

NOTHING BUT NET ZERO

This Month in Net Zero NOVEMBER EDITION

November highlighted the acceleration and the unevenness of the clean energy transition, with markets moving forward even as policy signals diverged. The International Energy Agency projected that a surge in low-cost renewables will lock in the long-term decline of fossil fuels, while Europe continued to position itself as a global anchor for clean energy financing.

A new campaign secured €15.5bn for renewable deployment across Africa, and the Commission prepared a €600m Horizon Europe call to push industrial decarbonisation. In Asia, new analysis suggests green fuels could deliver a quarter of APAC's emissions reductions by mid-century, even as climate tech investment remains subdued. Regional leaders are redefining what bankability means as financing conditions tighten, pointing to the need for stronger risk frameworks and private capital participation.

The Middle East continued its rapid expansion. Saudi Arabia awarded \$2.4bn in solar and wind contracts, adding more than 4.5GW of capacity, while ACWA Power and Envision Energy signed a seven-year agreement to accelerate renewable deployment across Central and Eastern Asia. Senior energy executives warned of persistent underinvestment across global energy systems, reinforcing the region's growing strategic influence.

In the Americas, policy divergence was again in focus. The US signalled a more uncertain outlook as the Department of Energy cancelled more than \$7bn in clean energy financing and concerns mounted over power shortages. Mexico moved in the opposite direction, launching a \$7.1bn initiative to attract private investment into renewable energy and strengthen national sustainability standards. Momentum remains strong, but the next phase will depend on capital discipline, credible policy, and leadership able to navigate tightening financing conditions with long-term ambition.



EUROPE

Supply boom in cheaper renewables will seal end of fossil fuel era, says IEA

The International Energy Agency (IEA) warns that a flood of low-cost renewable energy projects means the fossil-fuel era is now firmly ending, with more renewables expected to be installed in the next five years than in the past 40

[Read the full article here](#)

Europe leads pledging effort in campaign mobilising €15.5 billion for clean energy in Africa

Europe has led a global campaign that secured €15.5 billion in commitments to accelerate clean energy deployment across Africa, with the funding expected to generate 26.8 GW of renewable power and bring electricity access to 17.5 million households.

[Read the full article here](#)

Clean Industrial Deal: a new Horizon Europe funding call to support the decarbonisation of the EU

In December 2025, the European Commission will launch an Horizon Europe call worth approximately €600 million to fund research and innovation projects supporting the Clean Industrial Deal

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MENA

Saudi Arabia awards contracts worth \$2.4bn for renewable energy projects

Saudi Arabia has awarded 2.4 billion dollars worth of contracts for five new renewable energy projects across solar and wind, adding 4.5 gigawatts of capacity. The deals, led by SPPC and major partners like Masdar, signal accelerating momentum in the kingdom's Vision 2030 shift toward low cost, large scale clean power.

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Middle East Energy Leaders Warn of Underinvestment in Energy

"The long-term outlook shows demand growth for every form of energy across every market. Renewables will more than double by 2040, LNG will grow 50 percent, jet fuel will grow more than 30 percent and oil will stay above 100 million barrels per day beyond 2040"

[Read the full article here](#)

Envision Energy and ACWA Power Sign Seven-Year Framework Agreement to Accelerate Renewable Energy Development Across Asia and the Middle East

Under the agreement, Envision Energy will collaborate with ACWA Power on upcoming renewable energy projects in Saudi Arabia, Uzbekistan, and other key markets across Central and Eastern Asia.

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US

Why US may soon have a real energy emergency

US firms are likely to suffer because they can't get enough power, while consumers will end up paying more because of Mr Trump's dismissive approach to renewables.

[Read the full article here](#)

US axes \$7.6bn in funding for clean energy projects

The US Department of Energy (DOE) announced it is cancelling \$7.56 billion (£5.7bn) in financing for hundreds of clean energy projects earlier this month.

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Mexico Seeks US\$7.1 Billion for Renewable Energy Projects

Mexico has launched an initiative to attract US\$7.14 billion in private investment for renewable energy projects. Meanwhile, Canadian-owned mining companies have committed to a Sustainable Mining Standard, a global framework guiding their operations in Mexico.

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ASIA

Green fuels can deliver 25% of APAC emissions cuts by 2050

Green fuels and feedstocks, including hydrogen, ammonia, sustainable fuels and carbon sequestration, will be responsible for over 25% of emissions reductions in Asia-Pacific by 2050, according to a new report from DNV.

[Read the full article here](#)

Climate tech is down, but not out in APAC

Investor sentiment in APAC climate tech has cooled due to weak economics and geopolitics, but ecosystem players like ADB Ventures argue there remains strong opportunity as the region seeks scalable decarbonisation solutions

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Regional energy leaders redefine what bankable means amidst shifting financing realities

Leaders in Asia's energy sector have examined the challenges of project bankability, the evolving risk appetite amongst financiers, and the urgent need to mobilise private capital for an expanding regional energy landscape..

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ARTICLE

The Rise of the Integrated Clean Energy Leader

Why the winners of the next decade will be those who can operate across clean energy, digital infrastructure, finance, and policy, not just within them.

The Leadership Shift Already Underway

For years, leadership in the energy transition was defined by depth. Technical specialists. Sector veterans. Executives who built careers mastering one part of the system. But that world is disappearing. AI driven electrification is reshaping demand. Data centres are consuming power faster than grids can respond. Capital is tightening. Policy signals are fragmenting. The transition has outgrown the specialist era. The question facing boards is shifting from “who knows this asset class best?” to “who can lead across systems that no longer behave independently?”. The next decade will belong to leaders who can integrate, not isolate.

A System No Longer Made of Silos

Convergence is no longer a concept. It is the operating reality. Energy, digital infrastructure, industry, and finance are now woven together. Hyperscale cloud growth is shaping grid planning. Industrial decarbonisation is dictating demand for hydrogen, storage, and flexible power. Financial markets are pricing risk and resilience faster than policy can keep up. These pressures are not temporary. They are structural. Leadership must now reflect this interconnected landscape.

From Expertise to Integration

Organisations spent a decade optimising for specialists. The next era requires integrators. Integration is not about knowing everything. It is about connecting what matters. Integrated leaders can anticipate second order effects. They can translate complexity into clear direction. They can make decisions when none of the variables are stable. This is a different leadership profile. It blends cross functional fluency with operational discipline. Boards are already adjusting.

The Competencies That Will Define the 2030s

The integrated clean energy leader is not defined by credentials. They are defined by capability. Systems thinking. Risk fluency. Multi market execution. Cross functional leadership. Learning velocity. These are the foundations of competitiveness.

Boards Are Quietly Rewriting the Rulebook

Search and succession are being reshaped. Boards want leaders who can integrate across energy, digital, and finance. Leaders who can bring coherence to complexity. Traditional pipelines no longer produce what organisations now require.

The Leadership Premium

Capital markets are beginning to reward integrated leadership. Investors are asking whether leaders can navigate policy reversals, understand digital load growth, and build capital structures that endure volatility. Leadership is not an overhead. It is a multiplier of clarity and resilience.

What Will Separate the Winners From the Rest

The next phase of the energy transition will be won by leadership that can integrate technology, capital, and policy. The companies that thrive will be those led by individuals who understand the full system and act with purpose within it.

George Richardson

Director, Global Energy Practice
Norman Broadbent Plc

