

Great British Energy Bill

RUNNING LIST OF ALL AMENDMENTS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

*Tabled up to and including
28 November 2024*

[Amendments marked ★ are new or have been altered]

Clause 1

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

- ★ Clause 1, page 1, line 2, leave out “company” and insert “subsidiary of the National Wealth Fund”

Member's explanatory statement

This would probe into the relationship between Great British Energy and the National Wealth Fund - formerly the UK Infrastructure Bank.

LORD FROST
LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

- ★ Clause 1, page 1, line 3, at end insert “, in order to advance the objectives set out in subsection (1A).”

- (1A) The objectives which the Secretary of State must seek to advance in designating a company as Great British Energy are –
- (a) reducing household energy costs in a sustainable way, and
 - (b) promoting the United Kingdom’s energy security.”

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 1, page 1, line 6, leave out “wholly”

Member's explanatory statement

This would probe into the fact that Great British Energy may be designated a company only if it is wholly owned by the Crown.

LORD VAUX OF HARROWDEN
LORD CAMERON OF DILLINGTON

Clause 1, page 1, line 6, leave out “wholly” and insert “at least 75%”

Member's explanatory statement

This is probing amendment to explore the benefits of having the flexibility to allow minority external equity ownership of Great British Energy.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

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Clause 1, page 1, line 6, leave out “Crown” and insert “Secretary of State”

Member's explanatory statement

This would specify that Great British Energy would be owned by the Secretary of State for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.

LORD VAUX OF HARROWDEN
LORD CAMERON OF DILLINGTON

Clause 1, page 1, line 12, leave out “wholly” and insert “at least 75%”

Member's explanatory statement

This is probing amendment to explore the benefits of having the flexibility to allow minority external equity ownership of Great British Energy.

LORD VAUX OF HARROWDEN
LORD CAMERON OF DILLINGTON

Clause 1, page 1, line 18, leave out from “is” to “held” in line 19 and insert “at least 75% owned by the Crown if at least 75% of the issued shares in the company are”

Member's explanatory statement

This is probing amendment to explore the benefits of having the flexibility to allow minority external equity ownership of Great British Energy.

Clause 2

BARONESS NOAKES

Baroness Noakes gives notice of her intention to oppose the Question that Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment probes why Great British Energy does not have Crown status and what the implications of that are.

Clause 3

LORD NASEBY

Clause 3, page 2, line 13, after “encouraging” insert “investing in”

LORD NASEBY

Clause 3, page 2, line 13, after “in” insert “one or more of”

LORD VAUX OF HARROWDEN

Clause 3, page 2, line 14, after “storage” insert “, trading”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would add energy trading to the allowed objects of Great British Energy.

EARL RUSSELL

Clause 3, page 2, line 14, at end insert “including from schemes owned, or part owned, by community organisations,”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment includes community energy in the objects that the Great British Energy company will be restricted to facilitating, encouraging and participating in.

LORD NASEBY

Clause 3, page 2, line 15, after “reduction” insert “, directly or indirectly,”

LORD NASEBY

Clause 3, page 2, line 15, leave out “produced” and insert “derived”

LORD NASEBY

Clause 3, page 2, line 18, after “ensuring” insert “, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part,”

EARL RUSSELL

Clause 3, page 2, line 18, at end insert —

“(e) measures to increase low carbon and renewable energy schemes owned, or part owned, by community organisations.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment includes community energy schemes in the objects that the Great British Energy company will be restricted to facilitating, encouraging and participating in.

EARL RUSSELL

Clause 3, page 2, line 18, at end insert —

“(e) measures for ensuring the uptake and use of heat pumps.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would set an objective for GB Energy to ensure the uptake and use of heat pumps.

EARL RUSSELL

Clause 3, page 2, line 18, at end insert —

“(e) measures for ensuring the uptake and use of heat pumps, including leading efforts and engagement with relevant stakeholders and partners to develop mortgage opt-in financing schemes.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would set an objective for GB Energy to ensure the uptake and use of heat pumps, including by leading efforts to develop a mortgage opt-in financing scheme where payments for heat pumps can be included on mortgages on an opt-in basis to help spread the cost of heat pump uptake.

BARONESS GRENDER

Clause 3, page 2, line 18, at end insert —

“(e) an emergency home insulation programme with targeted support for people on low incomes, and
(f) the expansion and development of renewable energy and technology.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would set objects for Great British Energy of facilitating, encouraging and participating in an emergency home insulation programme with targeted support for people on low incomes, and the expansion and development of renewable energy and technology.

