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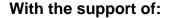






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UK policy updates

Preparations for COP26 summit intensify

Preparations for COP26, the vital climate talks due to take place this year in Glasgow intensified in May, after nations compromised over how to conduct virtual negotiations ahead of the summit. The climate talks are set for November after being postponed for a year owing to the coronavirus pandemic. The summit is viewed as one of the last chances to put the world on track to fulfil the 2015 Paris climate agreement, and tackle the climate emergency. Ahead of the summit, governments held a three-week long virtual meeting from 31st May to 17th June, to begin negotiations and hammer out agreements on key aspects of the talks. But countries will still have to wait until they meet in person to rubber stamp any decisions. Read more

Algeria policy updates

Ben Attou Ziane replaces Chems Eddine Chitour as Minister of Energy Transition and Renewable Energies

On Wednesday 7th July 2021, President Abdelmadjid Tebboune appointed a new government to be led by the Prime Minister Aymane Benabderrahmane. While Minister of Energy and Mining Mohamed Arkab remains unchanged, Chems Eddine Chitour was replaced as Minister of Energy Transition and Renewable Energies by Ben Attou Ziane. Born on 9th August 1960 in Sidi Belabbès, Ziane graduated from the University of Oran with a doctorate in medicine in 1987 and gained further qualifications from the University of Louvain (Belgium) in 1996. He has held the position of professor of pulmonology at the University of Oran since 2011 and published a number of articles. Ziane also served as Head of Department at the Tlemcen University Hospital Centre (CHU), from 2014 until his appointment as Minister. Read more

Algeria will have to 'choose between consuming or exporting hydrocarbons in 2028'

The former Minister of Energy Transition and Renewable Energies, Chems Eddine Chitour, stated on 7th April that Algeria must lower its domestic energy consumption 'because in 2028, it will be necessary to choose between consuming or exporting hydrocarbons'. The Minister estimated that the country must save 6 million tonnes of oil equivalent (TOE) per year. He also stated that 'solar and wind power are not the only alternatives available to Algeria' and that 'consideration should be given to promoting the use of other options and pursuing other opportunities'. Subsequently, on 18th May, Chitour reiterated that 'Algeria will be required to achieve its energy transition within seven or eight years at most'. As such, Chitour suggested that the planned transition 'is born of necessity and not just a desire to modernise'. The Minister hopes to achieve the transition by 2030 by adopting a new energy model, based not only on solar energy, but also on thermal and wind energy. He also recommended gradually lifting subsidies on energy prices, while ensuring that 'low-income groups are protected'. Read more Read more

Algeria plans 'Climate Law' for end of 2022

A representative of the Ministry of the Environment has indicated that a project to draw up and implement a 'Climate Law' should be ready 'by the end of 2022'. The project, which will be co-piloted by the Ministries of the Environment and Foreign Affairs, is designed to 'strengthen the legislative and institutional framework governing climate change', particularly with regard to greenhouse gas emissions. The climate law which will determine, via legal texts, the institutions in each ministerial department that will be responsible for drawing up an inventory of greenhouse gases relating to their sectors. Read more

Nuclear energy 'to play important role' in Algeria's energy transition strategy

The Minister of Energy and Mining, Mohamed Arkab, announced in May that nuclear energy will 'play an important role in achieving Algeria's energy transition strategy', according to a statement posted to



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the Facebook page of the Ministry on 27th May 2021. The statement followed Arkab's visit to the headquarters of the Atomic Energy Commission, where he chaired an assessment meeting attended by the former Minister of Energy Transition and Renewable Energies, Chems Eddine Chitour, and a number of representatives of the Ministry of Energy and Mining. Read more

Sonatrach and Sonelgaz create SHAEMS, a subsidiary for renewable energy

On 21st April, an Extraordinary General Assembly (AGE) of the State-owned groups Sonatrach and Sonelgaz approved the creation of a company designed to implement the National Renewable Energies Program (PNER) under the supervision of the Ministry of Energy Transition and Renewable Energy. Ownership of the new company, baptised the Société Algérienne des Energies Renouvelables (SHAEMS), is shared equally between the two groups. Amongst other things, the new company will be tasked with acquiring and preparing land for renewable energy projects, conducting feasibility studies, studying the best financing mechanisms and coordinating between the various stakeholders involved in the projects. It will also be responsible for drawing up technical specifications and launching invitations to tender for investors, as well as processing bids and awarding contracts. Read more

