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Moderator questions in Bold, Respondents in Regular text.

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Grainne McVeigh: Good afternoon. My name is Grainne McVeigh and on behalf of Invest Northern Ireland, welcome to our webinar Industrial Energy Transformation Technologies and Solutions. I would also like to extend a very warm welcome and a sincere thank you to all of our speakers here today, who have given up quite a lot of their time in helping us organise this virtual event. To help us examine how energy transformation can happen in practice, we have representatives from government, Lily Tozer, who is from Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and Jenni McDonnell from the Knowledge Transfer Network. We will also hear short pitches from innovative local companies who can help you transform your company to net zero carbon energy. And they are Jessica Caldwell from LoweConex, Brian Hood from BSH Limited, Adrian Watson from Project Design Engineers and Eddie McGoldrick from the Electric Storage Company. The Department for the Economy's economic recovery action plan, Rebuilding a Stronger Economy, sets priorities for a more competitive, inclusive and greener economy. And Invest Northern Ireland's business plan also sets out eight drivers for recovery, one of which is the green economy. All this fits very well with the 10X vision for Northern Ireland, that is, for a decade of innovation which will deliver a greener, more sustainable economy with benefits for everyone. That plan identifies investment in the green economy as a strategic priority, and presents initiatives to exploit new market opportunities linked to Northern Ireland capability, and to accelerate progress towards net zero by stimulating investment in green, sustainable technologies. As you know, and you will hear from our guest speakers during the webinar, green is a growth sector.

It can play a key role in developing the economy by offering potential business opportunities in developments locally, nationally and internationally, and over the next decade, help meet the goals identified in the programme for government and the industrial strategy. Northern Ireland is very well placed to take advantage of these emerging opportunities, due to its capabilities and skills of its businesses, the specialist expertise in universities and the focused support from Invest NI. The resurgence in engineering has put Northern Ireland on the international map and offers very good opportunities for companies in key areas of supply chain, such as research and development, device design, manufacturing and assembly, construction, logistics, asset management and engineering services. There will be further opportunities enhanced by the ongoing developments and deployment of advanced technologies that incorporate data analytics and artificial intelligence to improve operational efficiencies and reduce energy costs. We are excited by these potential opportunities and we see the green economy sector playing a key role in supporting Northern Ireland to play its part in addressing climate change and delivering a strong, green economic recovery. I'm now going to hand you over to our speakers and I do hope that you have an enjoyable and informative webinar. Remember to join the conversation on our Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter pages and please use the hashtags #greenNI, #greengrowthNI. Enjoy.

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