



Keep Fighting Climate Change! (NUS Scotland)

Note to Student Council: Edinburgh University Students' Association is a registered charity and as such legally required to spend resources on its beneficiaries, this is often referred to as 'students as students'. This means that although we can discuss matters and adopt political stances not relating directly to our members, we are restricted in the resources we can use on such matters. Organisationally, the National Union of Students is structured in such a way that allows them to campaign on these issues, which means we can submit motions we otherwise could not act upon.

NUS UK Conference resolves:

1. To affirm our commitment to campaigning for the nationalisation of the Big Six under democratic control as part of a renewed drive for student action on climate change.
2. To support protests and direct action against fossil fuel expansion, including the fight against fracking and a third runway at Heathrow, and in support of an accelerated renewable transition.

NUS UK Conference notes:

1. The huge global warming and climate change already underway, as a result of human activity, is a grave threat to life, the planet and social progress.
2. Fossil fuel companies continue to stand in the way of serious action on climate change, and so must be confronted.
3. The current fossil fuel reserves are five times what could be burnt while staying under 2°C warming.
4. The government has intensified its drive for fracking, despite the dangers to the local environment, water supplies and the global climate.
5. Private ownership of the energy industry drives fuel poverty through profiteering and obstructs renewable energy development.
6. The profits of the Big Six energy companies (British Gas, EDF, E.ON, npower, Scottish Power and SSE) have risen tenfold since 2007.
7. NUS UK voted last year to "campaign for the nationalisation of the Big Six under democratic control".

NUS UK Conference believes:

1. The need to confront the fossil fuel industry and energy companies cannot be avoided if we want to avoid catastrophic climate change.
2. The argument for a public, democratically controlled energy sector - to abolish fuel poverty and help fund a transition to renewable energy - is compelling.
3. Public ownership of energy will only be won by campaigning by grassroots worker, student, green and community groups.
4. The NUS was mandated to campaign for this, yet the most visible environmental campaign was to reduce the use of drinking straws in SU bars.

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5. Grassroots campaigns like those against fracking in Lancashire and South East London and against Heathrow's third runway, including direct action by groups like Reclaim the Power and Plane Stupid, are crucially important to fighting climate change. They are why fracking has been held off for so long, and we should join their campaign against the renewed drive towards fracking.

Submitted with 20 Student Signatures.