



Virtual  
Awards  
2020

Programme

**Young Energy Professionals**

**Virtual Awards**

Thursday 1 October 2020



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## About the Young Energy Professionals Forum

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Energy UK's Young Energy Professionals Forum is a network of over 2,000 people, with representation spanning 340 different companies. It is run by young professionals within Energy UK and by a number of other young professionals in companies across the industry. The Forum hosts a range of events throughout the year including site visits to some of the UK's major energy centres, panel events on topical issues, and tonight's annual YEP Awards ceremony, which recognises the successes of the next generation of energy industry professionals across varied disciplines.

### YEP Forum Mission Statement

“Our Forum is a network to promote the next generation of energy industry professionals, **providing opportunities to collaborate, develop and recognise successes.**”

#### PLEDGE 1

“The YEP Forum pledges to ensure all its work, panels and events have a **balanced representation** and adhere to **equality, diversity and inclusion**, ensuring where possible our events **are accessible** to all.”

#### PLEDGE 2

“The YEP Forum pledges to provide a network which **listens** to feedback, **improves** to be more member-facing and **provides opportunities** across the country for young professionals.”

## Awards Compère

### Paul Lowbridge

**Contracts & Settlements Manager, National Grid ESO,  
Chair of Energy UK's Young Energy Professionals (YEP) Forum**



Paul is Chair of the YEP Forum; passionate about driving positive change through supporting the next generation of young talent in the energy industry. He has been Chair of the Forum since December 2018 and prior to that, sat as a Steering Committee member for just under 2 years.

Paul has worked for National Grid Electricity System Operator (ESO) for 9 years; holding a number of commercial and leadership roles. In his current role as Senior Manager, Capability Transformation, Paul is responsible for leading change activity within ESO to set up and deliver key consumer benefits under the RII02 regulatory period.

In previous roles, Paul has been responsible for teams undertaking procurement, settlement and billing of the commercial solutions used to balance the GB Electricity Transmission System, including delivery of a significant uplift in the level

## Keynote Speaker

### Emma Pinchbeck

**Chief Executive, Energy UK**

Emma Pinchbeck is an expert in whole-economy decarbonisation and the energy transition. From 2016-2020, she served as Deputy CEO of the trade body Renewable UK, in which role she also sat on the Board and on the Board of Scottish Renewables. holds several board advisory positions, including with Imperial College and Innovate-UK, and is a regular commentator on climate change and renewables in the media.



## Keynote Speakers

### Chris Stark

**Chief Executive, Committee on Climate Change**

Chris Stark is the Chief Executive of the UK Committee on Climate Change (CCC), the public body tasked by the Climate Change Act to be the independent authority on tackling climate change. Chris leads a team of analysts and specialists, offering expert insight into the challenges of reducing UK emissions and adapting to the changing climate.

Chris led the CCC's work in 2019 to recommend a new 'Net Zero' target for the UK – now brought into law. He speaks regularly on the transition to a zero carbon economy and the need to confront climate change with urgency.

Chris has wide experience in government. He has designed economic policy in Whitehall, including in HM Treasury and the former Department for Business, Innovation and Skills. He was previously Director of Energy and Climate Change in the Scottish Government, leading the development of the Scottish energy and climate strategies.



### Emma Ford

**Head of Gas Construction, National Grid**

Emma Ford is Head of Gas Construction at National Grid, leading a team responsible for the construction of new assets, along with major works on asset refurbishment. Emma is also leading two key initiatives for National Grid: implementation of National Grid's Net Zero Construction target; and National Grid Mental Health Construction campaign.

Emma has a background in environmental geology. Her leadership experience, varies from consultancy through to developing wind farms, alongside Electricity and Gas construction. Emma is an ambassador for diversity in the workplace, supporting Women in National Grid, mentoring colleagues and supporting the network. Emma's passion is identifying and developing talent, creating opportunities within organisations for individuals to reach their full potential.



# Programme Schedule

## ▶ 18:00 Awards commence

▶ <b>Keynote Speaker: Emma Pinchbeck</b> , Chief Executive, Energy UK	
▶ <b>Emma Pinchbeck</b> introduces Compère – Paul Lowbridge (Chair of Energy UK Young Energy Professionals Forum, National Grid ESO)	
▶ <b>Paul Lowbridge</b> welcomes guests to the YEP Awards and provides an overview	
▶ <b>Jo-Jo Hubbard</b> (Co-founder and Chief Executive, Electron) presents the <b>Rising Star Award</b>	
▶ <b>Bobbi Pickard</b> (Founder of Trans in the City and co-chair of BP Pride's Transgender Group) presents the <b>Diversity &amp; Inclusion Award</b>	
▶ <b>Keynote speaker: Emma Ford</b> , Head of Gas Construction, National Grid	
▶ <b>James Wallin</b> (Digital Editor, Utility Week) presents the <b>Outstanding Response to COVID-19 Award</b>	
▶ <b>Emma Pinchbeck</b> (Chief Executive, Energy UK) presents the <b>YEP of the Year Award</b>	
▶ <b>Keynote speaker: Chris Stark</b> , Chief Executive, Committee on Climate Change	
▶ <b>Paul Lowbridge</b> – closing remarks and vote of thanks	

▶ 19:30 Awards Close

# The Awards

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## Rising Star

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This award is for the candidate with less than two years' experience in the energy industry, who has shown promise as a talented individual in the industry or in their studies.



## Diversity & Inclusion Focus

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This award is for the candidate that has gone above and beyond to campaign on the need for greater diversity in the energy sector.



## Outstanding Response to COVID-19

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This award is for the candidate who has delivered an outstanding response to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the energy industry.



## YEP of the Year

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This award is for the candidate who has the potential to be a future leader within the industry as a stand out performer within their business.

# Meet the Judges



## Rising Star

### Jo-Jo Hubbard – CEO, Electron

Jo-Jo is the CEO and Co-founder of Electron, a London-based energy tech company bringing together distributed ledger technology (blockchain) and deep energy industry expertise to create the digital backbone for the modern energy marketplace. She started her energy career in the early days of the renewable build-out on the asset financing side before transitioning into Cleantech VC.



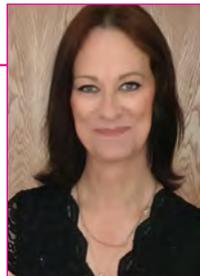
In 2015 she joined the international strategy consultancy firm McKinsey & Co, where she focused on digital transformation. Here, she understood that the full decarbonisation and transformation of the energy sector will not happen without new, shared digital infrastructure and marketplaces that incentivize cooperation. This provided the basis on which Electron was founded.



## Diversity & Inclusion Focus

### Bobbi Pickard, Senior Project Manager, BP

Bobbi is a senior project manager and the first openly transgender person in bp and as co-chair of bp Pride's Transgender Group has transformed trans awareness within the company. She is the founder of "Trans in the City" – a corporate collaboration of over 80 major organisations to further transgender awareness globally - a trustee of Mermaids, the gender diverse children's charity, #1 Yahoo Finance OUTstanding LGBT+ Future Leader, Rainbow Honours LGBTQ Champion, has been nominated for the 2020 British LGBT awards Nestle Diversity Champion Award and #14 in the Pride Power List. She plays guitar and bass, has two children and lives in Brighton.



## Outstanding Response to COVID-19

### James Wallin – Digital Editor, Utility Week

James joined Utility Week last year to launch its membership offer and expand its digital offering. Prior to working for Utility Week he worked on a variety of trade titles, having started his journalism career in local newspapers.



## YEP of the Year

### Emma Pinchbeck – Chief Executive, Energy UK

Emma Pinchbeck is an expert in whole-economy decarbonisation and the energy transition. From 2016-2020, she served as Deputy CEO of the trade body Renewable UK, in which role she also sat on the Board and on the Board of Scottish Renewables. She holds several board advisory positions, including with Imperial College and Innovate-UK, and is a regular commentator on climate change and renewables in the media.





Proud to support the Young Energy Professionals Awards 2020

# Building the Net Zero Energy Workforce

We're playing a vital part in helping the UK on its journey to reach net zero by 2050. To deliver on this ambition, we're building what we call the Net Zero Energy Workforce, made up of people with the talent, diversity, drive and passion to help us to tackle climate change.

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