Sonatrach commits to 'boosting efforts to reduce GHG emissions'

The State-owned Sonatrach group is committed to 'intensifying its efforts to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions', according to the company's CEO, Toufik Hakkar. Hakkar noted that Sonatrach is currently working to improve its energy efficiency, eliminate gas flaring and venting, reduce leaks and create forestry projects to contribute to absorbing GHGs. Hakkar stressed that Sonatrach 'will spare no effort to tackle other environmental problems to protect Algeria's biodiversity, preserve the quality and availability of the country's water resources, guarantee air quality and ensure that natural resources are used efficiently'. Read more

Khaled Nouasri appointed as CEO of Sharikat Kahraba El Djazaïr (SKE)

On Sunday 11th April, Khaled Nouasri officially took up the role of CEO of Sharikat Kahraba El Djazaïr (SKE). Nouasri holds a State engineering degree from the National Polytechnic School (ENP) of Algiers and has completed a number of management training courses with the Algerian School of Business (ESAA), HEC Montreal and the University of Quebec. Nouasri began his career as an engineer at Sonelgaz in 1998, before progressing through a number of other positions including project manager, department head and CEO of Shariket Kahraba Berrouaghia (SKB), a former subsidiary of Sonelgaz. Primarily responsible for managing electricity production via renewable sources, SKE is 51%-owned by Sonelgaz and 49%-owned by Sonatrach. Read more

Sonatrach and Shell to cooperate on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving carbon management

On 1st April, the State-owned oil and gas company Sonatrach and Shell International Trading and Shipping Company Limited, a subsidiary of the Anglo-Dutch group Royal Dutch Shell, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding that provides 'a framework to allow the two companies to explore ways to cooperate on oil and gas trading'. The MoU will also allow the two companies to discuss ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve carbon management practices. Read more

Sonatrach and Pertamina to cooperate on renewable energies

On 28th June, the State-owned oil and gas company Sonatrach signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indonesian company Pertamina, which is designed to enable the companies to strengthen their strategic collaboration and 'increase their portfolio of activities in Algeria and internationally'. The MoU covers existing and/or new upstream projects, crude oil and LPG supply projects, renewable energies and research and development. Read more

Sonatrach and Eni team up for production of hydrogen in Algeria

Italy's Eni is looking at producing green hydrogen in Algeria with state-owned Sonatrach as the two energy groups move to cut their carbon footprints. At a meeting in Algiers, the two companies said they planned to build on an agreement signed last March and step up technological cooperation with







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a focus on hydrogen. The move comes as Eni picks up the pace on a major overhaul launched last year as it transitions into renewables and tapers off its oil and gas output. Read more

Algeria project updates

Launch of 1,000 MW tender is 'imminent'

On 5th May, the former Minister of Energy Transition and Renewable Energies, Chems Eddine Chitour, confirmed on 5th May that the invitation to tender for the construction of a number of photovoltaic power plants with a total capacity of 1,000 MW would be launched 'imminently'. Read more

CDER to design technical specifications for creation of 5 KW of wind power

On 8th April, a team from Algeria's Research Centre for Renewable Energies (CDER) was tasked with defining the specifications for a 5 KW wind turbine intended to power some facilities at the Parc des Grands Vents in Algiers. The power generated by the turbine will be used to partially power a building housing a start-up incubator and datacentre. Read more

First vehicle charging station installed in Algiers

According to press sources, the first charging station for electric vehicles has been installed at a Naftal petrol station in Chéraga in Algiers. The charging station was produced by the private Algerian company Amimer Energie, which specialises in renewable energies, and should be operational starting on 27th May. The station supplies a maximum of 43 KW and can charge two vehicles at the same time. Motorists will be offered a variety of subscription options including monthly, quarterly and annual options. Read more



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UK company initiatives

Neptune Energy

Neptune is one of the largest independent exploration and production companies in Europe. We're strategically positioned in OECD countries and have substantial production assets in North Africa and the Asia Pacific region.

