

Energy and Climate Change Working Group,
13 June 2018, Frederikstad

Participants: cllr Jimmy Gray (chair, Highlands), cllr Jon Olav Strand (vice-chair, Aust Agder), cllr John Lamb (vice president NSC, Southend-on-Sea), Magnus Engelbrektsson (Exec secretary, NSC), Tale Halsør (Hordaland), Louise Napier (Aberdeen), Jos Wiersema (Groningen), Elmer Koole (Groningen), Martin Brebner (Aberdeenshire) Karen Nybo (Hordaland), cllr Nils Harald Rennestraum (Aust Agder) Gurri Brugge (Ostfòld), Johan Scholte (Drenthe), Trond Schrader Kristiansen (Aust Agder), Barbara Woltmann, (Weser Ems Region, Lower Saxony), Gregg Jones (Exec secretary, CPMR), Paulien Kooistra (Drenthe, advisor).

1) Welcome

Jimmy Gray welcomed the participants and gave a brief introduction to the meeting.

2) Minutes:

No comments

3) Report for the annual business meeting:

No comments

4) Factsheets:

The aim and status of the factsheets on energy transition were discussed. A paper version will be issued, and a webversion will be put on the NSC website. (action Paulien). The document shall be revised every 6 months, every region will be asked to give an update. Jimmy Gray, Highlands will look into the possibility of sharing documents on a protected website. (action Jimmy Gray)

We received input from the following regions: Groningen, Aberdeenshire, Highlands Council, Agder, Vestfold, Hordaland.

Southend-on-Sea and Lower Saxony will organise input for the factsheets (Paulien will send the template factsheet). Other regions are also asked to give their input asap.

5) Presentations by Louise Napier (Aberdeen), Tale Halsør (Hordaland), Guri Bugge, (Ostfòld), Johan Scholte (Drenthe)

-Presentations on the role of Hydrogen (and biofuels) for clean transport and greening the chemical sector in the regions were given by Hydrogen by Hordaland, Ostfold and Aberdeen. A presentation of Drenthe focussed on Hydrogen in the EU Clean Energy Package, national and EU policies, funding and creating a level playing field.

The discussion focussed on what concrete actions for our group could be identified, with the following outcome:

-A position paper on hydrogen will be prepared (Actions by Johan, Louise, Guri, Tale and Paulien). Issues to be taken into account are:

- charging infrastructure compatibility of pay systems between countries;
- safety issues;
- level playing field for hydrogen as an unproven technology, position of hydrogen in the national energy and climate plans and regional energy plans.
- requirements for various vehicles, what are the costs, not only transport but also greening chemical industry.
- Intervene in the green car, electric cars dialogue within the public sector, start a dialogue.

- present the position paper at Wind needs Gas summit on 18, 19 October 2018, Groningen.
- There is an interest to develop joint projects on hydrogen, Johan will send out a project idea for Interreg Europe
- we could work on and initiate specific reports and communicate them at a national level, in Brussels etc.
- organise events at the European Parliament (Aberdeen and Aragon organise an event during the European week of regions and cities October 2018, (information will be distributed)
- lobby actions towards EU legislation on clean energy and mobility
- make connection to the CPMR work in this field
- Paulien will circulate the 4 presentations

8) A combined event with the transport group Q1 2019

- Paulien will look into the work on hydrogen of the transport group to prevent an overlap in activities
- a joint event with the Transport group could perhaps take place in Brussels. This will be discussed with the Transport group.

9) Update on actions on the off shore wind political cooperation around the North Sea by the taskholders Hordaland, Groningen, Lower Saxony.

There was no input on this issue, will come back during the next meeting. (action: taskholders (Karen Nybo, Ingo Stuermer, Ilja van der Veen) will be asked for input for the meeting in Aberdeenshire (2-4 October 2018).

10) Update on the workshop session 'Responding to Climate Change' 14 June Frederikstad, during the North Sea Conference.

This event takes place tomorrow and is organised together with the NSR Interreg B, North Sea Programme. Jon Olav and Paulien will give an overview of the work of our group and the CPMR Climate Taskforce.

11) Next meeting will be a joined meeting with the Marine Resources Group: 2-4 October 2018 Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen. (Actions: Claudia Cowie, Paulien etc).

NB: Please bring in relevant stakeholders for the Maritime Spatial Planning, Energy challenge game on the 4th of October in Aberdeen. The programme for our ECCG meeting on the 2nd October is still under construction, please send us your ideas for the programme.

12) Conclusions

Agreed actions of this meeting:

- Update on actions political cooperation off shore wind (Ingo Stuermer, Karen Nybo, Ilja van der Veen)
- send energy transition factsheets, deadline **1 September** (all regions who didn't give input yet and John Lamb, Barbara Woltmann)
- investigating sharing documents on a protected website (Jimmy)
- prepare a paper back and online version of the factsheets for the NSC website (Paulien) September/October.
- Prepare a discussion paper on hydrogen (Johan, Tale, Guri, Louise)
- Discuss position paper between NSC and CPMR (Paulien, Melissa, Greg)
- Presentation on Wind needs Gas conference 18, 19 October Groningen (Johan)
- Circulate project idea Hydrogen Interreg Europe (Johan)
- Circulate the presentations on Hydrogen (Paulien)
- Discuss ideas and location for Event Transport Group with advisor TG and discuss activities of our groups to prevent an overlap (Paulien, Jon Halvard)
- Organise next meeting 2-4 October Aberdeenshire, Aberdeen (Claudia, Paulien etc).

