

Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee

Security of Supply

Call for Written Evidence

Remit

“Scotland’s energy needs in a changing UK electricity market – an inquiry into security of supply. The four themes will be: supply, demand, the transmission network and market functioning.”

Background

Ensuring that there is enough generation to meet energy demand in Scotland is a function of the availability and flexibility of domestic generating plants, as well as the capability of the UK transmission network.

Both the regulator Ofgem and the UK Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) produce annual assessments of capacity, and security of supply reports.

Recent [evidence](#) to the Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee – on the future of Longannet Power Station but also the broader theme of electricity supply – has shown that a combination of organisations have responsibility in this area; and there are a number of factors for consideration of security of supply over the coming decade.

Terms of Reference

In conducting this inquiry the Committee is interested in receiving views about:

- Supply and whether there is sufficient generation to meet demand, in particular to the end of the decade. *What role will new generation that is under construction, or has been consented play? The Scottish Government aims to have a “largely decarbonised electricity system by 2030”. What does this mean in practice, and are there sufficient tools in place to bridge the move from fossil fuels to renewables?*
- How predictable peak demand is at present, and how is this likely to change in the coming decade. *In particular, what impact will the development of demand side response have? What could be done to improve developments in this area?*
- A number of new transmission network projects are currently under construction or being planned. *What role will these have in securing electricity supplies, and where should future investment be directed? What role might the distribution network, and a single European electricity market play in securing supplies?*
- A number of significant changes to the electricity market have recently been finalised and are being put in place to ensure competition and cost reflective prices for consumers. *Are policies such as the Capacity Mechanism under*

Electricity Market Reform adequate, and what other long term signals might be necessary to ensure security of supply?

- Any other matters concerning security of supply that you would like to bring to the Committee's attention.

How to submit written evidence

Please use the specific issues outlined above as the basis for your submission. You may wish to respond to any or all of the specific questions. Evidence should be reasonably brief and typewritten (preferably normally no more than 4 sides of A4 in total).

The deadline for receipt of written submissions is 6 May 2015. Owing to the timescale normally required for the processing and analysis of evidence, late submissions will only be accepted with the advance agreement of the clerk.

The Committee prefers to receive written submissions electronically and in a form accessible using Microsoft Word. These should be sent to:

eet@scottish.parliament.uk

You may also send a hard copy of written submissions to:

Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee
Scottish Parliament
Holyrood
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

We welcome written evidence in any language.

Policy for Handling Written Evidence

Before you submit your written evidence, please ensure that you have read our [policy on treatment of written evidence](#). Written submissions will be handled in accordance with this policy.

We would also be grateful if, when using any tables or graphics in your submission, that you include a short paragraph explaining what the table/graphic shows. This helps readers with visual impairments.

Contact

For details about the Committee's work on the Security of Supply inquiry please contact Rodger Evans, Senior Assistant Clerk to the Committee, 0131 348 5230.