# Labour Party Unveils Plans for Great British Energy and 100% Clean Electricity by 2030



Keir Starmer, leader of the UK's Labour Party, has announced plans to establish a publicly-owned energy company, Great British Energy, aimed at achieving 100% clean and renewable electricity generation by 2030. Starmer announced the policy in Greenock, Inverclyde, touting support from former government chief scientific adviser Sir Patrick Vallance.

Labour's proposal entails a significant expansion of solar and wind energy capacities, tripling offshore wind capacity and doubling solar and onshore wind generation, to replace gas-fired electricity. Starmer emphasized that this transition would create jobs in Scotland and across the UK.

Criticisms of the plan arise from multiple fronts. The Conservative Party argues that accelerating decarbonization could increase household energy bills, while some energy analysts question the feasibility of the 2030 target. Estimates from Aurora Energy suggest vast infrastructure upgrades are required, marking it as a "Herculean effort," per Chris Stark of the Climate Change Committee.

Furthermore, the investment necessary for new infrastructure, estimated at £8.3 billion funded through a windfall tax on large oil and gas firms, might reflect in initial increases in household energy costs. However, proponents argue this shift will lessen the UK’s reliance on volatile fossil fuel markets, potentially stabilizing future energy bills.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak criticized the Labour plan as "incoherent" and focused only on symbolism rather than practical solutions. However, Vallance, endorsing the plan, likened its urgency and potential for quick implementation to the successful Covid-19 vaccine rollout.

Labour’s target poses a major challenge, specifically in fast-tracking grid infrastructure developments amidst regulatory hurdles and local opposition. The policy is part of a broader strategy to pivot the UK towards energy independence and lower bills by harnessing renewable energy.