



Stop Climate Chaos Scotland

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Gillian Martin MSP
Minister for Climate Action,
St Andrew's House,
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(sent by email to MinisterCA@gov.scot)

23rd May 2024

Dear Minister,

Congratulations on your Ministerial appointment, with a revised portfolio. Stop Climate Chaos Scotland (SCCS) welcomes the inclusion of action in your title, as delivering the steps needed to reduce emissions quickly and fairly is critical to getting on track to reaching net zero by 2045, and the significant benefits this will bring to jobs, health and the economy. We have been pleased to work with you in previous roles and look forward to constructive engagement to implement the actions needed.

In our recent letter to the new First Minister, we drew attention to the opportunities and challenges of addressing the climate emergency. Working with the Cabinet Secretary and other government colleagues, your role will be crucial in realising and responding to these. In particular, we would like to highlight these priorities:

- Heat in Buildings - the current Bill was recently praised by the Climate Change Committee who said, "if implemented, (this) could become a template for other parts of the UK". To deliver significant benefits to household bills, health and emission reductions, there must be a swift passage of the Bill (no later than autumn 2024), with clear and ambitious dates and targets, and a timetable for developing secondary regulations, with a commitment to stakeholder engagement;
- Energy - consent must be refused for any new fossil-fuel based energy developments within devolved competencies, including the proposed gas-powered power station in Peterhead. Alongside this, the final Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan must confirm a presumption against any new oil and gas developments;
- Just Transition - final plans for land use, transport and built environment must be published without delay, and include a clear vision, actions necessary to deliver a Just Transition, and details of how these will be implemented;
- Circular Economy Bill - due diligence principles and measures should be added to show leadership and ensure the materials we use are obtained in ways which respect human rights and reduce global carbon emissions.

Further information on SCCS's priorities are outlined in this letter to the Cabinet Secretary following her roundtable with environmental organisations in April, and in our Climate Manifesto, which contains 119 policies across all sectors, land and seas, that would deliver emissions reductions and a just transition.

We are pleased to have a meeting with you scheduled for 30th May, and look forward to discussing these priorities in more detail, and hearing about your ambitions for the role.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Robinson', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mike Robinson, Chair of Stop Climate Chaos Scotland

About Stop Climate Chaos Scotland:

Stop Climate Chaos Scotland (SCCS) is the largest civil society coalition in Scotland, with over 70 organisations campaigning together on climate change. Our members include environment, faith and international development organisations, trade and student unions, and community groups, and together we represent over 1 million people. We call on the UK and Scottish Governments to take bold action, across all relevant policy areas, to tackle climate change, with Scotland delivering our fair share of action to limit global temperature rises to 1.5 degrees and supporting climate justice around the world.