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In our final edition of **DeliveringDecarb** for the year, we'll take a look at the gas industry news stories that caught our attention during December, including the key outcomes of COP27 and what they might mean for the future.

And don't forget to check our Dates for your Diary section if you're keen to add your voice to the conversations taking place about decarbonisation in your industry during 2023.

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01 Notable news

COP27: where next for the UK?

Published this month, the Climate Change Committee (CCC) report, 'COP27: Key outcomes and next steps for the UK' provides a useful overview of the messages we heard from COP27 and issues some strong warnings to the UK government about the importance of tackling climate change. It also highlights some of the failures that have contributed to emissions levels remaining at record highs.

The UK is now under pressure to demonstrate the commitment it has made to driving global implementation of climate initiatives. This will begin with action at home, including: clearly setting out its intentions in the delayed 2030 Strategic Framework, communicating its post-Brexit priorities to the COP community, mobilising finance, and implementing the Net Zero Strategy to deliver legislated targets.

An action orientated National Adaptation Programme is also planned for 2023, to strengthen

the UK's response on climate adaptation, while the global fossil fuel phase out will ask the UK to consider more closely how compatible new UK oil and gas fields are and how fossil fuels will feature in the UK's decarbonisation pathway.

Watch this space for further updates.

[Read the full report](#)



17 recommendations for a global clean-hydrogen market



The International Renewable Energy Agency (IREA) has set out what it considers to be optimal strategies and policies to create a global clean-hydrogen market, in a document addressed to G7 nations. The document is a response to the Hydrogen Action Pact launched in May 2022 to accelerate the development of green and blue hydrogen and their derivatives. It considers some of the issues

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G7 countries will face as they seek to create a global clean hydrogen industry and some of the current obstacles holding hydrogen production and deployment back, including a fear of committing to production until certainty of demand exists, the need for a better definition of what 'clean' hydrogen is and a way for producers to prove the cleanliness of their H2.

Recommendations from IREA include: a common methodology and globally recognised standards - evidenced by origin certificates - and support for supply and demand through clear signals of common intent and prioritisation of specific end uses. Collaboration across nations will be key to the success of a future global hydrogen market, as will raising awareness to get the public and business communities onboard.

[Read more and download the report](#)

Measures announced to secure UK energy independence

On 29th November, Business and Energy Secretary Grant Schapps launched a landmark package of measures designed to help secure the UK's energy independence. The Government's plans, which will be driven forward under the powers of a new Energy Bill, include commitments to improve energy efficiency in buildings and industry, the continuation of a public awareness campaign to help reduce bills, and a £700 million investment in the Sizewell C nuclear plant; the first state backing of a nuclear project in over 30 years. Development of the plant will take place alongside a pipeline of other new nuclear projects to be developed under guidance from a soon to be established Great British Nuclear.

On 13th December, the UK government announced further commitments to investment in nuclear fuel production, with £77 million

allocated to next generation nuclear reactors. Alongside this, commitments were made to provide £25 million in funding for innovative new technologies that will generate clean hydrogen from biomass and waste and accelerate the deployment of hydrogen bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS). This announcement came on the same day as the publication of the UK Hydrogen Strategy update to market (see below). More announcements are expected in early 2023.

[Read more](#) - 29th November announcement

[Read more](#) - 13th December announcement

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Hydrogen strategy update to the market: December 2022

On 13th December, the UK government released an update to its UK hydrogen strategy. The strategy is intended to support the development of a thriving low carbon hydrogen sector in the UK. This latest update covers policy areas including hydrogen production; hydrogen networks and storage; uses of hydrogen in industry, power, transport and potentially heat; creating a market; hydrogen sector development and investment; international leadership and bilateral relationships.

[Read more](#)

HyDeploy House of Lords event

Looking back to November, gas decarbonisation progress was celebrated at an event organised by the HyDeploy Consortia, hosted by Lord McNicol of Kilbride

and attended by 87 high-profile guests. They gathered to share and discuss the findings of the HyDeploy2 trial, which successfully delivered 20% blended hydrogen with natural gas to 1,600 residents of Winlaton, a village near Gateshead.

