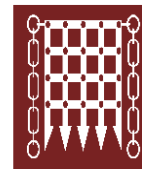


## Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference:

### Next steps for grid infrastructure reform in England, Scotland and Wales

Timing: Morning, Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2025

\*\*\*Taking place online\*\*\*



WESTMINSTER ENERGY  
ENVIRONMENT &  
TRANSPORT FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Grid infrastructure - key priorities for policy**  
**Dr Paul van Heyningen**, Deputy Director, Electricity Networks Strategy and Regulatory Policy, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
- 9.20 **Grid infrastructure policy and economic development - current approaches and considerations for the future**  
**Professor Karen Turner**, Director, Centre for Energy Policy, University of Strathclyde  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 **The grid connections reform roadmap - policy coordination, prioritisation, and stakeholder readiness for the transition to a new connections system**  
*NESO's reform package and assessing readiness for implementation | implications of transitioning to criteria-based prioritisation | alignment with Clean Power 2030 targets | regulatory coordination between NESO, Ofgem, National Grid and Mission Control | addressing the connections backlog and zombie projects | implications of new financial commitment requirements | opportunities and risks in prioritising connections by technology and location | ensuring transparency | potential for legal challenges | balancing demand requirements for renewables, battery storage, AI data centres and industry needs*  
**David Acres**, Head, Policy, EDF Renewables  
**Gareth Hislop**, Head, Market Development and Commercial Operations, SP Energy Networks  
**Frank Hodgson**, Senior Energy Analyst, Regen  
**Charlotte Robinson**, Senior Associate, Burges Salmon  
Senior representative, industry  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.35 **Regulatory priorities and the reformed grid connections system**  
Senior representative, regulation  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11:05 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.10 Break
- 11.20 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.25 **Delivering the Great Grid Upgrade - infrastructure expansion, investment frameworks, and addressing implementation challenges**  
Senior representative, grid  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.55 **Priorities and practicalities for building capacity to meet clean power and economic growth objectives**  
*timescales for delivery of grid infrastructure | implementation challenges for RIIO-T3 investment plans | supply chain readiness | workforce capacity and addressing skills gaps | streamlining planning and permitting | infrastructure for AI datacentres, housing, and electrified industry | impact of delayed connections on public and private investment | role of Great British Energy and the National Wealth Fund in accelerating delivery | tackling regional disparities and the strategic role of Regional Energy Strategic Plans | frameworks for community benefits and addressing public concerns | considering zonal pricing versus reformed national pricing | implications of REMA for longer-term market design | balancing grid resilience and flexibility with consumer affordability*  
**Dr Graham Pannell**, Head, Grid and Electricity Regulation, BayWa r.e. UK  
**Professor Faye Banks**, Director, Electrical Transmission and Distribution, Turner & Townsend; and Visiting Professor, Royal Academy of Engineering  
**Sam Hollister**, Head, UK Market Strategy, LCP Delta  
**Connor Innes**, Chair, YEP Forum  
Senior representative, local authority  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian  
**Sean Cudmore**, Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum