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Committee Stage: Tuesday 15 October 2024

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## Great British Energy Bill (Committee Stage Decisions)

This document sets out the fate of each clause, schedule, amendment and new clause considered at committee stage.

A glossary with key terms can be found at the end of this document.

First to Fifth Sittings

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### *First and Second Sittings*

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Michael Shanks

Agreed to

That—

- the Committee shall (in addition to its first meeting at 9.25 am on Tuesday 8 October) meet—
  - at 2.00 pm on Tuesday 8 October;
  - at 11.30 am and 2.00 pm on Thursday 10 October;
  - at 9.25 am and 2.00 pm on Tuesday 15 October;
- the Committee shall hear oral evidence in accordance with the following Table:

Date	Time	Witness
Tuesday 8 October	Until no later than 9.50 am	Juergen Maier CBE
	Until no later than 10.20 am	Trades Union Congress; Prospect
	Until no later than 11.00 am	Green Alliance; Nesta; Aurora Energy Research

Date	Time	Witness
	Until no later than 11.25 am	RenewableUK; Energy UK
	Until no later than 2.30 pm	SSE plc; EDF Renewables
	Until no later than 2.50 pm	The Crown Estate
	Until no later than 3.10 pm	Flint Global
	Until no later than 3.50 pm	The Carbon Capture and Storage Association (CCSA); Scottish Renewables; Net Zero Technology Centre
	Until no later than 4.10 pm	Offshore Energies UK (OEUK)
	Until no later than 4.30 pm	GMB Union
	Until no later than 5.00 pm	Michael Shanks MP, Minister for Energy, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero

3. the proceedings shall (so far as not previously concluded) be brought to a conclusion at 5.00 pm on Tuesday 15 October.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Shanks

Agreed to

That, subject to the discretion of the Chair, any written evidence received by the Committee shall be reported to the House for publication.

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Michael Shanks

Agreed to

That, at this and any subsequent meeting at which oral evidence is to be heard, the Committee shall sit in private until the witnesses are admitted.

**The following Witnesses gave oral evidence:**

**Professor Juergen Maier CBE**, Chair, Great British Energy.

**Mika Minio-Paluello**, Senior Policy Officer for Industry and Climate, Trades Union Congress.

**Mike Clancy**, General Secretary, Prospect.

**Shaun Spiers**, Executive Director, Green Alliance.

**Ravi Gurumurthy**, Chief Executive Officer, Nesta.

**Marc Hedin**, Head of GB and Ireland Research, Aurora Energy Research.

**Dan McGrail**, Chief Executive, RenewableUK.

**Adam Berman**, Director of Policy, Energy UK.

**Alistair McGirr**, Group Head of Policy and Advocacy, SSE plc.

**Tristan Zipfel**, Director of Strategy, EDF Renewables.

**Dan Labbard**, CEO, The Crown Estate.

**Josh Buckland**, Partner, Flint Global.

**Olivia Powys**, Chief Executive, Carbon Capture and Storage Association.

**Jack Norquoy**, Director of Communications and Public Affairs, Scottish Renewables.

**Myrtle Dawes**, CEO, Net Zero Technology Centre.

**David Whitehouse**, Chief Executive, Offshore Energies UK.

**Andy Prendergast**, National Secretary, GMB Union.

**Michael Shanks MP**, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.

*Third and Fourth Sittings*

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**Pippa Heylings**

**Withdrawn after debate 8**

Clause 1, page 1, line 3, at end insert "within 6 months of the day on which this Act is passed."

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**Clause agreed to.**

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**Clause 2 agreed to.**

**Sarah Champion****Not moved 1**

Sir Iain Duncan Smith  
 Chris Law  
 Alex Sobel  
 Ms Marie Rimmer  
 Cat Eccles

Carla Denyer  
 Siân Berry

Adrian Ramsay

Ellie Chowns

Clause 3, page 2, line 18, at end insert—

“(e) measures for ensuring respect for human rights in the production, distribution, storage and supply of clean energy.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This new subsection would make one of the objects of Great British Energy to uphold human rights and the principles of “just transition” in energy supply chains.