The event offered a chance for energy industry and other interested stakeholders to learn from the outcomes of the HyDeploy2 trial and explore the practicalities of delivering blended supplies to existing gas network consumers. Dr. Tony Ballance, Cadent's Chief Strategy and Regulation Officer said: "The gas networks are ready to deliver blended gas to consumers. We now need quick, positive actions from the government to enable policy for hydrogen blending to begin and we can make it happen."

[Read more](#)



AD and Biogas Industry Awards 2023 entries are open

The AD and Biogas Industry Awards are an excellent way to raise the profile of innovative work your organisation is doing. Entries are now open until 13th January 2023. For a full list of categories, please visit the event home page.

[Read more](#)

02 Spotlight on... Digitalisation of the UK's gas infrastructure

As the UK gas system evolves to support low carbon alternatives to natural gas, and production becomes increasingly decentralised, how will the UK's gas network cope with new complexities? And what measures could make it easier for the industry to collaborate towards a smoother transition? Graham Faiz, Head of Growth and Innovation for UK and Ireland Energy Systems at DNV Services UK answers these questions and more in our new guest blog. Read how digitalisation can drive collaborative partnerships across the gas industry and how some organisations are already optimising operations and looking to the future through innovative 'digital twin' projects.

[Read the blog](#)



xserve

Could digitalisation improve collaboration across the UK gas industry?

GUEST BLOG



Graham Faiz
Head of Growth & Innovation
UK and Ireland Energy Systems
DNV



03 Things to look out for

Coming Soon...

DecarbDiscussions: The gas metering journey to net zero.

Join us in **January 2023** for our next **Decarb Discussions** podcast, where you can hear how decarbonisation and the push for net zero is impacting UK metering organisations. What are the metering-specific things they think others in the industry need to know about the changes ahead, how will hydrogen blends or 100% hydrogen change metering asset requirements, and what plans are meter owners and operators making to improve the customer experience and build operational resilience for the future?

Watch this space.



04 Policy milestones

Here are the key Government policy / regulatory milestones:

- **2023** - Final policy decision on [hydrogen blending](#)
- **2023** - First [hydrogen support contracts](#) allocated
- **2023** - Decision on hydrogen village location
- **2024** - H100 trial to commence
- **2025** - New business models for hydrogen transport and storage infrastructure designed
- **2025** - Hydrogen certification scheme introduced
- **2025** - Hydrogen village trials to commence
- **2025** - Target for reaching 1GW electrolytic hydrogen production capacity and price competitive annual allocation rounds
- **2030** - New target for creating up to 10GW low carbon hydrogen production
- **2030** - Hydrogen town trial to commence



05 Dates for your diary

We'd love to see you at our Hydrogen Implementation forums! To join, please email box.xoserve.decarbonisation@xoserve.com

Don't miss these upcoming sessions:

Shipper meeting	Friday 13th January	11.30 - 13.00
Metering meeting	Friday 20th January	10.00 - 12.00
Networks meeting	Tuesday 24th January	14.00 - 16.00
IGT meeting	Friday 27th January	10.00 - 11.00

