



**Aberdeen &
Grampian
Chamber of
Commerce**

Sir Keir Starmer MP

Leader of the official opposition
The Labour Party Central Office
Kings Manor
Newcastle-upon-Tyne
NE1 6PA

Dear Sir Keir,

We require urgent clarity about your proposals to extend the windfall tax on the North Sea oil and gas sector and remove crucial investment allowances should you form the next UK Government.

If you proceed with these plans, up to 100,000 people could lose their jobs – redundancies on a scale not seen in this country since the pit closures of the 1980s.

You have repeatedly pledged to deliver a fair and just energy transition for workers, however your current position will bring about the cliff-edge end to North Sea production you promised to avoid.

Over 215,000 jobs are supported by the offshore oil and gas sector – 95,000 of those in Scotland and 45,000 in the Aberdeen region alone. This workforce generates billions of pounds every year for the Exchequer, helping fund our public services on a scale few other sectors can match.

Whichever party forms the next government owes it to them to make sure our transition to cleaner energies is just, and that nobody is left behind. Your green prosperity ambition cannot be delivered without them.

We need to encourage, not deter, investment in new fields to offset decline, otherwise we will lose 75% of our production inside a decade, leaving us reliant on more energy imports from abroad, as well as potential energy shortages.

Given the scale of job losses, your estimate that this policy will raise £10.8 billion in tax revenue will not be achieved. In fact, early analysis by investment bank Stifel suggests that it will cost the UK Exchequer £20 billion in lost revenue.

Furthermore, if North Sea production is to cease prematurely – a certain outcome of this policy – then our entire energy transition is undermined.

We need to marry the scaling back of our oil and gas industry with the ramping up of renewables, otherwise there will be huge economic and social damage. This policy does not achieve that balance and places communities all over the UK at risk.

To meet our ambitious targets, we must harness the expertise, knowledge, financial capital and infrastructure of our world-class oil and gas industry, its workforce and supply chain. Doing so will allow us to move to net zero – a destination we all agree on – through developing carbon capture utilisation and storage, offshore wind and hydrogen technologies powered by UK businesses.

Finally, the way this and previous North Sea policies have been announced, without any consultation, is regrettable. We cannot overstate mixture of sadness, frustration and anger – throughout and beyond the energy sector – which has resulted from your announcement.

We urge you to return to the North-east and re-write your policy in partnership with the people, communities and companies you want to finance and deliver it.

Yours sincerely,

Russell Borthwick,
Chief Executive,
Aberdeen & Grampian
Chamber of Commerce

Dr Liz Cameron,
Chief Executive,
Scottish Chambers
of Commerce

Sir Ian Wood
Chairman,
ETZ Ltd

Martin Gilbert,
Chairman,
AssetCo

Christian Allard,
Co-leader of Aberdeen
City Council

Ian Yuill,
Co-leader of Aberdeen
City Council

Mike Killeen,
COO,
Serica Energy

Neil Cowie,
Principal at North East
Scotland College

Colin Welsh,
Partner,
SCF Partners

Steven Fraser,
Managing Partner,
AAB

Colin Crombie,
Managing Director,
Kirkwood Homes

Grant Rodgerson,
Chief Executive,
ANM Group

Sarah Moore,
CEO,
Peterson

Douglas Craig,
Chairman,
Craig Group

Norman Wisely,
Partner,
CMS

Steve Nicol,
Executive President,
Operations,
Wood

Stewart Gibson	Sales Director	A & J Robertson (Granite) Ltd
Alex Robb	Managing Director	A B Robb
Stewart Milne	Company Director	AB11 Property Group
Rachel Mearns	Director	Aberdeen Academy of Performing Arts
Jason Grant	Managing Director	Aberdeen Drilling School Ltd
Mark Beveridge	Operations Director	Aberdeen International Airport
Jean Morrison	Chairperson	Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group (AREG)
Richard Fearn	Owner	Aberdeen Serviced Apartments
Richard Smart	Managing Director	Aberdeen Web Ltd
Damian Bates	Managing Director	Abraitis & Co
Ed Arnott	Business & Commercial Director	ACE Forwarding Limited
Gordon Smith	Director	ACS Ltd
Austin Hay	Managing Director	ADC Energy Ltd
Alf Robertson	Managing Director	Agile Energy Recovery Ltd
Alistair Aboyne	Chairman	AJC Construction Ltd
Mark Dellaquaglia	Director	Albyn Design & Build Ltd
Donald Sutherland	Managing Director	All Timberlines Ltd
Michael Duncan	Managing Director	Allied International UK limited
Stewart Risk	Technical Director	Amplus Energy Services Ltd
Neil Carr	Director	AMS Global Group Ltd
Sheryl Newman	CEO	Appetite for Business
Stephen Taylor	Managing Director	AquaTerra
John Cruickshank	Managing Director	Arrow Subsea Limited
Mike Pettigrew	CEO	ASCO
Alexander Strachan	Director	ASESL
Bill Main	Managing Director	Balmoral Comtec
Zoe Ogilvie	Director	BIG Partnership
Graeme Smith	General Manager	Boma Pipe Ltd
Carol Gray	Director	Bon-Accord Training Ltd
Allan Carnegie	Director	Box-it North Scotland
Victoria Vyalikova	Director	BrandHouzz Digital
Barry Simpson	Director	Bridgefield Consulting
Peter Dalgarno	Managing Director	Byron Ltd
Iain Gallow	Director	Calash Ltd
Graham Christie	Director	Cameron + Ross

