PROJECT BRITANNIA

Stakeholder Engagement Call Script

> **Purpose of This Script**
>
> This script is designed for initial outreach calls to government officials, industry stakeholders, and potential partners. Adapt the tone and emphasis based on your audience, but maintain the core narrative: **jobs, energy security, and climate action through practical repurposing of existing assets.**

1. Opening (30 seconds)

> *"Good [morning/afternoon], my name is [YOUR NAME], and I'm calling about Project Britannia—a proposal to transform end-of-life North Sea platforms into clean hydrogen production hubs.*
>
> *This isn't a boardroom idea. It came from Dave Whaaff, a retired gas engineer who lived through the 1980s coal mine closures and is determined not to see Aberdeen, Teesside, and Humberside suffer the same fate.*
>
> *I'd like to share how we can save thousands of jobs, cut billions in taxpayer costs, and deliver clean energy—all using infrastructure and skills we already have. Do you have 5–10 minutes?"*

> 💡 **Tip:**
>
> If they're short on time, offer to send the ministerial briefing and schedule a follow-up. **Always get a specific next step.**

2. The Problem (1 minute)

> *"Right now, the UK faces three interconnected challenges:*
>
> ***First, decommissioning costs.*** *There are roughly 1,500 offshore installations across the North Sea, with around 470 end-of-life platforms in UK waters alone. The NSTA estimates total decommissioning costs at £44–82 billion, with UK taxpayers on the hook for £24 billion in tax relief.*

> ***Second, job losses.*** *As oil and gas production winds down, thousands of skilled workers in Aberdeen, Teesside, and Humberside face unemployment. We've seen this before—in the 1980s, when coal mines closed and entire communities were devastated.*
>
> ***Third, energy security and climate.*** *We need clean, reliable energy that doesn't depend on imports or weather. Hydrogen is part of the solution, but we're not producing nearly enough domestically."*

Key Talking Points:

- **1,500 installations** (total across North Sea, including subsea structures)
- **470 end-of-life platforms** in UK waters facing decommissioning
- **£24 billion taxpayer exposure** (NSTA estimate)
- **Thousands of jobs at risk** in coastal communities

3. The Solution (2 minutes)

> *"Project Britannia offers a way to solve all three problems at once. Instead of tearing down platforms, we repurpose them into offshore hydrogen production hubs powered by UK-designed Rolls-Royce small modular reactors.*
>
> ***Here's how it works:***
>
> *We use a **1+4 distributed layout**—one reactor platform separated by 2–5 kilometers from four hydrogen production platforms. This ensures safety through isolation. The reactor provides clean electricity for electrolysis, splitting seawater into hydrogen and oxygen.*
>
> *Each converted platform can produce **40,000–50,000 tonnes of hydrogen per year**—enough to power heavy industry, transport, and heating. And because it's nuclear-powered, it's reliable 24/7, unlike wind or solar.*
>
> ***But here's the best part: it's a circular economy.*** *We don't waste anything. The oxygen is sold to industrial users. The brine is processed into de-icing agents for roads, chemical feedstocks, concrete additives, or used in sustainable fish farms with 12-month nutrient cycles. As technology evolves, we may even extract lithium from the brine. The goal is **zero to minimum routine discharge**—every output has value."*

Key Talking Points:

- **1+4 layout:** Reactor platform 2–5 km from production platforms (safety through separation)

- **40,000–50,000 tonnes H_2/year** per platform
- **Rolls-Royce SMRs:** UK-designed, passive safety, proven naval nuclear heritage
- **Circular economy:** Oxygen (saleable), brine (de-icing/chemicals/aquaculture), potential lithium (evolving tech)
- **Pink hydrogen:** 5–15 g CO_2-eq/kWh lifecycle emissions (comparable to renewables)

4. Why This Matters (1 minute)

> *"This isn't just about energy. It's about people.*
>
> *Dave Whaaff watched his friends lose everything in the 1980s when the coal mines closed. He's determined not to let that happen again. The offshore workforce—riggers, engineers, technicians—they have the skills we need. We're not asking them to retrain for something completely new. We're asking them to do what they already do: maintain complex offshore infrastructure in harsh conditions.*
>
> *And we're not borrowing from nature—we're working with it. The hydrogen cycle is natural. We're just accelerating it to stop burning carbon and destroying the planet our children will inherit.*
>
> *This is a **just transition**. We save jobs, cut costs, and deliver clean energy. It's what we should have done in the 1980s, and we have a chance to get it right this time."*

