Open Challenges for Research Infrastructures to Support Grid Transition at Pace

Mazher Syed
Dynamic Power Systems Laboratory
Institute for Energy and Environment

University of Strathclyde: the place of useful learning





Times Higher Education Widening Participation Initiative of the Year 2019
The University of Strathclyde is rated a QS 5-star institution



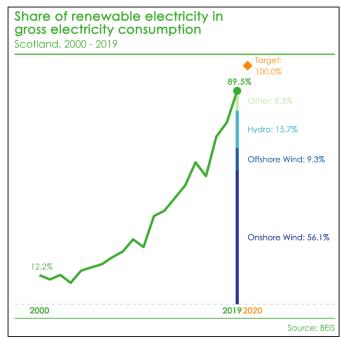




Transformation of our Grid

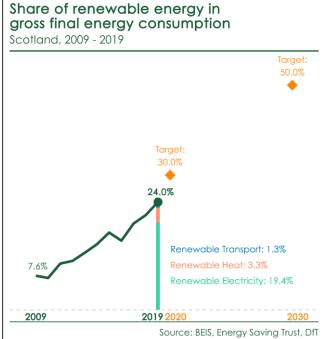


- ☐ Significant progress in decarbonising electricity grid
- ☐ Transport and heat account for 50% of energy demand
- An increased focus on whole energy systems driving change





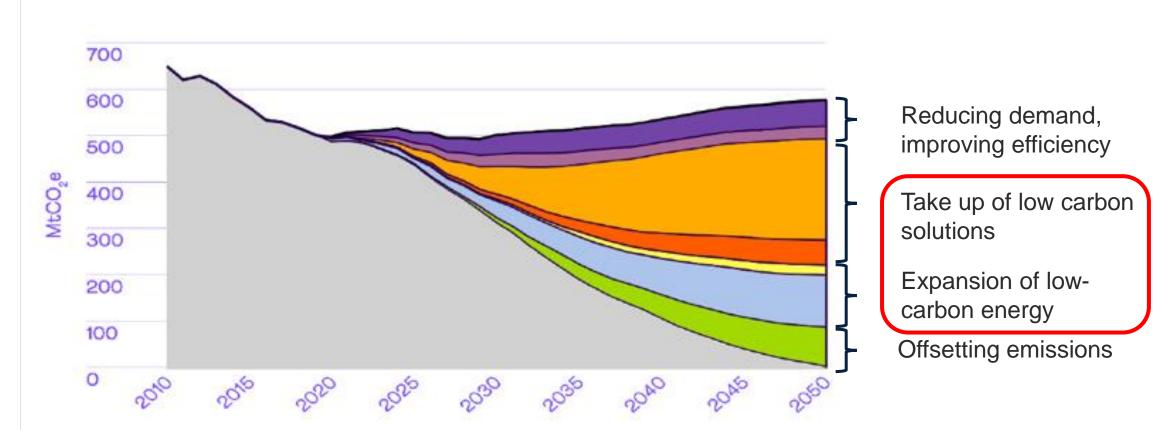
Extract from the Scottish Energy Strategy, December 2017



Tackling the Transformation



Meeting sixth carbon budget requires action across four key areas



Research Infrastructures Accelerating Technology Adoption



Academically established technologies

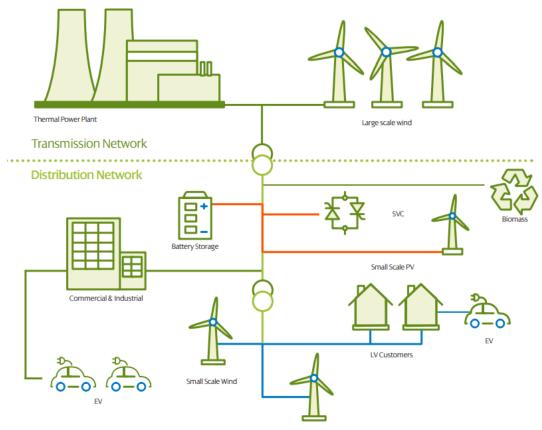
FUN-LV - 30 soft open points deployed in London Network after testing at PNDC

■ Novel Technologies

LV-ENGINE - World's first solid state transformer installation within distribution network in Scotland

Witness Testing

Wind Farm controller witness testing for Vestas



Active distribution network with bidirectional flow

Source: LV Engine A Smarter Electricity Network

Challenges for Research Infrastructures



- □ Scalability and Interoperability: Tackling the progressive integration and uptake of technology
- ☐ Increasing complexity: Trusted validation that justifies investments with confidence
- Business models validation: Future uncertain markets

Collaborative Effort



H2020 Project ERIGrid 2.0

- 20 Partners
- ☐ 13 Countries
- 21 Smart Grid Laboratories

Developing novel test methods, tools and services to support the validation of smart integrated energy system.





University of Strathclyde Engineering

Mazher Syed Lecturer, Institute for Energy and Environment mazheruddin.syed@strath.ac.uk