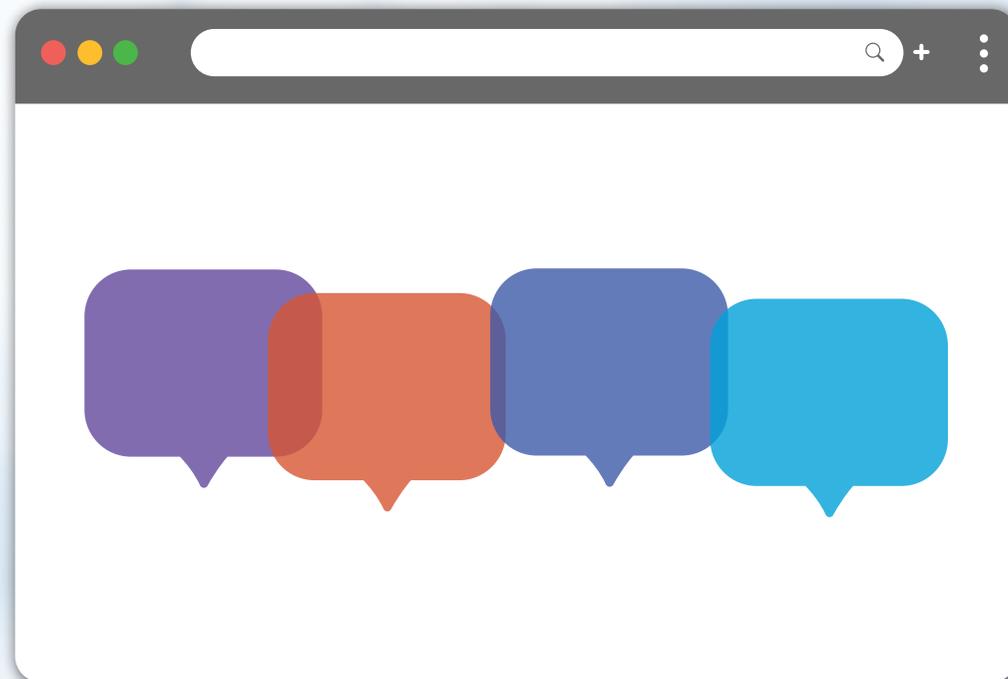


06 Keeping in touch

We've been working on a range of initiatives designed to help raise awareness of gas decarbonisation and keep everyone in the industry connected. Now launched, our **DecarbDiscussions** podcast will cover a range of topics from different industry perspectives. If you'd be interested in getting involved and hearing your voice on our podcast channel, please get in touch.

And don't forget to sign up to our industry 'intranet'. An exclusive resource for the gas industry, the intranet is designed to help you stay up to speed with the latest news, new projects and policy changes. It acts as a central repository for essential information related to your industry, some of which may not yet be available as a public resource. If you would like access to this site, please contact:

box.xoserve.decarbonisation@xoserve.com



07 Could your business support the Fuel Bank Foundation?

It's hard to believe some people in the UK today are living without heat, light and power because they don't have the money to top up a prepayment meter.

Xoserve is a passionate supporter of **Fuel Bank Foundation**, an organisation doing essential work to provide people with the financial support and practical advice they need to get back on their feet. An unbelievable 96% of people supported by the foundation have to make the choice between heating or eating, while 45% ration their hot water use each day.

If you're interested in supporting this incredible charity, [find out more here](#).

The screenshot shows the Fuel Bank Foundation website with a dark background and a large image of hands holding a white mug. The text on the page reads: "HELPING HOMES IN FUEL CRISIS. Prepaying for energy but not having the money to do so means living without heat and light. We provide people with the financial support and practical advice that they need to get back on their feet." Below this is a "FIND OUT MORE" button. At the bottom, there are two call-to-action boxes: "I WANT TO HELP" with a heart icon and "I NEED HELP" with a hand icon. A footer text states: "It's hard to believe that some people in the UK are today living without heat, light and power. This is because they don't have money to top up their prepayment meter. These people live in cold homes and are unable to cook a hot meal for their family, or have a shower before a job interview. It's only getting worse. We call this Fuel Crisis."

08 And finally...

A big thank you for all your help, support, encouragement and readership this year - we hope you all have a fantastic Christmas and New Year.

The Decarb team will be taking a much needed break from 22nd December to 3rd January (but don't worry - box.xoserve.decarbonisation@xoserve.com will be closely monitored throughout this time). We'll be back in January to keep you up to date with all the latest decarbonisation industry news

*Merry
Christmas*


AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

