



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Dr Shivali Fifield  
Chief Officer, Environmental  
Rights Centre for Scotland

By email only

**Net Zero, Energy and Transport  
Committee**

c/o Clerk to the Committee  
Room T3.40

The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

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23 July 2024

Dear Dr Fifield,


I write in response to the ERCS's 26 March letter to the committee about "Timeline for NZET Committee recommendations on environmental governance", which the Committee noted during its work programme discussion on 25 June. The Committee's scrutiny of the future of environmental governance in Scotland is ongoing rather than concluded and it therefore does not intend to make recommendations on this important matter at this time.

It may be helpful to add that the Committee does not understand the laying of the Scottish Government statement to mark an "end point" in terms of scrutiny of environmental governance in Scotland, but rather a statement of current intent from the government and one that the committee has the option to respond to. More generally, the Committee also has to balance ongoing scrutiny of this matter with other priorities within its wide remit, including major legislation which the Parliament has referred to it.

I also confirm that the Committee does intend to invite Cabinet Secretary to give evidence on environmental governance in Scotland after the laying of the statement (or earlier if the opportunity arises) and will be keen to ensure the statement is laid within a reasonable timeframe.

I hope this is helpful as a response to the comments raised in the 26 March letter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Edward Mountain".

Edward Mountain MSP  
Convener  
**Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee**