

Public

Ref: EIR/24/0010

National Energy System Operator

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24 February 2025

Dear requester

Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 28 January 2025.

Request

In your email of 28 January 2025, you wrote:

You also state in your letter that you engaged with politicians including with Ministers, MPs, MSPs and MSs on behalf of the regions and communities they represent. Can you give me the dates of these meeting although as you say this engagement was not related to the development of the content of the Beyond 2030 Report and therefor will not constitute community engagement as required in your assessment.

The letter referred to in your request is NESO's response to your previous information request EIR/24/0008 - available online: [NESO EIR/FOI Disclosure Log](#).

Our response

NESO is subject to both the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) and the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

This request has been considered under the FOIA because we have determined that the recorded information that you have requested does not meet the definition of 'environmental information' at Regulation 2(1) of the EIR. This is because the meetings with MPs, MSPs etc as referenced in our previous response (EIR/24/0008), and subsequently the subject of this request, were related to pre-publication engagement, and not to the content of the Beyond 2030 Report.

The Beyond 2030 Report was published by the National Grid Electricity System Operator (NG ESO) in March 2024 and the meetings with MPs, MSPs etc referenced above and in our previous response, took place prior to that date.

National Grid ESO was part of the National Grid PLC group of companies until 30 September 2024 and was not subject to the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

On 1 October 2024 we became the National Energy System Operator (NESO) under government ownership (the Independent System Operator and Planner as designated in the Energy Act 2023).

Regulation 14 of the Energy Act 2023 (Consequential Amendments) Regulations 2024 (SI 2024/706) amended Part 6 of Schedule 1 (other public bodies and offices: general) of the FOIA, inserting the following:

“The Independent System Operator and Planner designated in accordance with section 162 of the Energy Act 2023 in respect of information held by it as a result of the exercise of its functions under, or as a consequence of, that Act.”

The FOIA therefore does not apply retrospectively to information that was held by the National Grid Electricity System Operator prior to 1 October 2024.

As your request relates to information held by NG ESO prior to 1 October 2024, NESO is not required to respond to your request.

For clarity, your previous requests (EIR/24/0003 and EIR/24/0008) were managed under the EIR as the information requested was determined to meet the definition of ‘environmental information’ provided at Regulation 2(1) of the EIR. The National Grid Electricity System Operator was subject to the EIR, as NESO continues to be.

Next steps

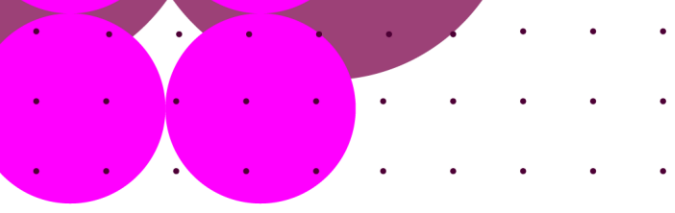
You can ask us to review our response. If you want us to carry out a review, please let us know within 40 working days and quote the reference number at the top of this letter.

If you are still dissatisfied after our internal review, you can complain to the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO). You should make complaints to the ICO within six weeks of receiving the outcome of an internal review. The easiest way to lodge a complaint is through their website: www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints. Alternatively, they can be contacted at: Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF.

Thank you for your interest in the work of the National Energy System Operator (NESO).

Regards,

The Information Rights Team



National Energy System Operator (NESO)