- Neptune Energy announces ESG and credit rating upgrades: On 6th April 2021, Neptune Energy announced it has received upgrades to its Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) and credit ratings. In its latest ESG rating review from Sustainalytics, Neptune received a score of 26.1, putting it in the top 3% of all exploration and production companies rated by the organisation, with a global ranking of 5th out of 169. Read more
- Neptune Energy announces digitisation of offshore platforms: On 2nd June, Neptune
 Energy announced the digitisation of five of its operated offshore platforms in the Dutch,
 Norwegian and UK North Sea. This will enable approximately 90 site inspections each year to
 be carried out from onshore, accelerating work schedules, reducing costs and cutting carbon
 emissions associated with offshore travel. Read more

Petrofac

Petrofac is a leading international service provider to the energy industry. We design, build, manage and maintain infrastructure for the energy industries.

- Petrofac makes senior appointment to support new energy growth: Petrofac has made a senior UK appointment to support the continued growth of its offering in the new and renewable energy sectors. On 15th June, the company announced that Anne Haase, who joins Petrofac as Business Development Director, will spearhead the Group's Operations and Maintenance focus for new and renewable energy. Read more
- Jonathan Carpenter, Vice President of New Energy Services at Petrofac features in this Gulf Business special report: "For a sustainable future, we will need a mix of fuels and energy sources, depending on the application and environment..." (See <u>Gulf Business</u>, July 2021, page 50, 'A bright future' by Zainab Mansoor).
- Petrofac to support Direct Air Capture project: Storegga, through its wholly owned subsidiary Pale Blue Dot Energy, has been awarded a £249,000 grant by the UK Government's Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy for a development project in Direct Air Capture a technology that captures carbon dioxide directly out of the atmosphere. Under a collaborative partnership, Petrofac will undertake all Project Management and Engineering for the project. Read more

Equinor

Equinor is a broad energy company with more than 21,000 employees, present in more than 30 countries worldwide. We develop oil, gas, wind, solar energy and low carbon solutions. Our headquarters are in Stavanger, Norway. We are listed on the New York and Oslo stock exchanges.

- Equinor to submit energy transition plan for advisory vote to shareholders: On 19th April, Equinor announced ahead of its 2021 Annual General Meeting, that starting in 2022 it will submit its energy transition plan for advisory vote to shareholders at its Annual General Meeting. Equinor will update the plan every three years for an advisory vote. Progress on the plan will be reported annually. The company is among the first companies in its industry to introduce such a measure. Read more
- Equinor's Hywind Tampen project takes next step: In April, the Hywind Tampen project began moving from Stord to the deep-water site at Dommersnes where the concrete slipforming of the spar-substructures will be completed. Hywind Tampen is an 88 MW floating



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wind power project intended to provide electricity for the Snorre and Gullfaks offshore field operations in the Norwegian North Sea. Read more

- Development plans for Troll West electrification handed over to authorities: Equinor and partners Petoro, Shell, Total and ConocoPhillips have decided in favour of Troll West electrification, and on 23rd April submitted the plan for development and operation to the minister of petroleum and energy. This will cut CO2 emissions by almost half a million tonnes per year. NOx emissions from the field will be reduced by some 1700 tons per year. Read more
- Breakthrough for Equinor in Polish offshore wind: On 4th May, Poland's Energy Regulatory Office (ERO) announced Equinor and Polenergia's Bałtyk II and Bałtyk III projects were awarded contracts for difference (CfD) under the first phase of Poland's offshore wind development scheme. The projects, with a combined potential capacity of 1440 MW, are among the first to secure offshore wind awards in Poland. Read more
- Equinor acquires Polish renewables company Wento: On 5th May, Equinor announced it had completed an agreement to buy 100% of the shares in Polish onshore renewables developer Wento from the private equity firm Enterprise Investors for EUR 91 million in enterprise value, before customary net cash adjustments. Wento's business plan includes a total net pipeline of around 1.6 gigawatts (GW) of solar projects in different stages of development. Read more
- Equinor and Vårgrønn team up for floating wind at Utsira Nord: On 6th May, Equinor and Vårgrønn have signed a collaboration agreement to jointly apply for offshore wind acreage in Norway for the Utsira Nord area. Through a collaboration agreement Equinor and Vårgrønn a Norwegian renewable energy company established by HitecVision and Eni, aim to jointly prepare and submit an application to the Norwegian authorities to develop floating offshore wind at Utsira Nord west off Utsira and Haugalandet in the Norwegian North Sea. Read more
- Equinor and Sonatrach sign memorandum of understanding: On 17th May Equinor and Sonatrach signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to examine cooperation within oil and gas exploration and production in Algeria and internationally. The MoU also includes cooperation within greenhouse gas emissions and carbon management, industrial safety management, implementation of technology to increase hydrocarbon recovery and development of a model for driving high-performance oil operations. Read more
- Equinor, RWE and Hydro team up for offshore wind in the Norwegian North Sea: On 26th May, Equinor, RWE Renewables and Hydro REIN announced they have signed a collaboration agreement for offshore wind in Norway. The partners will jointly prepare and submit an application to the Norwegian authorities to develop a large-scale bottom-fixed offshore wind farm in the Sørlige Nordsjø II area in the Norwegian North Sea. Read more
- Equinor presents strategy to accelerate transition: On 15th June, Today, Equinor presented its strategy to accelerate the company's transition while growing cash flow and returns. Equinor has set a clear ambition to become a net zero energy company by 2050, including emissions from production and final consumption. It has also set interim ambitions, aiming to reduce net carbon intensity with 20% by 2030 and 40% by 2035. Read more