LORD RAVENSDALE
BARONESS NOAKES

Clause 3, page 2, line 18, at end insert —

“(e) measures for reducing the cost of the supply of energy.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment aligns Great British Energy with the National Energy System Operator by ensuring that cost of energy as well as security and sustainability are considered in its legislated objectives.

LORD RAVENSDALE

Clause 3, page 2, line 18, at end insert –

- “(e) measures for engaging with local authorities about local area energy plans and governance of the energy system at a local level.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment clarifies the role of Great British Energy in local area energy planning.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 3, page 2, line 18 at end insert –

- “(e) the production of nuclear energy.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would amend Great British Energy's objects to include the production of nuclear energy.

LORD ASHCOMBE

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Clause 3, page 2, line 18, at end insert –

- “(e) the exploration of oil and gas in the North Sea where the UK's energy security is compromised.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would amend Great British Energy's objects to include the exploration of oil and gas in the North Sea where the UK's energy security is compromised.

EARL RUSSELL

Clause 3, page 2, line 18, at end insert –

- “(2A) The statement must not include any provision for facilitating, encouraging or participating in carbon capture and storage.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment prevents GB Energy from facilitating, encouraging and participating in carbon capture and storage, as the Government has already allocated a budget for CCS to be spent elsewhere.

EARL RUSSELL

Clause 3, page 2, line 18, at end insert —

“(2A) The statement must not include any provision for facilitating, encouraging or participating in nuclear energy.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment prevents GB Energy from facilitating, encouraging and participating in nuclear energy.

LORD NASEBY

★

Clause 3, page 2, line 20, after second “energy” insert “and molecules”

LORD NASEBY

Clause 3, page 2, line 20, after “than” insert “unabated”

LORD RAVENSDALE

Clause 3, page 2, line 27, at end insert —

““security of the supply of energy” means system reliability, price predictability, fuel security, physical security and cyber security of energy.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment defines security of supply as listed in the objects of Great British Energy.

Clause 4

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 4, page 2, line 32, leave out “grant”

Member's explanatory statement

This would probe into the types of financial assistance which can be provided to Great British Energy by the Secretary of State.

BARONESS NOAKES

Clause 4, page 2, line 33, leave out paragraphs (b) to (d)

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment probes how the matters referred to in subsection (2)(b), (c) and (d) can comprise financial assistance to Great British Energy.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 4, page 2, line 33, leave out paragraphs (b) to (e)

Member's explanatory statement

This would probe into the types of financial assistance which can be provided to Great British Energy by the Secretary of State.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 4, page 2, line 37, leave out paragraph (e)

Member's explanatory statement

This would probe into the types of financial assistance which can be provided to Great British Energy by the Secretary of State.

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

Clause 4, page 2, line 37, at end insert —

- “(2A) Financial assistance may only be provided under this section once Great British Energy has developed a plan for how it will transition to clean energy, with details of how it will prioritise development of —
- (a) green steel,
 - (b) green hydrogen,
 - (c) industrial decarbonisation,
 - (d) gigafactories, and
 - (e) ports.”

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 4, page 2, line 37, at end insert —

- “(2A) Any financial assistance provided to Great British Energy under subsection (1) or (2) must be included in the Government’s assessment of United Kingdom general gross debt.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require any financial assistance provided to Great British Energy to be included in national debt.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 4, page 2, line 37, at end insert —

- “(2A) Great British Energy must not sell shares either privately or publicly without the approval of Parliament.

- (2B) If Parliamentary approval is granted, the Directors must notify Companies House and obey all other requirements of limited liability companies.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require Great British Energy to not sell shares without the approval of Parliament.

LORD ALTON OF LIVERPOOL
BARONESS KENNEDY OF THE SHAWS
LORD BLENCATHRA
THE LORD BISHOP OF ST ALBANS

Clause 4, page 3, line 5, at end insert –

- “(6) Financial assistance under this section must not be provided if there exists credible evidence of modern slavery in the energy supply chain of any company designated Great British Energy.”

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 4, page 3, line 5, at end insert –

- “(6) Within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed the Secretary of State must produce an annual report on all financial assistance provided to Great British Energy, and lay it before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require the Secretary of State to produce an annual report on financial assistance provided to Great British Energy.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 4, page 3, line 5, at end insert –

- “(6) This section shall not come into force until the Secretary of State has defined “conditions” in subsection (3) by regulations.
- (7) A statutory instrument containing regulations under subsection (6) may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would prevent the Act being passed until the Secretary of State has defined the conditions by which financial assistance may be provided to Great British Energy.

