

Rt. Hon. Boris Johnson MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing St
Westminster
London
SW1A 2AA

Thursday 17th December 2020

Dear Prime Minister,

As you have made clear, Britain stands on the cusp of a world-leading hydrogen revolution, and one which we are almost uniquely positioned to take advantage of. With an extensive, world-leading gas grid, huge amounts of offshore wind resource and liquid energy markets, there are few other places as well positioned as the UK to lead the international race to build a hydrogen economy.

We warmly welcome the plans you have set out for the UK to fulfil its climate change obligations through your Ten Point Plan For A Green Industrial Revolution, the UK's increased Nationally Determined Contribution and the Energy White Paper. These plans will also ensure that we maintain our world leading climate change position in the run-up to the COP26 conference in Glasgow.

We believe, however, that there is more that can be done.

Household carbon emissions from our heating, hot water and cooking must reduce from nearly 3 tonnes a year today to just 138kg a year by 2050, a 95% decrease.

To be successful in doing that, people should be able to choose the appliances that are right for them and the properties they live in. Whether they choose hydrogen-ready boilers, heat pumps or innovative hybrid heating solutions that bring the two together, the principle of consumer choice should be key. That is necessary to ensure policy moves forward with public support and so that different types of homes, in a variety of different settings, are able to access low carbon appliances that are both practical and realistic in their installation and use. Without that choice, we will fail.

Hydrogen-ready boilers have a particularly exciting role to play as part of this mix, offering the opportunity for people to continue to use their heating, cooking and hot water in the same way they do today, without major changes to their homes. Because they are compatible with a gas grid that delivers 100% hydrogen, they will allow households to smoothly transition away from natural gas as the amount of hydrogen and biomethane in our gas grid gradually increases, in-line with the broader suite of policies that you have recently announced.

We believe that mandating that any new boiler installed in Britain's households should be hydrogen-ready from 2025 will ensure that households do not spend money on conventional gas boilers which then have to be replaced by a different technology in a relatively short period of time afterwards. Doing so now is important, because it will send a clear signal to boiler manufacturers to build on their existing work in this area, to invest in developing the widest possible range of hydrogen-ready products for consumers to choose from.

We are therefore calling on the Government to mandate that from 2025 any boilers that are installed in any household should be hydrogen-ready.

The exciting role that hydrogen has to play in delivering a net zero economy is becoming increasingly clear. We look forward to working closely with the customers we serve, your Government and the wider energy industry to turn that ambition into reality.

Yours faithfully,



Karen Boswell OBE,
Managing Director
UK & Ireland



Carl Arntzen,
CEO



Mike Foster,
Chief Executive



Steve
Fraser, CEO



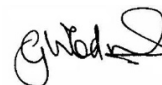
Phil
Sheppard,
Director



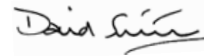
Mark Horsley,
CEO



John Morea,
CEO



Graham
Edwards,
CEO



David Smith,
Chief
Executive



CC:

Rt. Hon. Alok Sharma MP, Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.
Rt. Hon. Kwasi Kwarteng MP, Minister of State (Minister for Business, Energy and Clean Growth).