**Wera Hobhouse****Negatived on division 2**

Siân Berry  
 Sarah Champion  
 Ellie Chowns  
 Ann Davies  
 Carla Denyer

Dave Doogan  
 Llinos Medi  
 Liz Saville Roberts  
 Wendy Chamberlain  
 Christine Jardine  
 Liz Jarvis  
 Andrew George  
 Mr Alistair Carmichael  
 Max Wilkinson  
 Manuela Perteghella  
 Vikki Slade  
 Sarah Gibson  
 Caroline Voaden  
 Mr Gideon Amos  
 Chris Coghlan  
 Ian Sollom  
 Tonia Antoniazzi  
 Abtisam Mohamed  
 James MacCleary  
 Bobby Dean  
 Dr Danny Chambers  
 Alex Sobel

Pippa Heylings  
 Dr Simon Opher  
 Cat Smith  
 Olly Glover  
 Claire Young  
 Zöe Franklin  
 Marie Goldman  
 Alison Bennett  
 Ben Maguire  
 Tom Morrison  
 Daisy Cooper  
 Calum Miller  
 Brian Mathew  
 David Chadwick  
 Anna Sabine  
 Rachael Maskell  
 Richard Foord  
 Nadia Whittome  
 Rachel Gilmour  
 Mr Angus MacDonald  
 Ian Roome

Ben Lake  
 Adrian Ramsay  
 Cameron Thomas  
 Tom Gordon  
 Edward Morello  
 Mr Will Forster  
 Mr Paul Kohler  
 Martin Wrigley  
 Lisa Smart  
 John Milne  
 Jess Brown-Fuller  
 Luke Taylor  
 Mr Joshua Reynolds  
 Charlie Maynard  
 Munira Wilson  
 Andrew Ranger  
 Marsha De Cordova  
 Sir Desmond Swayne  
 Susan Murray  
 Steve Darling  
 Kim Johnson

Clause 3, page 2, line 18, at end insert—

“(e) measures to increase low carbon and renewable energy schemes owned, or part owned, by community organisations.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment includes community energy schemes in the objects that the Great British Energy company will be restricted to facilitating, encouraging and participating in.

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**Pippa Heylings**

**Negated on division 10**

Clause 3, page 2, line 18, at end insert—

- “(e) an emergency home insulation programme with targeted support for people on low incomes, and
- (f) the expansion and development of renewable energy and technology.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment would set objects for Great British Energy of facilitating, encouraging and participating in an emergency home insulation programme with targeted support for people on low incomes, and the expansion and development of renewable energy and technology.

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**Clause agreed to.**

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**Clause 4 agreed to on division.**

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**Pippa Heylings**

**Not called 9**

Mr Angus MacDonald

Clause 5, page 3, line 8, at end insert—

- “(1A) A statement under this section must include as a strategic priority, consistent with Great British Energy’s objects under section 3, measures to be taken to ensure that local communities benefit directly from low carbon and renewable energy projects operating within their area.”

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment would require the Secretary of State to set a strategic priority for measures to be taken to ensure local communities benefit from low and renewable energy projects operating in their area.

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**Andrew Bowie**

**Negated on division 11**

Clause 5, page 3, line 8, at end insert—

- “(1A) The statement of strategic priorities under subsection (1) must include the reduction of household energy bills by £300 in real terms by 1 January 2030.”

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**Andrew Bowie**

**Negated on division 13**

Clause 5, page 3, line 8, at end insert—

“(1A) The statement of strategic priorities under subsection (1) must include ensuring that wholesale electricity prices must be lower in real terms on 1 July 2030 than the day on which this Act is passed.”

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**Andrew Bowie**

**Negated on division 15**

Clause 5, page 3, line 8, at end insert—

“(1A) The statement of strategic priorities under subsection (1) must include the creation of 650,000 new jobs in the United Kingdom by 2030 resulting directly or indirectly from Great British Energy’s pursuit of its objectives under section 3.”

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**Andrew Bowie**

**Negated on division 17**

Clause 5, page 3, line 8, at end insert—

“(1A) (a) The statement of strategic priorities under subsection (1) must include developing supply chains within the United Kingdom in the pursuit of Great British Energy’s objects under section 3.  
(b) “supply chains” means the network of individuals, organisations, resources, activities and technology involved in the creation and sale of a commodity connected with Great British Energy’s objects under section 3.”

