

Tidal Ranges

QSD on 5 June 2019

This briefing identifies relevant reports and useful documents, including recent parliamentary materials and press articles, which may be of assistance to Members in preparing for the following debate:

Lord Cameron of Dillington to ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to (1) harness the potential of tidal ranges to generate renewable energy, and (2) encourage the private sector to invest in this area.

Copies of the materials are available for collection from the Library.

Key Information

- Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, '[Wave and Tidal Energy: Part of the UK's Energy Mix](#)', 22 January 2013

Guidance exploring the potential for wave and tidal energy production in the UK. It states that tidal and wave energy could produce up to 20% of the UK's electricity needs, but that the Severn estuary project was abandoned after a study found it was not cost-effective. It identifies other areas of interest for tidal energy as the Solway Firth, the Mersey and areas along the coast of North Wales.

- Charles Hendry, [The Role of Tidal Lagoons](#), 12 January 2017, pp 130–49; and [Government Response](#), 25 June 2018

Summary of conclusions and recommendations from the report commissioned by the Government to consider financing the tidal lagoon at Swansea Bay, and the statement from Greg Clark MP giving the Government's response. The report concluded the project should receive Government support as it represented an "opportunity where the UK can reasonably aspire to be the global leader". The Government concluded that the project would not be value for money, and compared the costs involved with cheaper energy sources, such as offshore wind and nuclear.

- House of Commons Library, [Tidal Lagoons](#), 26 June 2018

Briefing outlining the possibilities for tidal energy in the UK, how energy is created through tidal lagoons and further commentary on the Swansea Tidal Lagoon Project.

Parliamentary Debate, Statements and Questions

- [Oral Question on 'Marine Renewable Electricity Generation'](#), HC Hansard, 19 March 2019, cols 920–1
- [Oral Question on 'Renewable Energy Sources'](#), HC Hansard, 30 April 2019, cols 113–14
- [Debate on 'Tidal Lagoons and UK Energy Strategy'](#), HC Hansard, 6 December 2016, cols 24WH–48WH
- A selection of written questions from both Houses: [245935](#) (25 April 2019); [HL15196](#) (16 April 2019); [HL12994](#) (29 January 2019); [206854](#) (15 January 2019); and [160317](#) (30 July 2018)

Press Articles and Comment

- Adam Vaughan, '[Swansea Tidal Lagoon Plan Revived—Without Government Funding](#)', *Guardian*, 4 February 2019
- Joseph Flaig, '[UK Missing Opportunity as it Swims Against Tidal Energy](#)', *Professional Engineering*, 7 February 2019
- Hans van Haren, '[Pull of the Tide](#)', *New Scientist* (£), 20 June 2018

Further Information

- Marianne Zeyringer et al, '[The Potential of Marine Energy Technologies in the UK—Evaluation From a Systems Perspective](#)', *Renewable Energy*, January 2018, vol 115, pp 1281–1293
- European Commission Joint Research Centre, Institute for Energy and Transport, [2014 JRC Ocean Energy Status Report](#), 2015
- Greenpeace, '[Wave and Tidal Power](#)', accessed 20 May 2019
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, '[Wave and Tidal Power](#)', accessed 20 May 2019

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