Colin Black	Managing Director	Carjon-NRG Limited
Allan Carnegie	Senior Partner	Carnegie Base Services
Derren McRae	Head of Office - Aberdeen	CBRE
Kevin Sarstedt	CEO	Chrysalis Energy Ltd
Dean Gowans	Director	City Restoration Project Ltd
John Michie	Partner	Charles Michie Community Pharmacies
Colin Duncan	Director	CMD coatings Ltd
Mick Beavers	Managing Director	Control Valve Solutions Limited
Gordon Miller	Director	CUT UK Ltd
Bob Drummond	Chief Executive Officer	D2Zero Limited
Bob McAlpine	Managing Director	Dalriada Management Services Ltd
David Stephenson	Chief Executive Officer	Deep Casing Tools
Jeff Knight	Director	Drilltools Ltd
Colin Rowley	Group Chairperson	Dron & Dickson
David Carnegie	Director	Edzell Base Ltd
Bob Garrioch	Managing Director	Emergen Ltd
Jamie Bennett	CEO	Enerco Group Ltd
David Wade	Managing Director	Enerpro Group
Dan Millard	Chief Executive Officer	Eserv
Mark Esslemont	Partner	Esslemonts
Mark Jones	Managing Director	Euroload Limited
Richard Noble	Managing Director	FG Burnett Limited
Ian Ord	CEO	Fifth Ring
Kenny Woods	CEO	FIS Chemicals
Gary Clark	Director	Flinspec
Alison King	Managing Director	Flowerpots Childcare Ltd
Colin McKay	Managing Director	Frasers of Ellon
Lorna Clark	Director	Genny Hire Ltd
Sarah Clelland	Operations Specialist	Geodis
Gerald Muldoon	Director	GM Events Ltd
Gordon Pirie	Director	Gordon Pirie & Company Ltd
Gary Henderson	Managing Director	Grampian Fasteners
Eli Bamberger	Investment Manager	Harewood Green Group
Bertwin Zonneveld	Managing Director	Hendrik Veder Group UK
John Hughes	Optometrist	HMD Opticians
Alexander Fettes	Director	Hogarth Energy Ltd
Joanna Fraser	Founder	Hoolet
David Lakin	Business Owner	Howburn Residence Ltd
Iain Landsman	Managing Director	Hutcheon Mearns Real Estate
Gary Campbell	Managing Director	Hutcheon Services Ltd
Neil Hutcheson	MD	Hutches of Portsoy
Neil Thompson	Chief Executive Officer	Hydrasun Ltd
Ian Rodger	Principal Architect	Ian Rodger Architects
Stuart Sinclair	CEO	Integrity ISS Limited
Ross Hyland	Director	Intertek
George Ross	Rental Sales Manager	Intervention Rentals
Neil Ross	Director	Inverurie Tile Centre
Tom Smith	Chairman	Inverusk Services (Aberdeen) Ltd

