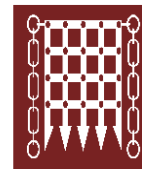


Westminster Energy, Environment & Transport Forum policy conference:

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

Timing: Morning, Friday, 20th 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
- 9.30 **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
Gareth Hislop, Head, Market Development and Commercial Operations, SP Energy Networks
Frank Hodgson, Senior Energy Analyst, Regen
Senior speaker confirmed from **Burges Salmon**
Senior representative, industry
Senior representative, renewable energy
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 **Regulatory priorities and the reformed grid connections system**
Senior representative, regulation
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.40 **Chair's closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 10.45 Break
- 10.55 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.00 **Delivering the Great Grid Upgrade - infrastructure expansion, investment frameworks, and addressing implementation challenges**
Senior representative, infrastructure
Senior representative, grid
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Priorities and practicalities for building capacity to meet clean power and economic growth objectives**
timescales for delivery of grid infrastructure / implementation challenges for RII0-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
Connor Innes, Chair, YEP Forum
Dr Graham Pannell, Head, Grid and Electricity Regulation, BayWa r.e. UK
Senior representative, construction
Senior representative, investment
Senior representative, local authority
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.40 **Grid infrastructure and connections reform in England, Scotland and Wales - the current state of play and considerations for the future**
Senior academic
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