

Response ID ANON-8W5K-8T5J-T

Submitted to Strategy and Policy Statement for Energy Policy in Great Britain
Submitted on 2023-08-02 12:36:46

About you

1 What is your name?

Name:
Kirsty Riglar

2 What is your email address?

Email:
stinsfordclerk@gmail.com

3 What is your organisation?

Organisation:
Stinsford Parish Council

4 We usually publish a summary of all responses, but sometimes we are asked to publish the individual responses too. Would you be happy for your response to be published in full?

Yes

5 How did you hear about this consultation?

How did you hear about this consultation?:
GOV.UK alert

Other (please specify):

The consultation questions

1 Does the strategy and policy statement identify the most important strategic priorities and policy outcomes for government in formulating policy for the energy sector in Great Britain? If not, please provide details of the priorities that you think should be included.

No

Please enter additional information here:

There are just three passing references in the document to 'ensuring an appropriate balance' between achieving the government's net zero targets and 'environmental and social costs'. The focus of this strategy and policy is much too heavily weighted towards ensuring the government's net zero targets are met. The requirement to take into account the the environmental and social costs should have a much stronger focus.

The policy needs to work with communities through parish and town councils to develop genuine localised alternatives. It is important that this allows for mitigating and compensating those suffering negative impacts from industrial scale renewable provision and that provision should be directed in appropriate localities without damage to landscape, environmental, ecological, heritage and community assets.

Costs should not be met by consumers unless the cost provides for direct public or community ownership. It is unclear how 'vulnerable groups' will be identified or how consumers will be engaged. It is important that consumers are genuine consumers rather than residents working at the behest of any part of the energy sector directly or indirectly through lobbying in the community for specific parts of the energy sector. In practice, the significant investment required over a short period may still be unaffordable to many, resulting in more households being forced into fuel poverty if they are not given financial support. This does not appear to be acknowledged in the document.

2 Does the strategy and policy statement effectively set out the role of Ofgem in supporting government to deliver its priorities? If not, please identify where these expectations could be made clearer.

Don't know

Please enter additional information here:

It is unclear how FSO can carry out its statutory duty to provide independent advice, analysis and information to Ofgem and be regulated by it at the same time. There appears to be a conflict here.

Whilst it is recognised that businesses have been facing significantly higher prices and that it will be Ofgem's role to consider whether there are particular types of business which could benefit from further [price] protection, it falls well short of providing assurances that the net zero transition should not

result in unaffordable energy costs.

3 Given the FSO does not exist yet but will need to have regard to the strategy and policy statement once it does, do you consider that we have effectively reflected the FSO's role in this document? If not, please identify where these expectations could be made clearer.

No

Please enter additional information here:

The energy sector and related business has a vested interest. The policy is overly concerned to work with business stakeholders. This can lead to weak regulation through allowing developers and land owners to progress with developments for the sake of profit rather than serious environmental and climate benefits. There is too much emphasis on digitalisation. Digitalisation comes with potential implications for intrusions on residents personal space. The potential human rights implications and necessary personal protections arising from such a policy need to be given greater consideration.