



Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

Ed Miliband
Secretary of State
Department for Energy Security &
Net Zero
55 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2HP

Fintan Slye, Director of the ESO
National Grid ESO
Faraday House, Warwick Technology Park
Gallows Hill,
Warwick, CV34 6DA

23 August 2024

Dear Fintan,

Thank you for your continued support and engagement following the 9 July announcement on delivering clean power by 2030 and the development of a Strategic Spatial Energy Plan (SSEP).

As you know, Government has established a new 'Mission Control', with responsibility for accelerating delivery of a clean GB power system by 2030.

This letter provides a formal commission to the ESO, in advance of becoming the National Energy System Operator (NESO), to provide practical advice on achieving clean power by 2030 for Great Britain.

This advice should consist of a range of pathways that enable a decarbonised power system for Great Britain by 2030 and an enduring contribution to economy-wide decarbonisation beyond 2030. Across the pathways, please provide the following:

- Different energy generation and demand mixes and a description of which assumptions need to be met or these to be deliverable.
- Key requirements for the transmission network (including interconnection, where appropriate) generation and demand, and for secure system operation.
- Consideration of criteria that could support connections reform.
- High-level assessment of costs and benefits, opportunities and challenges, and risks.
- Your view of actions for HMG, NESO, Ofgem, the energy industry and wider stakeholders to enable delivery of the pathways, clearly setting out where further work is required.
- A spatial element, particularly focusing on those locations that offer opportunities for rapid infrastructure development, with sufficient detail and data to enable Mission Control to advise Ministers on options to support accelerated development of critical projects.

We would ask you to work with Mission Control at DESNZ to ensure that the plan is based on a shared set of assumptions about what is technically required and feasible to deliver clean power by 2030.

We hope this will be the start of a close working relationship between Mission Control and the NESO. We are determined to work in close partnership with you.

We will also work with you to ensure the plan for clean power by 2030 integrates with the longer-term SSEP, to provide government, industry and the public with more clarity over the shape of our future energy system.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ed Miliband', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ed Miliband
Secretary of State for Energy Security
and Net Zero

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Stark', with a large, sweeping initial 'C'.

Chris Stark
Head of Mission Control for Clean
Power 2030