Clause 5

BARONESS YOUNG OF OLD SCONE

- ★ Clause 5, page 3, line 8, at end insert "which in his or her opinion will assist the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, improvements in energy efficiency, the security of energy supplies and a more diverse ownership of energy facilities (including community ownership) that benefit people and communities."

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 5, page 3, line 8, at end insert —

- “(1A) The statement of strategic priorities under subsection (1) must include the reduction of household energy bills by £300 in real terms by 1 January 2030.”

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 5, page 3, line 8, at end insert —

- “(1A) The statement of strategic priorities under subsection (1) must include the creation of 650,000 new jobs in the United Kingdom by 2030 resulting directly or indirectly from Great British Energy’s pursuit of its objects under section 3.”

Member's explanatory statement

To give Great British Energy a strategic priority to create 650,000 new jobs in the UK by 2030.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 5, page 3, line 8, at end insert —

- “(1A) The statement of strategic priorities under subsection (1) must include developing supply chains within the United Kingdom in the pursuit of Great British Energy’s objects under section 3.
- (1B) “supply chains” means the network of individuals, organisations, resources, activities and technology involved in the creation and sale of a commodity connected with Great British Energy’s objects under section 3.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require the statement of strategic priorities to include developing supply chains within the United Kingdom.

EARL RUSSELL

Clause 5, page 3, line 8 at end insert —

- “(1A) The statement of strategic priorities under subsection (1) must include a priority to advance the production of clean energy from schemes owned, or part owned, by community organisations.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the advancement of community energy to be included in the strategic priorities.

LORD VAUX OF HARROWDEN
BARONESS NOAKES

Clause 5, page 3, line 8, at end insert —

“(1A) The Secretary of State must comply with subsection (1) within the period of six months beginning with the day on which this Act comes into force.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would introduce a time limit by which the Secretary of State must prepare and publish the statement of strategic priorities.

BARONESS NOAKES

Clause 5, page 3, line 11, at end insert —

“(3A) The Secretary of State must withdraw the statement if, before the end of the 40-day period, either House of Parliament resolves not to approve it.

(3B) “The 40-day period” is the period of 40 days beginning with the day on which the statement is laid before Parliament (or, if it is not laid before each House of Parliament on the same day, the later of the days on which it is laid).

(3C) When calculating the 40-day period, ignore any period during which Parliament is dissolved or prorogued or during which both Houses are adjourned for more than four days.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment ensures that Parliament has an opportunity to reject a statement of strategic objectives.

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

Clause 5, page 3, line 11, at end insert —

“(3A) The Secretary of State must send a copy of the statement, and of any revised or replacement statement, to the Chairs of the relevant select committees in both Houses of Parliament.”

EARL RUSSELL

Clause 5, page 3, line 11, at end insert –

- “(3A) The Secretary of State must arrange for the tabling of a motion for resolution in each House of Parliament within 14 days of laying the statement before Parliament.”

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

Clause 5, page 3, line 29, at end insert –

- “(7A) The Secretary of State must conduct a meaningful consultation of at least 12 weeks’ duration before preparing a statement under this section and must consult –
- (a) farmers,
 - (b) fishermen, and
 - (c) local communities
- who will be affected by the proposed plans.”

BARONESS NOAKES

Clause 5, page 3, line 35, at end insert –

- “(c) to send a copy of those plans to the Secretary of State.”
- “(9) The Secretary of State must lay before Parliament a copy of any strategic plans received in accordance with subsection (8).”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would ensure that Parliament was made aware of Great British Energy's strategic plans.

After Clause 5BARONESS NOAKES
LORD VAUX OF HARROWDEN

After Clause 5, insert the following new Clause –

“Framework document

- (1) The Secretary of State must prepare a framework document which sets out the principles underpinning the relationship between the Secretary of State, Great British Energy and any other relevant public sector bodies.
- (2) The framework document must cover the operating and financial principles through which Great British Energy will pursue its strategic objectives and may include such other matters as the Secretary of State determines.

- (3) Relevant public sector bodies are public sector bodies and government departments which the Secretary of State considers will or may have a relationship with Great British Energy.
- (4) The Secretary of State may amend the framework document at any time.
- (5) The Secretary of State must consult Great British Energy before preparing or amending the framework document.
- (6) The Secretary of State must lay a copy of the framework document or any amended framework document before Parliament as soon a practical after it is finalised.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires the Secretary of State to prepare and publish a document setting out the operating and financial principles which Great British Energy will use.

EARL RUSSELL

After Clause 5, insert the following new Clause —

“Sustainable development

Great British Energy must keep under review the impact of their activities on the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom.”

