



Young Energy Professionals Forum

The opportunities of an industrial strategy

Energy UK's Young Energy Professionals Forum was at Utility Week Live for its first ever event at the conference, and thanks to them for providing the opportunity. Our roundtable discussion featured speakers from UK Power Reserve (Elizabeth Adams), Siemens (Matthew Knight), CBI (Hannah Richmond) and EY (Jake Tudge) and was discussing the opportunities of an industrial strategy.

One of the most talked about topics in energy is the need for long term certainty. Attendees started the discussion by acknowledging whilst this is difficult for Government to provide certainty, there was an opportunity for them to be clear on the ultimate decisions, such as a commitment to decarbonise.

An industrial strategy must allow and create a guideline for industries so that new entrants can keep coming in and challenging the status quo, for instance the energy industry needs all types of technologies for the energy mix. It was agreed where a strategy could help is by setting targets and then letting the market decide how to get there. Furthermore it provides the opportunity, to demonstrate the strengths of the industry, in offshore wind and nuclear decommissioning for example.

There was reflection from the panel of what industry needs to be better at. An industrial strategy allows for a refocusing of the messaging to come together and talk about the benefits of the diverse mix seen today.

There was a recognition, the Government responds to what consumers want and the industry needs to focus more on the outcomes for consumers with a continued protection for vulnerable consumers.

Another opportunity with a new strategy is for industry to be providing solutions. Through creating a strategy there can be the prospect to look at industries together to solve issues such as heat and decarbonisation.

By bringing these elements together there is a chance to excite and a need to excite consumers about the innovation in the energy industry happening all around them.

Energy UK YEP Forum

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<http://www.energy-uk.org.uk/events/category/young-energy-professionals.html>