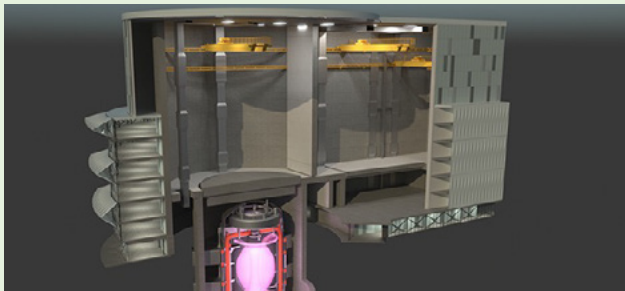




### West Burton STEP Success

Ten Point Plan: Action 6.3

A former coal-fired power station site at West Burton in Nottinghamshire will host the UK Atomic Energy Authority's pioneering prototype fusion power station. The announcement is a huge boost to the Midlands' drive to attract inward investment and address regional disparities. The decision follows Nottinghamshire County Council's Fossil2Fusion campaign, supported by the Midlands Engine partnership and Energy Research Accelerator. West Burton was one of 15 sites which entered bids in early 2021 to host the Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production (STEP) project. It was chosen from an eventual shortlist of five after more than a year of detailed technical and socio-economic assessment.



### Green Growth - Quarterly Economic Briefing

The theme of this quarter's Quarterly Economic Briefing, hosted by Midlands Engine Observatory, was green growth. The session included insights from the Green Finance Institute, UK Infrastructure Bank, Environment Agency, Confederation of British Industry and Cadent Gas. Topics included how we can accelerate capital deployment to finance green growth, barriers to green investment, and trends in business decarbonisation. You can watch a recording of the session [here](#).



### Smart Energy - An Energy System for the 21st Century

This new report from the Midlands Engine has put forward a plan for the Midlands to become the UK's first Smart Energy Region, helping tackle both the cost-of-living crisis and climate change. A research collaboration between Siemens and University of Birmingham, and with input from a range of smart energy stakeholders across the region, the report identifies how implementation of smart energy solutions could save up to £70bn in energy costs by 2050, generate £1.5bn in GVA, create or support over 7,000 jobs, and generate up to £600m in exports.



### Net Zero Report - Midlands Engine Submission

A Midlands Engine partnership response to the Net Zero Review, chaired by Chris Skidmore MP, was submitted in late October. The review focuses on how the UK's fight against climate change can simultaneously deliver economic growth and ensure long-term energy security for the country. The response highlighted the particular regional economic opportunities arising from green growth in sectors like mobility, wind, building technologies, nuclear and smart energy. The decision to sit the STEP fusion power plant at West Burton exemplifies the economic growth and levelling up potential the net zero agenda represents for the Midlands Engine. and generate up to £600m in exports.