Member's explanatory statement

The amendment would require GB Energy to keep the impact of their activities on the achievement of sustainable development under review. Sustainable development goals as recognised by the United Nations, the Commonwealth and other bodies refer to human development that aims to meet the economic, environmental and social needs of the present while also ensuring the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

EARL RUSSELL

After Clause 5, insert the following new Clause —

“Reports to Parliament

- (1) Great British Energy must publish an annual report and send it to the Energy Security and Net Zero Committee, or any successor Committee, of the House of Commons.
- (2) The report under subsection (1) must consider Great British Energy functions and activity in the contribution to the following —
 - (a) supporting local communities and economies;
 - (b) the achievement of the United Kingdom’s climate and environmental targets;
 - (c) the relationship with The Crown Estate;
 - (d) a just transition to green energy;
 - (e) a jobs and skills transition into the green economy.

- (3) Great British Energy must appear before the Energy Security and Net Zero, or any successor Committee, if requested by the Committee.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require GB Energy to publish an annual report before Parliament through the Commons ESNZ Committee.

Clause 6

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert –

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must report to the Secretary of State on the progress made by Great British Energy towards the strategic priority of reducing household energy bills by £300 in real terms by 1 January 2030.
- (1B) A report under subsection (1A) must include a projection of how Great British Energy’s activities are likely to affect consumer energy bills over the following five years.
- (1C) A report under subsection (1A) must be made within two years of the day on which this Act is passed, and annually thereafter.
- (1D) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under subsection (1A) before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require an annual report to be laid before Parliament on how Great British Energy’s activities are contributing towards taking £300 off consumer energy bills.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert –

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must report to the Secretary of State on the progress made by Great British Energy towards the strategic priority of creating 650,000 new jobs in the United Kingdom by 2030.
- (1B) A report under subsection (1A) must be made within two years of the day on which this Act is passed, and annually thereafter.
- (1C) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under subsection (1A) before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

To require an annual report to be laid before Parliament on how Great British Energy’s activities are contributing towards creating 650,000 new jobs.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert –

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must report to the Secretary of State on the progress made by Great British Energy towards the strategic priority of developing supply chains within the United Kingdom.
- (1B) A report under subsection (1A) must be made within two years of the day on which this Act is passed, and annually thereafter.
- (1C) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under subsection (1A) before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would introduce a specific strategic priority for Great British Energy to develop UK energy supply chains, and require that an annual report is produced on the progress of meeting this strategic priority.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert –

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must report to the Secretary of State within three months of each investment it makes on the impact that the relevant investment is projected to have on wholesale electricity prices over the following ten years.
- (1B) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under subsection (1A) before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would introduce a requirement that Great British Energy reports to the Secretary of State (and subsequently Parliament) on the projected impact that each of its investments would have on wholesale electricity prices over the following ten years.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert –

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must, within six months of the day on which this Act is passed, report to the Secretary of State on the projected cost of fulfilling its strategic priorities under section 5 in accordance with its objects under section 3.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require Great British Energy to report on the projected cost of fulfilling all of its strategic priorities.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert –

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must report to the Secretary of State on –
- (a) Great British Energy’s in-year rate of return on investment, and
 - (b) a forecast of the following year’s expected rate of return on investment.
- (1B) A report under subsection (1A) must be made within two years of the day on which this Act is passed, and annually thereafter.
- (1C) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under subsection (1A) before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require Great British Energy to provide an annual report to Parliament on its annual rate of return on investment, and a projection of the following year’s expected rate of return on investment.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert –

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must take all reasonable steps to satisfy itself at the time of any investment in renewable energy infrastructure that connection to the National Grid will be made in time for energy produced from the relevant investment asset coming onstream.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require Great British Energy to take all reasonable steps in order to ensure access to the National Grid is ready for any energy infrastructure invested in by Great British Energy.

EARL RUSSELL

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert –

- “(1A) The Secretary of State may not give specific or general directions to Great British Energy unless they have delivered an oral statement setting out those directions before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would prevent the SoS from directing GBE unless they have delivered an oral statement to Parliament.

