



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Economy and Fair Work Committee

Màiri McAllan MSP
Cabinet Secretary for
Wellbeing Economy, Net Zero
and Energy

The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Sent by email only

Economyandfairwork.committee@parliament.scot

13 February 2024

Dear Màiri

Petroineos Grangemouth

The Committee looks forward to working with you in your new role.

Following the evidence sessions with Petroineos, your predecessor, and then the UK Government's Minister for Energy Security and Net Zero, and also recent correspondence, the Committee agreed it would be helpful to receive further information.

I would be grateful if you would set out in more detail how the UK and Scottish Governments will work together to ensure a just transition for the workforce and supply chains that will be impacted by the announcement about the Grangemouth refinery.

Your predecessor's response of 13 December to written question S6W-23544, stated that a more detailed impact analysis of the Grangemouth announcement was yet to be completed. The Committee expects this more detailed analysis to include an assessment of the extent of wider supply chain jobs that may be lost and of the wider economic impact of the announcement on Scotland. The Committee would be grateful to know who is undertaking this detailed impact analysis and when it will be available.

As you may be aware, the Committee's report into a Just Transition for the Grangemouth area was published last June. At that time, there was no suggestion that within a few months, it would be announced that refinery operations would cease as early as next year and the plant transitioned to a fuels import terminal. It came as a surprise to the Committee to be told in December by Petroineos that both the Scottish and UK Governments had

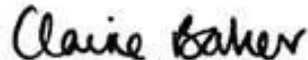
been aware of the “concept, the studies and planning for that potential outcome for well over a year.” On that basis, it is extremely disappointing that there is still no just transition plan in place for the Grangemouth area.

Neil Gray advised that the Grangemouth Future Industry Board (GFIB) was leading on development of the just transition plan and that it is expected this Spring. The Committee urges GFIB to reflect on our report, particularly the recommendations around meaningful community engagement and co-design.

In our report, we asked about the GFIB’s role, purpose and membership. We were advised that GFIB was being restructured and would be updated on completion of this work. Recent press coverage makes reference to GFIB being repurposed and to a new membership. The minutes of the meeting on 18 January refer to a meeting of Grangemouth Future Industry Board's Industrial Just Transition Leadership Forum. Neil Gray’s letter of 24 January to the Committee explains that the Forum was established “to provide leadership, assurance, challenge and oversight” to GFIB. The Committee would be grateful for an update and clarification on the remit, responsibilities and membership of GFIB, how often it is expected that GFIB, and also the Forum, will meet and the dates of future meetings.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Claire Baker". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Claire Baker MSP
Convener