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**Stephen Flynn**

**Not called 24**

Clause 5, page 3, line 8, at end insert—

“(1A) The statement of strategic priorities under subsection (1) must include a priority to reduce household energy bills by at least £300 in real terms.”

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**Stephen Flynn**

**Negated 4**

Clause 5, page 3, line 10, leave out subsection (3) and insert—

“(3) A statement under subsection (1) or a revised or replacement statement under subsection (2) will not take effect unless a draft has been laid before and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.”

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**Stephen Flynn**

**Withdrawn after debate 5**

Clause 5, page 3, line 12, leave out “consult” and insert “seek and gain consent of”

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**Stephen Flynn**

**Not called 7**

Clause 5, page 3, line 28, leave out "(4) to (6)" and insert "(5) and (6) or to gain consent imposed by subsection (4)"

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment is consequential on Amendment 5.

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**Stephen Flynn**

**Not called 6**

Clause 5, page 3, line 29, at end insert—

"(7A) The Secretary of State must by regulations provide for a process by which consent can be signified under subsection (4)."

**Member's explanatory statement**

This amendment is consequential on Amendment 5.

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**Clause agreed to.**

*Fifth Sitting*

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**Stephen Flynn**

**Negated on division 3**

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert—

"(1A) The Secretary of State must, in particular, direct Great British Energy that any revenues generated from activities of Great British Energy in relation to resources located in Scotland must be invested back into projects located in Scotland."

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**Andrew Bowie**

**Not called 12**

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert—

- "(1A)
- (a) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must report to the Secretary of State on the progress made by Great British Energy towards the strategic priority of reducing household energy bills by £300 in real terms by 1 January 2030.
  - (b) A report under paragraph (a) must include a projection of how Great British Energy's activities are likely to affect consumer energy bills over the following five years.
  - (c) A report under paragraph (a) must be made within two years of the date of Royal Assent to this Act and annually thereafter.

- (d) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under paragraph (a) before Parliament.”

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**Andrew Bowie**

**Not called 14**

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert—

- “(1A) (a) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must report to the Secretary of State on the progress made by Great British Energy towards the strategic priority of reducing wholesale electricity prices in the United Kingdom.
- (b) A report under paragraph (a) must include a projection of—
- (i) how Great British Energy’s activities are likely to affect wholesale electricity prices in the United Kingdom, and
  - (ii) the likely effect of the projected wholesale electricity prices on consumer electricity bills over the following five years.
- (c) A report under paragraph (a) must be made within two years of the date of Royal Assent to this Act and annually thereafter.
- (d) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under paragraph (a) before Parliament.”

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**Andrew Bowie**

**Not called 16**

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert—

- “(1A) (a) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must report to the Secretary of State on the progress made by Great British Energy towards the strategic priority of creating 650,000 new jobs in the United Kingdom by 2030.
- (b) A report under paragraph (a) must be made within two years of the date of Royal Assent to this Act and annually thereafter.
- (c) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under paragraph (a) before Parliament.”

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**Andrew Bowie**

**Not called 18**

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert—

- “(1A) (a) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must report to the Secretary of State on the progress made by Great British Energy towards the strategic priority of developing supply chains within the United Kingdom.
- (b) A report under paragraph (a) must be made within two years of the date of Royal Assent to this Act and annually thereafter.
- (c) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under paragraph (a) before Parliament.”



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**Andrew Bowie**

**Not called 19**

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert—

- “(1A) (a) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must report to the Secretary of State within three months of each investment it makes on the impact that the relevant investment is projected to have on wholesale electricity prices over the following ten years.
- (b) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under paragraph (a) before Parliament.”

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**Andrew Bowie**

**Withdrawn after debate 20**

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert—

- “(1A) (a) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must, within six months of the date of Royal Assent to this Act, report to the Secretary of State on the projected cost of fulfilling its strategic priorities under Clause 5 in accordance with its objects under Clause 3.”