LORD FULLER

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert –

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must not facilitate, encourage or participate in the development of renewable energy technologies on agricultural land classified as grade 1, 2 or 3.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would restrict the types of land on which renewable energy technologies can be developed under Great British Energy's activities, to protect the most productive and versatile land for food production.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert –

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must report to the Secretary of State within three months of each investment it makes on the impact of the relevant investment on employment.
- (1B) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under subsection (1A) before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require Great British Energy to report to the Secretary of State on the impact of each investment on employment.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert –

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must report to the Secretary of State within three months of each investment it makes on the carbon emissions resulting from that investment.
- (1B) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under subsection (1A) before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require Great British Energy to report to the Secretary of State on the impact of each investment on carbon emissions.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 6, page 3, line 38 at end insert –

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must report to the Secretary of State on the progress made by Great British Energy towards reducing carbon emissions.

- (1B) A report under subsection (1A) must be made within two years of the day on which this Act is passed and annually thereafter.
- (1C) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under subsection (1A) before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require Great British Energy to report to the Secretary of State on the progress made by Great British Energy towards reducing carbon emissions.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert –

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must produce within one year of each investment it makes a cost benefit analysis of the price of electricity produced from renewable energy technologies compared to that produced from gas.
- (1B) Great British Energy must produce a report which includes the findings set out in subsection (1A) to the Secretary of State.
- (1C) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under subsection (1A) before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require Great British Energy to produce and report the cost benefit analysis of the price of electricity produced from renewable energy technologies compared to that produced from gas.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert –

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must report to the Secretary of State within one year of the day on which this Act is passed and annually thereafter on the impact of the establishment of Great British Energy on the amount of energy imported into the United Kingdom.
- (1B) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under subsection (1A) before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require Great British Energy to produce a report on their impact on imported energy.

LORD FULLER

★ Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert —

“(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must only facilitate, encourage and participate in the development of renewable energy technologies on agricultural land classified as grade 4 or 5.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would restrict the types of land on which renewable energy technologies can be developed under Great British Energy's activities, to protect the most productive and versatile land for food production.

LORD BERKELEY

★ Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert —

“(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that, in meeting its objects under Section 3, it must give full consideration to properties which are not connected to the gas grid and the value of renewable liquid fuels in meeting those objects.

(1B) The direction must require Great British Energy to publish a report to assess the potential benefits to consumers of implementing a renewable liquid heating fuel obligation under Section 159 of the Energy Act 2023.

(1C) A report under subsection (1B) must be made within three months of the day on which this Act is passed.

(1D) The Secretary of State must lay a report made under subsection (1B) before Parliament.

(1E) The Secretary of State must implement section 159(3) of the Energy Act 2023 within three months of receiving the report.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would introduce a specific strategic priority for Great British Energy to work with the Government to consider the specific energy related issues of households off the gas grid. The amendment requires the Secretary of State to exercise powers under the Energy Act 2023 to undertake a consultation on the introduction of a renewable liquid heating fuel obligation.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

★ Clause 6, page 3, line 38, at end insert —

“(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that it must carry out an environmental impact assessment for each investment it makes.

(1B) The Secretary of State must lay a copy of the assessment made under subsection (1A) before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require Great British Energy to carry out an environmental impact assessment for each investment it makes.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

★

Clause 6, page 3, line 38 at end insert –

- “(1A) The Secretary of State must give a specific direction to Great British Energy that 60% of the materials sourced under any investment under its functions must be supplied from United Kingdom manufacturers.
- (1B) For the purposes of compliance with subsection (1A), Great British Energy must assess the origin of the materials sourced under its investments and produce a report annually.
- (1C) A report under subsection (1B) must be made within two years of the day on which this Act is passed and annually thereafter.
- (1D) The report must include the manufacturer from which all materials were sourced under all investments made by Great British Energy.
- (1E) The Secretary of State must lay a report under subsection (1B) before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require 60% of material sourced under any investments made by Great British Energy to be supplied from UK manufacturers and for a report to be published.

LORD CAMERON OF DILLINGTON

★

Clause 6, page 4, line 1, at end insert –

- “(aa) the National Energy System Operator,
(ab) the Climate Change Committee,
(ac) the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority, and”

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

Clause 6, page 4, line 4, at end insert –

- “(4A) A Minister must table a motion for resolution in each House of Parliament on any directions given to Great British Energy under this section before the directions are adopted.”

Clause 7

BARONESS NOAKES
LORD VAUX OF HARROWDEN

Clause 7, page 4, line 10, at end insert –

“(1A) The period allowed for filing the reports and accounts of Great British Energy under section 442 of The Companies Act 2006 shall be 6 months.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment ensures that Great British Energy files its reports and accounts in line with the period allowed for public companies.

