

[Consultation outcome: Environmental permitting: amending flood risk exclusions and exemptions](#)

Updated: Summary of responses added.

We want to know what you think about our plans to amend the exemptions and exclusions for flood risk activities in the environmental permitting regulations.

Environmental permitting makes sure that any work completed does not increase flood risk, damage flood defences, or harm the environment, fisheries, or wildlife.

The majority of these adjustments will allow more flexibility for individuals and businesses.

[Alistair Stott](#)

Job Title: Interim Head of Research. Location: Edinburgh. Team: Research

[News story: Smart energy systems: new funding and events](#)

[UK Research and Innovation](#) – through Innovate UK and the [Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council](#) (EPSRC) – has announced a new fund for research and industry to develop future smart energy systems and prove their use at scale.

The energy revolution challenge will bring together academia with industry to develop and demonstrate new approaches to provide cleaner, cheaper energy. This includes linking low-carbon power, heating and transport systems with energy storage and advanced IT to create intelligent, local energy systems and services.

It is part of the [Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund](#).

The first opportunities and where to find out more

The first funding opportunities through this challenge will make up to £41.5 million available for:

- ground-breaking, localised energy system demonstrators. We will be looking to fund projects across the UK
- projects that develop novel concepts that could revolutionise local energy provision

Full details of the competitions will be announced shortly. Businesses that want to find out more in the meantime can go to one of the briefing events:

- [Cardiff on 18 April 2018](#)
- [Belfast on 25 April 2018](#)
- [Glasgow on 26 April 2018](#)
- [Leeds on 9 May 2018](#)
- [London on 15 May 2018](#). You can also [register to watch online](#)

Details of further activity with the fund will also be announced shortly.

To get updates and the latest news from Innovate UK [sign up for the newsletter](#) or to [get email alerts](#).

More about the challenge

The Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund will make sure that research and innovation is at the heart of government's [Industrial Strategy](#). This sets out 4 grand challenges in industries in which the UK is determined to pioneer progress.

The energy revolution falls under the clean growth challenge, which will support the UK to be a world leader in low-carbon technologies, systems and services.

Find out more about the [energy revolution challenge](#).

[Notice: Jason Kenway: application made to abstract water](#)

The Environment Agency consult the public on certain applications for the abstraction and impoundment of water.

These notices explain:

- what the application is about
 - which Environment Agency offices you can visit to see the application documents on the public register
 - when you need to comment by
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Doddie's class act

Former classmates of Doddie Weir are among past and present students at Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) scrummaging together to raise money for the rugby legend's motor neurone disease charity.