

Parliamentary Bureau – Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum

Great British Energy Bill (UK legislation)

Introduction

1. Under Rule 9B.3.5, the Parliamentary Bureau is required to refer any legislative consent memorandum (LCM) that has been lodged with the Parliament to the committee within whose remit the subject matter of the relevant provision falls.

Great British Energy Bill

2. This Bill was introduced in the House of Commons on 25 July 2024.
3. An LCM was lodged by Gillian Martin MSP, Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy, supported by Alasdair Allan MSP, Acting Minister for Climate Action, on 8 August 2024. Following further analysis of the Bill and the tabling of a relevant amendment, a supplementary LCM was lodged by Gillian Martin MSP, Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy, supported by Alasdair Allan MSP, Acting Minister for Climate Action, on 28 January 2025.
4. The Bill makes provision for special arrangements in relation to the regulation of a company which is designated by the Secretary of State with the objects of facilitating, encouraging and participating in—
 - the production, distribution, storage and supply of clean energy,
 - the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from energy produced from 15 fossil fuels,
 - improvements in energy efficiency, and
 - measures for ensuring the security of the supply of energy.
5. The original LCM indicated that the Scottish Government was not in a position to recommend a position on consent at that point. The supplementary LCM sets out the Scottish Government's consent position on the provisions of the Bill including in relation to an amendment to the Bill.
6. The supplementary LCM indicates that the Scottish Government intends to lodge a motion seeking the Scottish Parliament's consent to the relevant provision in this Bill.

Designation of lead committee

7. The relevant provision in the Bill falls within the remit of the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee. The committee's remit includes to consider and report on matters falling within the responsibility of the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy, with the exception of matters relating to just transition. The Cabinet Secretary is responsible (amongst other things) for climate crisis, energy systems, and oil and gas. She is supported by the Minister for Climate Action, who is responsible (amongst other things) for energy policy and strategy.

8. The supplementary LCM will also be considered by the Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee in relation to any provisions in the Bill conferring powers on the Scottish Ministers to make subordinate legislation.

Recommendation

9. The Bureau is invited to refer, under Rule 9B.3.5, the supplementary LCM to the Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee as lead committee.

Parliamentary Business Team

January 2025