LORD VAUX OF HARROWDEN
BARONESS NOAKES
LORD CAMERON OF DILLINGTON

Clause 7, page 4, line 10, at end insert –

“(1A) In addition to complying with section 441 of the Companies Act 2006, the accounts and reports must include such other information as the Treasury may require, including –

- (a) information on financial assistance received in accordance with section (*Financial assistance*),
- (b) information on any investments made or partnerships entered into,
- (c) an assessment of how those investments or partnerships meet the objectives and strategic priorities of Great British Energy, and
- (d) an assessment of the extent to which those investments or partnerships have encouraged additional investment by the private sector.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would add further requirements to be included in the annual report and accounts of the company, including flexibility for the Treasury to define additional requirements.

BARONESS MCINTOSH OF PICKERING

Clause 7, page 4, line 12, at end insert “and arrange for a statement to be made in each House”

After Clause 7

LORD ALTON OF LIVERPOOL
BARONESS FINLAY OF LLANDAFF
LORD STOREY
LORD WOODLEY

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause—

“Assessment: tidal barrage projects

Within six months of a designation under section 1(1) coming into effect, Great British Energy must publish an assessment of the potential use of tidal barrage projects to support decarbonisation of the energy sector.”

BARONESS NOAKES
LORD VAUX OF HARROWDEN

After Clause 7 insert the following new Clause—

“Audit

The Comptroller and Auditor General must be appointed as the auditor of Great British Energy.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment ensures that the C&AG audits the accounts and reports of Great British Energy.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause—

“Review of effective delivery

- (1) The Secretary of State must appoint an independent person to carry out reviews of the effectiveness of Great British Energy in—
 - (a) delivering its objects under section 3,
 - (b) meeting its strategic priorities under section 5, and
 - (c) complying with any directions given under section 6.
- (2) After each review, the independent person must—
 - (a) prepare a report of the review, and
 - (b) submit the report to the Secretary of State,as soon as is reasonably practicable after the completion of the review.
- (3) The independent person must submit to the Secretary of State—
 - (a) the first report under this section within the period of 12 months beginning on the day on which this Act comes into force, and
 - (b) subsequent reports at intervals of no more than 12 months thereafter.

- (4) On receiving the report, the Secretary of State must, as soon as is reasonably practicable in each case, —
 - (a) publish the report,
 - (b) lay a copy of the report before Parliament, and
 - (c) prepare and lay before Parliament a response to the report’s findings.
- (5) In this section, references to an “independent person” are to a person who appears to the Secretary of State to be independent of —
 - (a) the Secretary of State, and
 - (b) Great British Energy.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would require that the Secretary of State appoints an independent person to review the effectiveness of Great British Energy in delivering its objects, meeting its strategic priorities, and complying with its directions.

EARL RUSSELL

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause —

“Budget report

- (1) Great British Energy must publish an annual budget report and send it to the Energy Security and Net Zero Committee, or any successor Committee, of the House of Commons.
- (2) This report must include but is not limited to —
 - (a) a breakdown of current and expected funding sources;
 - (b) spending per sector;
 - (c) grid spending;
 - (d) future spending;
 - (e) estimations of future profitability.
- (3) A representative of Great British Energy must appear before the Energy Security and Net Zero Committee, or any successor Committee, if requested by the Committee.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment requires GBE to publish an annual budget report.

LORD FROST

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause —

“The Chair of Great British Energy

- (1) The Chair of Great British Energy may not be appointed until the appointment has been scrutinised by the Treasury Committee of the House of Commons, or any successor committee.

- (2) The Chair of Great British Energy must be based full-time at the headquarters of Great British Energy in Aberdeen.
- (3) The Chair of Great British Energy must undergo an annual review on their performance and —
 - (a) this review must be carried out by external auditors;
 - (b) this review must be submitted to the Secretary of State and laid before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require the Chair of Great British Energy to undergo pre-appointment scrutinisation, to be based at Great British Energy's headquarters full-time and to undergo an annual review of their performance.

LORD FROST
BARONESS NOAKES

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause —

“Directors: appointment and tenure

Great British Energy must secure that its articles of association provide that —

- (a) Great British Energy is to have at least five and no more than eight directors;
- (b) the chair of Great British Energy's board, Great British Energy's chief executive officer and the non-executive directors are to be appointed by the Secretary of State;
- (c) the Board is to appoint one or more directors to be responsible for ensuring that the Board considers the interests of the appropriate national authorities when making decisions;
- (d) the period of a non-executive director's appointment is not to exceed four years, or such shorter period as may be specified in the terms on which the director is appointed;
- (e) a person may be appointed as a non-executive director no more than two times;
- (f) a person ceases to be a non-executive director as soon as —
 - (i) the person ceases to be a director by virtue of any provision of the Companies Act 2006 or is prohibited from being a director by law;
 - (ii) the person becomes bankrupt (in relation to England and Wales and Northern Ireland) or the person's estate has been sequestrated (in relation to Scotland);
 - (iii) a registered medical practitioner who is treating the person gives a written opinion to Great British Energy stating that the person has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a director and is likely to remain so for more than three months, or the person has resigned as non-executive director in accordance with notification which the person has given to Great British Energy.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment would require GB Energy to appoint between five and eight directors, alongside a chair of the board, a chief executive officer, and non-executive directors.

