



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee

Gillian Martin MSP
Acting Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy
Scottish Government

22 January 2025

Dear Gillian,

Great British Energy Bill Legislative Consent Memorandum

At our meeting on 21 January, the Committee heard from Michael Shanks MP, UK Minister for Energy on the LCM for the Great British Energy Bill.¹

Following this session, to aid in our consideration of the LCM, the Committee agreed to seek further information from you about clause 6.

Mr Shanks stated that the use of powers to give directions in other Bills, framed similarly to clause 6, have been sparingly used. The examples he gave of where they might be used were to protect public health, or for reasons of national security. However, we note that there is no express limitation in the Bill as drafted that it should only be used in particular circumstances, such as emergencies.

I would be grateful if you could set out the Scottish Government's understanding of the circumstances in which clause 6 could be used and whether they differ materially from the interpretation Mr Shanks set out. In doing so, it would be helpful if you could set out any written or other assurances you have received from the UK Government or others on this point.

Given how advanced this Bill is at Westminster and the desire of the Committee to produce a meaningful report on the LCM, we would appreciate a response by Wednesday 29 January.

Yours sincerely,

Edward Mountain MSP

¹ The Official Report for the meeting will be published here: [Official Report: search what was said in Parliament | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

Convener
Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee