

Reply from Humza Yousaf, 8th March 2023

Responding to Stop Climate Chaos Scotland, Humza Yousaf said:

"Meeting the climate crisis will be a key priority for me as First Minister.

"I am 100% committed to meeting the climate change target of net zero by 2045 and ensuring we protect 30% of our land and sea by 2030 as part of tackling the nature crisis.

"Central to my approach is that we deliver a Just Transition, that is good for people, helps to tackle poverty, and delivers for our environment.

"We should see the transition to renewable and low carbon energy as a huge opportunity for Scotland to create thousands of good jobs and I will use all our powers now and with independence to capitalise on that opportunity, including taking public stakes in offshore wind and using more of our public land to develop our own publicly owned renewables.

"We know that people back the move away from oil and gas so long as we do it carefully and properly, protecting employment, building up the alternatives we need and putting the communities connected to the industry first.

"As First Minister I will ensure the government is properly kitted out to capture the billions of pounds of investment we need to decarbonise our buildings, our heat and our transport systems and to build vibrant new industries in offshore wind and hydrogen.

"And I will continue the partnership with the Scottish Green Party which is critical to making these changes with a majority in parliament that backs climate action."