



Issues	Conservatives	Labour	Lib Dem	SNP	UKIP	Green	SEA position
Climate Change Commitments	Will push for a strong global climate deal later this year –At home, we will continue to support the UK Climate Change Act. We will cut emissions as cost-effectively as possible. Will not support additional e power sector targets.	Will put climate change at the heart of our foreign policy	Zero Carbon Britain Act: A new legally-binding target for Zero Carbon Britain by 2050, to be monitored and audited by the Climate Change Committee (CCC).	Will ensure the UK matches, and supports, Scotland’s commitments to carbon reduction. And, we will call on the UK government to match the approach of the Scottish Government with a dedicated Climate Justice Fund.	Will scrap the 2008 Climate Change Act and the EU’s Large Combustion Plant Directive	90% reduction in greenhouse gases in the UK in the next 15-20 years. Zero carbon economy by 2050 Urgent action on climate change and working with other countries to hold the increase in global temperature to below 2 degrees	Using the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) Pathways calculator, we can show that energy security and 80% CO2 reduction can be achieved by less reliance on large scale generation and greater reliance on demand side and small-scale measures
Energy Efficiency Policy	Will support low-cost measures on energy efficiency, with the goal of insulating a million more homes over the next five years,	Will bring down energy bills by making homes more energy efficient, delivering a million interest free loans for energy home improvements in the next Parliament.	Make saving energy a top infrastructure priority, stimulating private sector demand with new Electricity Demand Reduction market, new market-shaping energy efficiency standards, support for industry, particularly SMEs, and a programme of tax incentives and public investment. Stimulate a minimum of £100 billion more private investment in low-carbon energy infrastructure by 2020. +Further extensive commitments	Will support lower energy bills for consumers by pushing for the ECO to be funded through general taxation and tough new powers to make sure energy companies pass on lower energy prices to consumers, saving households around £100 on energy bills based on recent wholesale prices. Will also resist any attempts to end the winter fuel allowance.	Will abolish ‘green levies’ to cut the cost of fuel bills	Plan to cut energy demand by one third by 2020, one half by 2030 and two thirds by 2050. Will reduce the amount of energy UK needs, mainly by improving energy efficiency Will end fuel poverty	Combine Energy Efficiency, Heat, Microgeneration, and Zero Carbon Homes Strategies for an Energy in Buildings Strategy. Such a Strategy would provide a simple mechanism to ensure cross-departmental co-operation and shared objectives to delivering low carbon buildings, a reduction in fuel bills and the eradication of fuel poverty. Delivering energy efficiency retrofit as a National Infrastructure priority.

							SEA position
Low Carbon Technologies	This has been the greenest government ever, setting up the world's first Green Investment Bank, signing a deal to build the first new nuclear plant in a generation, trebling renewable energy generation to 19 per cent, bringing energy efficiency measures to over one million homes, and committing £1 billion for CCS	Will work to make Britain a world leader in low carbon technologies over the next decade,	Will support investment in energy storage and smart grid technology to enable this higher reliance on renewables.	Ambition is not limited to wind. UK government should remove barriers that are limiting growth in the hydro sector and there should be additional support for pump hydro and Carbon Capture and Storage schemes.	Support 'fracking' for shale gas Support renewable energy where it can deliver electricity at competitive prices	Will require grid to give priority access to community energy projects at affordable cost Will secure public control over the strategic direction and policies of National Grid	By using existing building level technologies, and prioritising the development of "transition technologies" Government does not have to reinvent the wheel to deliver innovative and smart solutions for the future grid. The SEA would be in favour of a stronger presence for microgeneration in the ECO scheme out to 2017, The next Government must firstly integrate technologies such as smart controls, heat recovery, and "gas transition" technologies such as Gas Absorption Heat Pumps into their thinking (and certainly in any future Energy in Buildings Strategy).
Energy Market Reform	Will promote competition to keep bills as low as possible Will go even further, implementing the recommendations of the Competition and Markets Authority investigation that we triggered. Every home and business in the country to receive a Smart Meter by 2020, delivered as cost-effectively as possible, so consumers have instant, accurate bills and can switch to an alternative provider within one day.	Labour will freeze energy bills until 2017, ensuring that bills can fall but not rise, and will give the regulator the power to cut bills this winter	Back new entrants to the energy market, smart meters and faster switching to promote proper competition, aiming for at least 30% of the household market to be supplied by competitors to the 'Big 6' by 2020. Investment in energy storage and smart grid technology to enable this higher reliance on renewables	Big expansion in community heating schemes. The Renewable Heat Incentive should continue beyond 2015. We will press the UK government to make it simpler for communities to establish local energy companies and easier for community schemes to access the grid.	Force energy companies to end higher charges for pre-payment meters	Will re-organise the energy generation and supply industry, in particular breaking the dominance of the Big Six suppliers by splitting them up so they can no longer be vertically integrated	Current proposals for the future grid, tariff reform, smart metering and the capacity market should consider innovative, bottom-up approaches to meeting system-wide energy policy objectives. Time of Use Tariffs must remain an option in the future retail market and smart meters must be able to collect half-hourly data. Government must find a way to incentivise the development and installation of storage technologies.