BP

BP is an integrated energy business with operations in Europe, North and South America, Australasia, Asia and Africa.

- BP and Infosys announce strategic collaboration to drive integrated energy offers to reduce emissions at campuses and cities: On 22nd April, Infosys and BP announced that they have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) under which both companies intend to work together to develop an integrated Energy as-a-Service (EaaS) offering that will provide end-to-end management of a customers' energy assets and services. Read more
- BP and Pure Planet form tech partnership, enabling energy consumers to make smart home and mobility choices: On 5th May, BP and 100% renewable energy supplier Pure



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Planet announced a partnership to launch a new digital energy service that will support households, EV drivers and energy consumers in the UK. The new digital service brings smarter control of renewable home energy, electric vehicles, batteries, smart heating and solar power, as well as carbon-offsetting options, onto one easy-to-use consumer platform. Read more

- BP and EnBW launch ScotWind supplier portal to support offshore wind growth: On 11th May, BP and EnBW launched a bespoke online portal for the Scottish engineering and supply sector, as the companies aim to expand their partnership's offshore wind portfolio by taking part in the upcoming ScotWind leasing round. Read more
- Lightsource BP on track to develop 600MW solar hub in NSW, Australia: On 13th May, Lightsource BP, a 50:50 JV with BP, announced that it has secured planning approval for upscaling plans for the Wellington North solar project, which was acquired from AGL last year. The 400MWdc site is adjacent to Lightsource bp's near-complete 200MWdc Wellington solar farm. Once operational, the 600MWdc hub could become the state's largest renewable energy power hub. Read more
- BP and CEMEX team up on net zero emissions: On 13th May, BP and CEMEX announced that they will work together on accelerating the progress of CEMEX's 2050 ambition to deliver net zero CO2 concrete globally. The two companies have agreed to a memorandum of understanding to develop solutions to decarbonize the cement production process and transportation. Read more
- Lightsource BP announces €900 million solar investment in Portugal: On 28th May, Lightsource BP announced that it has entered into a co-development partnership with local company INSUN for five utility-scale solar projects. Collectively, the projects aim to add over 1.35GW of low-carbon, renewable power to Portugal's energy mix. Read more
- Lightsource BP sets up in Greece with major auction win and 640MWp co-development deal: Lightsource BP announced on 31st May that it had snapped up over 40 percent of the total awarded capacity in the latest solar and wind auction through a co-development partnership. The successful projects are part of a larger 640MWp portfolio that will be developed with local firm Kiefer TEK, enabling Lightsource BP to launch as a major developer and investor. Read more
- BP boosts its renewables business in the US with 9GW solar acquisition from 7X Energy: On 1st June, BP reached an agreement to purchase 9GW of solar development projects in the US from independent US solar developer 7X Energy. The acquisition represents a significant step towards BP's target of growing its net developed renewable generating capacity to 20GW by 2025 and aim to increase this to 50GW by 2030.

Capterio

Capterio provides gas flaring solutions for energy companies to capture flared gas, create value, reduce pollution, and improve reputation.

Capterio launches free and open-access flare tracker tool, FlareIntel: On 20th April, Capterio launched FlareIntel. FlareIntel is a free satellite-aided gas flare tracker for the oil & gas sector. FlareIntel enables anyone to track every flare, at every facility, globally. After all, routine flaring needs to end if we want to halve greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. Read more



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