

# Sustainable Severn Forum 2017

## Energy Development in the Severn Estuary

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# Energy & Environment

- Role of NRW
- Context
- Challenges
- Opportunities and moving forward
- NRW's position



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# Role of NRW

- Regulator, advisor, land owner and manager, incident responder
  - Statutory advisor on strategic plans and assessments.
  - Statutory advisor on projects.
  - Regulator e.g. Marine Licensing Authority

*Applying principles of sustainable management of natural resources*

***We want Wales to be location of choice for marine renewable energy which is good for people, the environment and business.***



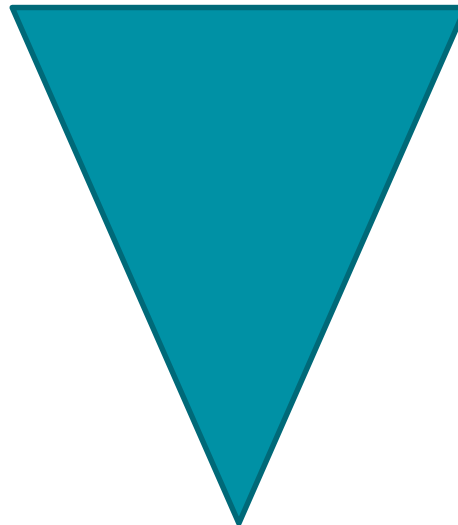
# Climate Change Context

- The Environment Act requires Welsh Ministers to meet Climate Change targets.
- Renewable energy is crucial in achieving climate change targets.



# Energy Hierarchy

More sustainable



Reduce Energy Demand (Energy Conservation)

Use Energy Efficiently

Renewable Energy Generation

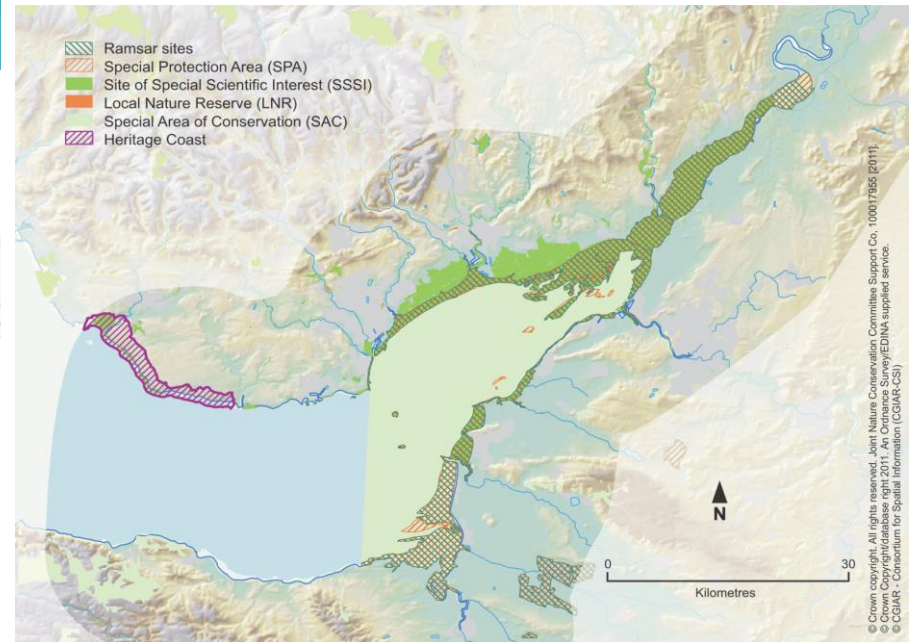
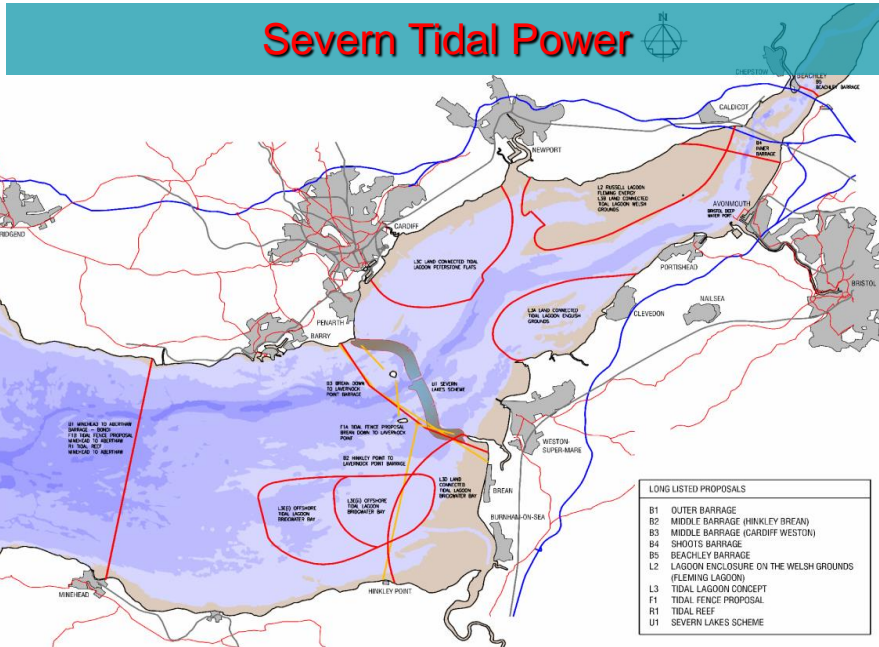
Low Carbon Technologies

Conventional Technologies

Less sustainable



# Energy & Environment in the Severn



# Challenges

- Loss of species & habitats
- Lack of evidence about impacts
- Cumulative & far field effects
- Residual uncertainties
- Possible benefits
- Mitigation, compensation, adaptive management
- Decommissioning

*.....significant consenting and environmental risk*



# Moving Forward: A Strategic Approach

- The right development /activity in the right place
- Policy Framework (NPS)
- Strategic Plans and Assessment
- Strategic Evidence





# Policy

- Energy Wales: A Low Carbon Transition
- WG Programme for Government
- National Policy Statement? (Benefits, alternatives, locations, design etc)

## Strategic Planning & Assessment

- Offshore Energy Plans & Crown Estate Leasing Plans
- Wales National Marine Plan
- SEA & HRA

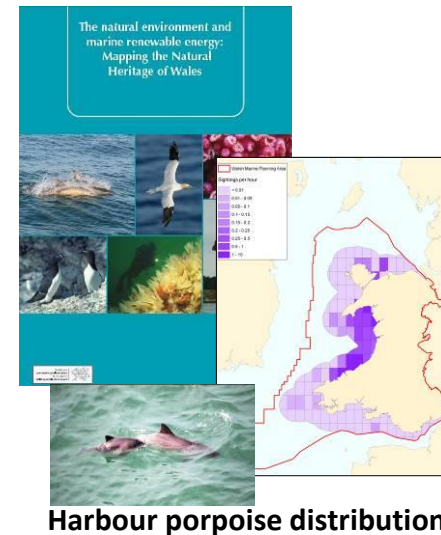


# Evidence needs

The right evidence is crucial to:

- Inform strategic plans and policies
- Develop spatial policies
- Understand options/adequacy of mitigation, compensation

*Evidence needs at a strategic & project level*



**In some areas there is limited evidence to inform consenting decisions – this is a significant challenge for the development of marine industries**



# Summary Position

- Right development in the right place
- Strategic Approach to deployment
- Policy framework
- Strategic planning & assessment
- R&D to address evidence needs
- NRW energy position review

**Thank you / Diolch.**

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