Janine Cameron	Finance Director	James Laing & Sons Ltd
Philip Morrison	Managing Director	James Rizza and Sons
Marie-Louise Dunk	Director	JAMstudio Ltd
Lester Clark	Director of Engineering	Jee Ltd
Richard Gibson	Managing Director	Kirktyne Limited
Darren Walker	Managing Director	Laings Kitchens & Bathrooms
Fred Urquhart	Director	Leathan Taxis
David Scott	Partner	Ledingham Chalmers LLP
James Davies	General Manager	Lickleyhead Castle
Susan Barr	Private Sector Landlord	Lifestyle Leasing Ltd
Millar Kennedy	Sales Director	Load Monitoring Systems Ltd
Bryan Innes	Founding Partner	Lockhart Capital Management
Robbie Wright	Managing Director	Long Technology Limited
Kevin Murray	Managing Director	MacArtney UK Ltd
Mark Palmer	Dental Surgeon	Mark Palmer & Associates
Craig Finnie	Managing Director	Maxwell Drummond
Derek Leith	General Manager	MB Air Systems Ltd
John Barbour	Lead Piping Engineer	McLachlan Engineering Services Ltd
Alasdair Cowie	Group Business Development Director	MCS Group
Drew Leitch	Managing Director	MDT International
Brian Knowles	Managing Director	Modutec Ltd
Barry Silver	Managing Director	Mooreast
Raymond Charles	Director	MTC Property
Murray Burnett	Managing Director	Munro's Travel
Gordon Gray	Director	NE Scotland Fire Risk Assessors Ltd
David Fyffe	Managing Partner	Netherton Rural Business Centre
Scott MacAngus	Managing Director	North Sea Energy Services
Andrew McLaren	Director	Numac Engineering Limited
Kevin Parker	Managing Director	OceanTools
Daniel Hyland	Operations Director	OGV Group
Stephen Insch	Director	P.T.E. Drives & Controls
Richard Cowling	Director	PDC Systems Ltd
Brian Crichton	Managing Director	People Factor Consultants Ltd
Steven Dempster	Operations Director	Petrex
Graham Davidson	Director/Owner	Phoenix Decom Ltd
Drew Crawford	Hotelier	Pinehurst Lodge
Martin Worth	Business Director	Plant Integrity Management Ltd
Mike Byrne	Quality Assurance Consultant	Quality Services Aberdeen Ltd
Andy Troup	Managing Director	Raccortubi UK
Gordon McKay	General Manager	Rainbow City Taxis
William Aitken	Managing Director	Red Rooster Lifting Ltd
Mary Smith	Managing Director	Relocation Scotland
Robert West	Director	Robert West (Aberdeen) Ltd t/a Kitchen Dreams
Dougy Agnew	Tax Partner	RSM
Jill Webster	Co-founder and Director	Rubberatkins Ltd
Arron Finnie	Regional Managing Partner	Ryden LLP

Richard Rae	Business Development Manager	Rysco Corrosion UK Ltd
Ronald Whyte	Managing Director	Schoolhill Hyd Eng Co Ltd
David Wright	Managing Director	Securastore Ltd
Mark Le Huray	Managing Director	Simblox Technologies
Gary Cunningham	Managing Director	Solstad Offshore
Brian Taylor	Chief Executive	Somebody Cares
Charles Loader	General Manager - Europe and Africa	Sonomatic Ltd
Gerard Henry	Managing Director	Specialist Valves Services Ltd
Steve Cook	Commercial Services Manager	Sport Aberdeen
Mark Morgan	Director	Stella's Voice
Andrew Beveridge	Managing Director	Stonehaven Engineering Ltd
Stuart Donaldson	Managing Director	Strachan Ltd
Mark Paton	Managing Director	Sub-drill
Steven Gray	CEO	Subtron Group
Paul Howlett	Managing Director	Sudelac Limited
Bill Walkingshaw	Owner Managing Director	TEMS International
Alan Lyons	Operations Manager	TG Office Services
Mohammad Abshenas	Business Manger	TGT diagnostics
Craig Thomson	Partner	The Shore Porters Society
Andrew Alleway	Managing Director	Tidy Green Clean
Malcolm Duckworth	Director	Time Exposure Travel Ltd
Rich Tinto	Owner	Tinto Architecture Ltd
Karen Molloy	Director	TMM Recruitment Ltd
Amanda McCulloch	CEO	TMM Recruitment Ltd
Geoff Aberdein	Managing Partner	True North
Fergus Mutch	Managing Partner	True North
Nicholas Garrett	Director	Valvetec Services Limited
Richard Drennan	Director	Viewport3
Stephen Jewell	Managing Director	Well Decom Limited
Daniel Lewis	Area Vice president UK & CE	Welltec
Linda Gordon	Financial Controller	Westerton Access Limited
John Maitland	Managing Director	William Maitland Ltd
Matthew Pirie	Regional Manager (Scotland)	Williams Shipping
John Fraser	Managing Director	Workplace Office Furniture Ltd
Susan Grayson	Founder/DE&I Consultant	Younique Inclusion Limited

Plus 650 individual signatories.