EARL RUSSELL

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause —

“Ethical supply chain

In fulfilling its objects under section 3(2), Great British Energy must verify and attempt to engage only in ethical supply chain practices.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires GB Energy to verify its supply chain for unethical practices, and to attempt to engage with stakeholders engaged in ethical practices.

EARL RUSSELL

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause —

“Scrutiny of board appointments

The board of Great British Energy must not be appointed until each prospective appointment has been scrutinised by the Energy Security and Net Zero Committee of the House of Commons, or any successor committee.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment prevents the board of GB Energy from being appointed until each prospective appointment has been scrutinised by the ESNZ Committee.

EARL RUSSELL

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause —

“Great British Energy stakeholder relationships

Within one year of the day on which this Act is passed, and every two years thereafter, Great British Energy must publish a report regarding its relationship with —

- (a) Great British Nuclear;
- (b) the Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (Ofgem);
- (c) National Energy System Operator (NESO);
- (d) the UK Infrastructure Bank;
- (e) the Crown Estate.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment requires GBE to report on its relationships with GBN, Ofgem, NESO, UKIB, CE.

LORD VAUX OF HARROWDEN
BARONESS NOAKES
LORD CAMERON OF DILLINGTON

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause –

“Reviews of Great British Energy’s effectiveness and impact

- (1) The Chancellor of the Exchequer must appoint an independent person to carry out reviews of –
 - (a) the effectiveness of Great British Energy in delivering its objectives, and
 - (b) the extent to which its investments in particular projects or types of project have encouraged additional investment in those projects or types of project by the private sector.
- (2) After each review, the independent person must –
 - (a) prepare a report of the review, and
 - (b) submit the report to the Treasury.
- (3) On receiving a report, the Treasury must –
 - (a) publish the report, and
 - (b) lay a copy of the report before Parliament.
- (4) The first report must be submitted to the Treasury within the period of 3 years beginning with the day on which this Act is passed.
- (5) Subsequent reports must be submitted to the Treasury at intervals of not more than 3 years.
- (6) In this section, references to an “independent person” are to a person who appears to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to be independent of –
 - (a) the Treasury, and
 - (b) Great British Energy.”

Member’s explanatory statement

This amendment would require an independent review of the effectiveness of Great British Energy in achieving its objectives and the extent to which it has encouraged private investment every 3 years.

LORD FULLER

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause –

“Agricultural land protections

- (1) Great British Energy may not own agricultural land classified as grade 1, 2 or 3.
- (2) Any agricultural land purchased by Great British Energy must not be developed for the purpose of developing renewable energy installations and generation without conducting a public consultation on that development.

- (3) Any public consultation conducted under subsection (2) must consider the views of residents and those that work within 20 miles of the farthest extent of the proposed development.
- (4) Should a majority of respondents specified under subsection (3) oppose a development, Great British Energy must not proceed with it.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would restrict the land ownership of Great British Energy and would require that agricultural land which they purchase must not be developed for the purpose of developing renewable energy installations and generation without consulting with the public, to protect the most productive and versatile land for food production.

LORD FULLER

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause –

“Agricultural land protections (2)

Great British Energy may not own agricultural land classified as grade 1, 2 or 3.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would prevent Great British Energy from owning agricultural land graded 1, 2 or 3, to protect the most productive and versatile land for food production.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause –

“Annual report: impact on coastal communities

- (1) Within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, and annually thereafter, Great British Energy must annually report on the impact of their activities on coastal communities.
- (2) The Secretary of State must lay a copy of these reports before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require Great British Energy to annually report on the impact of their activities on coastal communities.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause –

“Annual report: impact on commercial fishing

- (1) Within 12 months of the day on which this Act is passed, and annually thereafter, Great British Energy must report on the impact of their activities on commercial fishing.
- (2) The Secretary of State must lay a copy of these reports before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require Great British Energy to annually report on the impact of their activities on commercial fishing.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause –

“Restriction on borrowing

- (1) The Secretary of State may by regulations implement a limit on borrowing undertaken by Great British Energy.
- (2) Where Great British Energy has total borrowing exceeding the limit set by regulations made under subsection (1), Great British Energy may not make a payment of dividends, capital, assets, or interest to shareholders or controlling entities.
- (3) A statutory instrument containing regulations under this section may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require the Secretary of State to limit borrowing undertaken by Great British Energy.