Key Talking Points:

- **Just transition:** Preserve livelihoods, don't repeat 1980s mistakes
- **Existing skills:** Offshore workforce already trained for harsh, complex environments
- **Community impact:** Aberdeen, Teesside, Humberside—regions that powered Britain for generations
- **Natural hydrogen cycle:** Working with nature, not against it

5. Addressing Concerns (2 minutes)

❌ **Objection: "Nuclear offshore sounds risky."**

> **Response:** "I understand that concern. But consider this: the Royal Navy has operated nuclear submarines safely for decades—thousands of reactor-years without a major incident. The Rolls-Royce SMRs we're proposing use **passive safety designs**—they don't require active intervention to shut down safely.

Plus, being offshore provides natural isolation from population centers. And our 1+4 layout means the reactor is physically separated from the hydrogen production platforms by 2–5 kilometers. We're building in multiple layers of safety."

❌ **Objection: "Why not just use renewables?"**

Response: "Renewables are absolutely part of the solution, and we support them. But they're intermittent—wind doesn't always blow, sun doesn't always shine. Hydrogen production needs **reliable baseload power** to be economically viable.

Nuclear gives us that reliability. And pink hydrogen—nuclear-powered electrolysis—has lifecycle emissions of just 5–15 g CO_2-eq/kWh, comparable to wind and solar. It's clean, it's reliable, and it works 24/7."

❌ **Objection: "This sounds expensive."**

Response: "Compared to what? Decommissioning those 470 platforms will cost tens of billions, with £24 billion coming from taxpayers. Repurposing them turns a liability into an asset.

Yes, there's upfront investment in SMRs and conversion. But we're using **existing infrastructure**—platforms, pipelines, supply chains. We're not starting from scratch. And the hydrogen we produce has real economic value. This isn't a cost—it's an investment that pays back."

❌ **Objection: "The timeline seems ambitious."**

Response: "We're proposing a phased approach. First platform operational by 2030–2032, with fleet-scale deployment after that. It's ambitious, yes—but it's achievable if we start now.

The technology exists. The infrastructure exists. The workforce exists. What we need is regulatory clarity and political will. Every year we delay, we lose jobs and spend more on decommissioning."

6. The Ask (1 minute)

> *"We're not asking for a blank check. We're asking for three things:*
>
> ***First, regulatory engagement.*** *We need DESNZ, the ONR, and Offshore Energies UK to work together on a pathway for offshore nuclear hydrogen production.*
>
> ***Second, inclusion in national strategy.*** *Project Britannia should be part of the UK's hydrogen roadmap and infrastructure planning.*
>
> ***Third, skills development.*** *Let's build on the existing offshore workforce with targeted training programs—a Skills Passport that recognizes their experience and prepares them for the energy transition.*
>
> *We have a detailed white paper and ministerial briefing ready to share. Can we schedule a follow-up meeting to discuss next steps?"*

Key Talking Points:

- **Regulatory pathway:** Coordinate DESNZ, ONR, Offshore Energies UK
- **National strategy:** Include in hydrogen roadmap
- **Skills Passport:** Recognize existing offshore expertise, targeted upskilling
- **Next steps:** Share briefing, schedule follow-up meeting

7. Closing (30 seconds)

> *"This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity. We can save jobs, cut costs, and deliver clean energy—or we can repeat the mistakes of the 1980s and watch communities collapse.*
>
> *Dave Whaaff didn't come up with this idea in a boardroom. He came up with it because he cares about people. And I think that's the kind of thinking we need right now.*
>
> *Thank you for your time. I'll send over the briefing today, and I look forward to continuing this conversation."*

Post-Call Actions

- ✅ Send ministerial briefing and white paper within 24 hours
- ✅ Follow up within one week if no response
- ✅ Log call notes and any specific concerns raised

- ✅ Identify additional stakeholders mentioned during call
- ✅ Prepare tailored materials for follow-up meeting

> 💡 **Final Tips**
>
> - **Listen more than you talk.** Adapt the script based on their responses.
> - **Use their language.** If they care about jobs, emphasize jobs. If they care about climate, emphasize emissions.
> - **Be honest about uncertainties.** Don't oversell. Acknowledge challenges and explain how you'll address them.
> - **Always get a next step.** Never end a call without a clear action—meeting, email, introduction, etc.