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Make provision about the allocation of contracts for difference; resume the allocation of contracts for difference to onshore wind projects; and make provision about planning applications for onshore wind installations.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen’s most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1 Duty to hold contract for difference auctions

- (1) The Secretary of State must ensure that allocation rounds for contracts for difference occur at least every two years until the Committee on Climate Change lays a report before both Houses of Parliament under section 36 of the Climate Change Act 2008 which states that the carbon budgets and the target under that Act are likely to be met. 5
- (2) In discharging the duty under subsection (1), the Secretary of State must ensure that contract for difference auctions for all eligible generators are held concurrently, notwithstanding any pots applying to an allocation round.
- (3) The Secretary of State may continue to hold contract for difference auctions after a Committee on Climate Change assessment indicates that the carbon budgets are likely to be met, in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Energy Act 2013. 10
- (4) In this section—
 - “allocation round” has the meaning given by section 13 of the Energy Act 2013; 15
 - “contract for difference” has the meaning given by section 6 of the Energy Act 2013;
 - “eligible generator” has the same meaning as in the Contracts for Difference (Definition of Eligible Generator) Regulations 2014. 20

2 Onshore wind applications

- (1) The Secretary of State must revise national planning guidance on onshore wind including, but not limited to—

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- (a) the planning framework;
 - (b) the Planning Practice Guidance on Renewable and Low Carbon Energy; and
 - (c) the National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure.
- (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the revisions must include guidance which permits Local Planning Authorities to grant onshore wind applications for the purposes of –
- (a) meeting the United Kingdom’s carbon account target under section 1 of the Climate Change Act 2008,
 - (b) installing on new sites not previously used for generating wind energy, and
 - (c) repowering existing onshore wind installations.
- (3) In this section –
- “planning framework” means the National Planning Policy Framework and any subordinate, subsequent or successor guidance for local planning authorities;
 - “repowering existing onshore wind installations” means the replacement of turbines, or parts thereof, at existing onshore wind installations, or the extension of the period of permitted operation of such installations.
- 3 Extent, commencement and short title**
- (1) This Act extends to England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.
 - (2) This Act comes into force on the day on which it is passed.
 - (3) This Act may be cited as the Contracts for Difference and Onshore Wind Act 2020.

Contracts for Difference and Onshore Wind Bill

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Baroness Hayman

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