resultant commercial opportunities.

Through actively engaging with key stakeholders and statutory consultees - with a particular focus on safety and the environment - the developers' proposed initiative will involve a cluster of turbines offshore, stretching from the Bridge of Don to Blackdog.

A possible layout of 23 turbines was published by the joint venture in 2006, for the purposes of consultation. Close liaison with all key stakeholders - including environmental, shipping and aviation interests - is continuing to refine the plans with a view to applying for planning consent around the turn of the year.

The impact of the project is not however limited to the production of green electricity. Exciting plans are being developed for the project also to act as a European test centre for offshore wind technology including research and development of wind and associated technologies in the all-important marine context.

Such is the strength of support for this concept that the European Commission in January 2009 announced the intention to invest 40 million euros in the proposed test centre. Such European support could be matched by a granting of demonstrator status by the Crown Estate, making it a national and European test-bed for the latest innovations in technology, skills and manufacturing for offshore wind. In this way, Aberdeen could provide a vital stepping-stone to the UK's ambitious 33 Gigawatt of generating capacity plan for offshore wind development in territorial waters.

It is anticipated that the venture will also enhance national security of energy supply, help the region to diversify its economy, and capitalise on employment opportunities in the sector.



OTHER PROJECTS

Aberdeen's All-Energy is the UK's number one new generation energies show and has been championed by AREG and Aberdeen City Council throughout its nine-year history.

The exhibition and conference trade event creates a critical bridgehead between the massive pool of upstream offshore oil and gas expertise in Europe's Energy Capital and the flourishing marine renewables industry. It is a vibrant platform for vital technology, skills transfer and deal-making.



All-Energy, which attracts thousands of professionals from more than 60 countries, continues to grow with the 2009 event being the biggest yet. Indeed, AREG brought together its largest ever consortium of industry leaders in 2009 at its Aberdeen City and Shire pavilion which featured 28 exhibitors from across the region.

AREG was a catalyst for the region's growth of biomass projects. In just three years, a total of £8million has been committed to biomass

infrastructure. Innovative ventures include converting local schools to run on wood fuel and the construction of Scotland's first commercial production of wood pellet fuel.

AREG is also actively involved in the dynamic micro-renewables field as a key player in the local pilot advice service known as Renewable Connection.

Moving forward, AREG is continuing to devote additional resources by working closely with industry partners to explore the global renewables market. A new International Trade function is working with AREG members who are actively targeting key global renewables markets.



RENEWABLES RESEARCH

An innovative collaboration involving Aberdeen's internationally-renowned universities will further bolster the city's global status as an industry leader in the renewable energy spectrum. The project to establish a renewables research nucleus will build on the city's united alliance to progress its renewable energy research capabilities.

The three parties to the alliance – The University of Aberdeen, The Robert Gordon University and Aberdeen City Council - committed £700,000 for the initial three years and has since leveraged from industry and other research organisations around £1.5million.

The University of Aberdeen excels in wave expertise while The Robert Gordon University is reputed for its existing renewable energy capacity in the marine sector. Both universities, which enjoy outstanding links with both local and international industry, are also conducting research into fuel cell technologies and the hydrogen economy.

Combining the institutes' wealth of resources with that of the region's flourishing renewable energy industry is a vital component in strategically catapulting Aberdeen to the fore of the international renewable energy market.

Augmenting the forward-thinking initiative is the creation of a Joint Chair. The world-leading Professorship in Energy Futures will integrate Aberdeen's research strengths to build a critical mass of well-resourced researchers underpinning the fast-emerging renewable energy industry.



THE FUTURE

Aberdeen has become a prominent player in the renewables sector through capitalising on its wealth of experience and expertise in the energy industry combined with its reputation for innovation and enterprise and strong partnerships and alliances. Our drive is to make Aberdeen City and Shire as famous for renewables as it is for oil and gas, and to ensure Scotland becomes a global leader in the renewables and clean energy industry.



Morag McCorkindale
Chief Operating Officer



Jeremy Cresswell
Chairman



Iain Todd
Renewables Champion



Sarah Hillyear
International Trade
Executive



Mark Yule
Membership and
Administration Officer

Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group
Balgownie 1, AECC
Conference Way, Bridge of Don
Aberdeen AB23 8AQ

T. +44 (0) 1224 814620
F. +44 (0) 1224 814590
E. info@aberdeenrenewables.com
www.aberdeenrenewables.com

