**Public Power Now - Taking Energy Beyond Profit**

**Notes:**

* The climate crisis is worsening as the UK fails to meet its decarbonisation obligations
* Although oil and gas production costs remain relatively stable, fossil fuel companies are making record profits in response to rises in global energy prices
* Privatised energy distribution companies form the most profitable sector in the UK, with profit margins of 40.5% for gas and 42.5% for electricity
* Energy bills are skyrocketing, contributing to a cost-of-living crisis where millions are facing fuel poverty
* BP invests just 2.3% of their capital expenditure on renewable energy
* Labour have pledged zero carbon power by 2030
* Labour plan to create Great British Energy - a publicly owned clean energy generation company to work alongside the private sector
* 66% of people believe energy should be run in the public sector
* Many communities are dependent on the 260,000 UK jobs in the fossil fuel industry

**Believes:**

* The extraction of fossil fuels at odds with climate science must be prevented
* Privatisation is a significant barrier to a rapid energy transition as fossil fuels are more profitable than renewables
* The irrational fragmentation of the UK energy system facilitates profit extraction at every level
* Energy suppliers create the illusion of a free market, obscuring the existence of transmission and distribution monopolies
* Energy privatisation means that over the next two years the UK will lose out on at least £122bn of direct income from power plants
* Consequences of privatisation also include fuel poverty, underdevelopment, underemployment, and underinvestment in failing infrastructure
* A whole system approach to public ownership would maximise energy security, expand energy access, eliminate regional inequalities, keep energy prices low, and allocate costs fairly
* Under public ownership, decisions should be made as close as possible to those that are impacted, with maximum worker and citizen control
* A participatory approach to public ownership is necessary for transparency and accountability to the public
* For the UK to meet the Paris Agreement obligations sustainably and equitably, workers and communities must be directly involved in planning and implementing transition plans to avoid huge layoffs and the devastation of communities

**Resolves:**

* To support democratic public ownership of the whole energy system, including:
	+ Nationalisation of energy transmission and distribution companies
	+ Nationalisation of privately owned energy supply companies
	+ Nationalisation of fossil fuel companies domiciled or with assets in the UK - to accelerate the transition and guarantee the rights of workers
	+ Creation of a National Energy Agency to set standards and targets, own industries of national importance (e.g. oil and gas, offshore wind, nuclear), and coordinate workforce planning
	+ Creation of Regional and Municipal Energy Agencies to own, invest in, and operate distribution networks, decarbonise heat and electricity, and supply energy directly to households
	+ Establishment of a publicly owned power generation company to produce renewable energy
* That decentralisation and local participation should be core to a modern public energy system, including:
	+ Regional and national democratic planning
	+ Operational management of new public authorities in the hands of both management and workforce
	+ Boards of new public authorities including members appointed by elected representatives, elected by workers, and by citizens
* That a new energy system should come about through just transition, including:
	+ Workers and citizens being given economic and political powers to diversify economies
	+ All workers receiving good, well-paid, unionised green jobs on equivalent terms and conditions
* That energy should be de-commodified, with citizens enjoying the right to energy security
* To support the Labour for a Green New Deal Public Power Now campaign