

MONTHLY ENERGY WRAP-UP

# NOTHING BUT NET ZERO

## **This Month in Net Zero** **JUNE EDITION**

In June, London Climate Action Week brought global leaders together amid growing urgency around the energy transition. Headlines across the sector reflected a mix of policy pressure, innovation, and shifting investment priorities.

In the UK, the government committed £200 million to revive the Acorn carbon capture project, while Siemens Energy warned that record-breaking offshore wind auctions are essential to meet 2030 targets. Labour's Reeves Review positioned net zero as a core pillar of future economic strategy.

In the U.S., the clean hydrogen sector faces uncertainty. With 45V hydrogen tax credits under political threat, nearly 250 firms and unions are urging Congress to protect them. The Wall Street Journal warned that America risks losing clean tech leadership.

In the Middle East, the MENA Steel Forum spotlighted growing scrutiny of hydrogen's role in decarbonisation. A standout message: "Green steel is not green if it runs on fossil fuels." Oman targets 30% renewable electricity by 2030, while solar demand grows across data centres. In Asia, BayWa r.e. and Tigo Energy launched high-efficiency solar systems, Canadian Solar saw profits fall 92%, and Plug Power secured a 2GW green hydrogen deal in Uzbekistan.



# EUROPE

## **UK commits £200 million to Acorn CCUS project, plus support for Humber Viking CCS**

UK to invest £200 million in Acorn CCS project – The UK government is investing £200 million in Scotland's Acorn carbon capture and storage project to support its 2050 net-zero goals and advance storage infrastructure.

[Read the full article here](#)

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## **Labour Spending Review backs Department for Energy Security & Net Zero with a 16% budget rise**

Reeves review shows Labour doubles down on net zero – Chancellor Rachel Reeves has positioned the government as committed to net zero as a central part of its agenda, using the spending review to take the initiative from opposition parties.

[Read the full article here](#)

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## **Offshore wind auction must secure record capacity to meet 2030 clean power goals**

Britain needs record offshore wind auction – Siemens Energy warns that the UK must auction a record 6 GW of offshore wind capacity to stay on track with its 2030 clean power targets.

[Read the full article here](#)







# MENA

## **Oman to generate 30% of power from renewables by 2030s**

Oman targets 30 % renewable power by 2030 – Oman plans to generate 30 % of its electricity from renewables by 2030 and is building accompanying transmission infrastructure to meet that target.

[Read the full article here](#)

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## **Data centres and solar power drive U.S. electricity boom - is the Middle East ready?**

Data centres and solar reshape energy demand – Rising power demand from data centres is driving adoption of solar energy in the Middle East to support expanding digital infrastructure.

[Read the full article here](#)

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## **At the 2025 MENA Steel Forum, Soroush Basirat made a clear statement: “Green steel is not green if it runs on fossil fuel”?**

Speaking at the 2025 MENA Steel Forum, Soroush Basirat challenged regional strategies by warning that exporting hydrogen while using fossil fuels at home undermines the credibility of green steel.

[Read the full article here](#)

# US

## **The U.S. gave up its lead in clean energy sectors before. It might be doing it again**

The Trump administration's move to roll back hydrogen, carbon capture and green energy initiatives is likely to play into China and Europe's hands, say industry leaders.

[Read the full article here](#)

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## **Drillers, unions urge US senators to preserve hydrogen credit**

A coalition of nearly 250 companies and business and labor groups on Thursday urged top U.S. Republican senators to preserve a credit for the emerging hydrogen fuel industry as they hash out President Donald Trump's tax and spending bill.

[Read the full article here](#)

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## **Blockchain for Energy (B4E) joins Hedera Council to advance emissions reporting standards**

Blockchain for Energy (B4E) has officially joined the Hedera Council, becoming the first energy-focused member. This move will see B4E leverage Hedera's distributed ledger technology to drive greater efficiency, transparency, and scalability across the energy sector—particularly in emissions tracking, digital measurement, and regulatory compliance.

[Read the full article here](#)





# ASIA

## **Plug Power secures 2GW electrolyser deal for Uzbekistan green hydrogen project**

Plug Power secures 2GW electrolyser deal for Uzbekistan – Plug Power has agreed to a 2 GW electrolyser deal worth \$5.5 billion with Allied Green Ammonia for a green hydrogen project in Uzbekistan.

[Read the full article here](#)

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## **Chinese PV Industry Brief: Canadian Solar profit drops 92% in Q1**

Canadian Solar says its net profit plunged nearly 92% in the first quarter of 2025 on falling margins, while China Energy Engineering Corp. (CEEC) says the Shanghai Stock Exchange has approved its targeted A-share issuance to raise up to CNY 15 billion (USD 2.09 billion) for energy projects..

[Read the full article here](#)

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## **Tigo Energy and BayWa r.e. empower high-wattage C&I Solar in Thailand**

Annual ASEAN Sustainable Energy Week 2025, Tigo and BayWa r.e. collaborate on optimization, monitoring, and rapid shutdown solutions for C&I solar in Thailand.