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**Andrew Bowie**

**Withdrawn after debate 21**

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert—

- “(1A) (a) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must report to the Secretary of State on—
- (i) Great British Energy’s in-year rate of return on investment, and
  - (ii) a forecast of the following year’s expected rate of return on investment.
- (b) A report under paragraph (a) must be made within two years of the date of Royal Assent to this Act and annually thereafter.
- (c) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under paragraph (a) before Parliament.”

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**Andrew Bowie**

**Negated on division 22**

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert—

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must take all reasonable steps to satisfy itself at the time of any investment in renewable energy infrastructure that connection to the National Grid will be made in time for energy produced from the relevant investment asset coming onstream.”

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Clause agreed to.

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Clause 7 agreed to.

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Clause 8 agreed to.

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Stephen Flynn

Not called NC1

To move the following Clause—

**“Energy efficiency reporting**

- (1) Within two years of the date of Royal Assent to this Act and every 12 months thereafter, Great British Energy must report to Parliament on its progress towards the object of improvements in energy efficiency set out in Clause 3(2)(c).
- (2) The report mentioned in subsection (1) must include—
  - (a) the means by which energy efficiencies are being made;
  - (b) an assessment over time of the energy efficiencies made; and
  - (c) the projected impact on consumer energy bills.”

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Andrew Bowie

Withdrawn after debate NC2

To move the following Clause—

**“Review of effective delivery**

- (1) The Secretary of State must appoint an independent person to carry out reviews of the effectiveness of Great British Energy in—
  - (a) delivering its objects under section 3,
  - (b) meeting its strategic priorities under section 5, and
  - (c) complying with any directions given under section 6.
- (2) After each review, the independent person must—
  - (a) prepare a report of the review, and
  - (b) submit the report to the Secretary of State,as soon as is reasonably practicable after the completion of the review.
- (3) The independent person must submit to the Secretary of State—
  - (a) the first report under this section within the period of 12 months beginning on the day on which this Act comes into force, and
  - (b) subsequent reports at intervals of no more than 12 months thereafter.

- (4) On receiving the report, the Secretary of State must, as soon as is reasonably practicable in each case—
  - (a) publish the report,
  - (b) lay a copy of the report before Parliament, and
  - (c) prepare and lay before Parliament a response to the report's findings.
- (5) In this section, references to an "independent person" are to a person who appears to the Secretary of State to be independent of—
  - (a) the Secretary of State, and
  - (b) Great British Energy."

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Andrew Bowie

Withdrawn after debate NC3

To move the following Clause—

**"Directors: appointment and tenure**

Great British Energy must secure that its articles of association provide that—

- (a) Great British Energy is to have at least five and no more than fourteen directors;
- (b) the chair of Great British Energy's board, Great British Energy's chief executive officer and the non-executive directors are to be appointed by the Secretary of State;
- (c) the Board is to appoint one or more directors to be responsible for ensuring that the Board considers the interests of the appropriate national authorities when making decisions;
- (d) the period of a non-executive director's appointment is not to exceed four years, or such shorter period as may be specified in the terms on which the director is appointed;
- (e) a person may be appointed as a non-executive director no more than two times;
- (f) a person ceases to be a non-executive director as soon as—
  - (i) the person ceases to be a director by virtue of any provision of the Companies Act 2006 or is prohibited from being a director by law,
  - (ii) the person becomes bankrupt (in relation to England and Wales and Northern Ireland) or the person's estate has been sequestrated (in relation to Scotland),
  - (iii) a registered medical practitioner who is treating the person gives a written opinion to Great British Energy stating that the person has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a director and is likely to remain so for more than three months, or the person has resigned as non-executive director in accordance with notification which the person has given to Great British Energy."

Bill, to be reported.

## Glossary

**Added:** New Clause agreed to without a vote and added to the Bill.

**Agreed to:** agreed without a vote.

**Agreed to on division:** agreed following a vote.

**Negatived:** rejected without a vote.

**Negatived on division:** rejected following a vote.

**Not called:** debated in a group of amendments, but not put to a decision.

**Not moved:** not debated or put to a decision.

**Question proposed:** debate underway but not concluded.

**Withdrawn after debate:** moved and debated but then withdrawn, so not put to a decision.

**Not selected:** not chosen for debate by the Chair.