[Read the full article here](#)



# ARTICLE

## Leading Through the Energy Transition The New Executive Mandate

The global move towards a low-carbon future is no longer speculative. It is mandated, mobilised, and gaining momentum. Regulatory targets, investor expectations and shifting public sentiment are coming together to reshape the foundations of the energy economy.

But this transformation is not linear. It is fragmented, uncertain and fast-moving. For organisations embedded in traditional energy systems, or those heavily dependent on them, the path ahead demands a profound shift. Established value chains are being dismantled, business models questioned and leaders asked to guide their companies through uncharted territory.



### THE ENERGY EVOLUTION IS STRATEGIC, NOT JUST TECHNICAL

This is not simply a matter of technology or infrastructure. The most pressing challenges are strategic, organisational and human. Senior leaders are now faced with decisions that will determine whether their businesses can adapt, survive and thrive in a dramatically altered landscape. Key questions include:

- How can we assess opportunities when technologies, fuel sources and markets are still evolving?
- What does resilience mean in a carbon-constrained global economy?
- Do our leadership structures support the pace and nature of change, or do they need to be reimaged?

We are no longer optimising within a familiar framework. Instead, leaders are being called upon to navigate ambiguity, challenge old assumptions and make bold decisions with imperfect information.



### A NEW TYPE OF LEADERSHIP IS EMERGING

The profile of successful leaders is changing. Technical expertise and conventional career paths are no longer sufficient. What is required now is the ability to operate with confidence amid uncertainty, combining analytical depth with adaptive thinking and emotional intelligence.

Identifying and evaluating these leaders calls for a new approach. Boards and hiring executives must go beyond CVs and titles, exploring values, motivations, learning agility and resilience. Assessment methods such as behavioural interviews, scenario-based analysis and psychometric tools are becoming essential, particularly when calibrated for high-change environments.

Some of the most promising talent may not have traditional energy backgrounds. They may come from adjacent industries, entrepreneurial settings, or early career stages, but they demonstrate strong potential and the curiosity to grow into leadership roles.



## REDEFINING THE EXECUTIVE BRIEF FOR THE ENERGY TRANSITION

As the energy landscape evolves, so too do the expectations for senior executives. Modern leadership briefs often include:

- **Strategic foresight:** The capacity to plan and act decisively in the face of unknowns, while anticipating the direction of policy, market and technology trends.
- **Agility and adaptability:** A willingness to iterate, reassess and pivot as new data and dynamics emerge, rather than being bound to past assumptions.
- **Ecosystem awareness:** The ability to build partnerships across diverse industries, including finance, mobility, technology and government.
- **Investor alignment:** Engaging with the capital markets, understanding ESG trends and stewarding investment with long-term outcomes in mind.
- **Regulatory fluency:** Working constructively with regulators and policymakers to shape and respond to evolving frameworks.
- **Commercial creativity:** Structuring partnerships and ventures that are flexible and capable of withstanding volatility while delivering impact.



## THE STAKES ARE HIGH, BUT SO ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES

This is no longer a side project. The energy transition sits at the centre of strategic focus for many organisations. The combination of climate risk, geopolitical disruption, policy change and public demand has created a moment of real urgency.

Doing nothing is not a neutral act. Delay carries significant strategic, financial and reputational risks. However, for organisations willing to invest in visionary leadership and bold decisions, the opportunity to lead and shape the future is substantial.



## WHAT THIS MEANS FOR EXECUTIVE TALENT STRATEGY

For those of us in executive search, the implications are significant:

- **Challenge conventional benchmarks.** Focus less on tenure or sector background, and more on mindsets, capabilities and future readiness.
- **Use deeper assessment tools.** Psychometrics, case-based evaluation and behavioural analysis can reveal strengths not evident on a CV.
- **Spot talent early.** Tomorrow's leaders may not yet have high-profile titles but will show signs of exceptional potential.
- **Engage across sectors.** The intersection of energy, tech, finance and policy will be fertile ground for leadership innovation.



## FINAL THOUGHT

This is a defining era for the energy sector and for leadership more broadly. As consultants and advisors, we have a responsibility to help organisations make informed, forward-looking decisions about the people they place at the helm.

By understanding the complexity and embracing the uncertainty of this transition, we can help shape leadership teams that are not only fit for today, but ready for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.



**George Richardson**

Director, Global Energy Practice  
Norman Broadbent Plc



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Having lived and worked in major energy hubs like Houston and Aberdeen, I've developed deep roots in the global energy sector. I love being part of the dynamic team at Norman Broadbent. With such a rich heritage across the energy mix, and the complex supply chains which underpin the industry, we are proud to continue playing our part in shaping the future by solving the ever-changing leadership challenges of our time.

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## Kevin Davidson

Chief Executive Officer  
**Norman Broadbent Plc**