LORD ALTON OF LIVERPOOL
BARONESS KENNEDY OF THE SHAWS
LORD BLENCATHRA
THE LORD BISHOP OF ST ALBANS

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause –

“Products in Great British Energy supply chains manufactured in China

In fulfilling its objects under section 3(2), Great British Energy must ensure that any products in its supply chains which have been manufactured in China carry a warning that they have been made in a state accused of genocide and potentially culpable of using slave labour.”

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

★

After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause –

“Impact assessment on erection of pylons

- (1) In exercising its functions set out in subsection (2)(a), Great British Energy must assess the potential impact on—
 - (a) local communities, and
 - (b) the environmentof the erection of pylons.

- (2) If the assessment under subsection (4) determines that the erection of pylons –
 - (a) will cause significant harm to local communities, or
 - (b) will cause significant environmental damage
 then Great British Energy must not facilitate, encourage or participate in the relevant activity.
- (3) Within 12 months of the passing of this Act, Great British Energy must produce an annual report on the impact of the erection of pylons used to support its activities on local communities and the environment, and lay it before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require Great British Energy to assess and report on the impact on local communities and the environment of the erection of pylons used to support its activities.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

★ After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause –

“Impact assessment of offshore wind energy installations and generation

- (1) The Secretary of State must assess the impact on –
 - (a) the environment, and
 - (b) animal welfare standards
 of offshore wind energy installations and generation which occur under Great British Energy’s functions.
- (2) If an assessment under subsection (4) determines that relevant offshore energy installation and generation –
 - (a) is causing environmental damage, or
 - (b) has significant animal welfare issues,
 then Great British Energy must cease facilitating, encouraging or participating in the relevant activity.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require the Secretary of State to assess the impact on the environment and animal welfare standards of the installation and generation of offshore wind energy technologies.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

★ After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause –

“Impact assessment of decommissioning of oil and gas structures

- (1) The Secretary of State must assess the –
 - (a) environmental, and
 - (b) animal welfare standards
 impact of decommissioning offshore oil and gas structures which occur under Great British Energy’s functions.

- (2) If an assessment under subsection (1) determines that relevant decommissioning of offshore oil and gas structures
 - (c) is causing environmental damage, or
 - (d) has significant animal welfare issues,then Great British Energy must cease facilitating, encouraging or participating in the relevant activity.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require the Secretary of State to assess the impact of decommissioning offshore oil and gas structures which occur under Great British Energy's functions on the environment and animal welfare standards.

LORD FULLER

★ After Clause 7, insert the following new Clause –

“Tidal energy

- (1) The Secretary of State must assess the impact on –
 - (a) the environment, and
 - (b) animal welfare standardsof offshore tidal energy installation and generation which occur under Great British Energy's functions.
- (2) If the assessment under subsection (4) determines that the relevant offshore energy installation and generation –
 - (a) is causing environmental damage, or
 - (b) has significant animal welfare issues,then Great British Energy must cease facilitating, encouraging or participating in the relevant activity.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require the Secretary of State to assess the impact on the environment and animal welfare standards of the installation and generation of offshore tidal energy technologies and its associated cabling.

Clause 8

BARONESS NOAKES

Clause 8, page 4, line 15, leave out subsection (2) and insert –

- “(2) This section and section 5 come into force on the day on which this Act is passed.
- (2A) Other sections in this Act come into force on such a day as the Secretary of State may by regulations appoint, which must not be before the statement of strategic priorities under section 5 has been laid before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment defers commencement of other provisions in the Bill until the statement of strategic priorities made under Clause 5 has been laid before Parliament.

BARONESS NOAKES

Clause 8, page 4, line 15, leave out subsection (2) and insert –

- “(2) This section and section 5 come into force on the day on which this Act is passed.
- (2A) Other sections in this Act come into force on such a day as the Secretary of State may by regulations appoint, which must not be before the statement of strategic priorities has been approved by both Houses of Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment defers commencement of other provisions in the Bill until the statement of strategic priorities made under Clause 5 has been approved by Parliament

BARONESS NOAKES

Clause 8, page 4, line 15, leave out subsection (2) and insert –

- “(2) This section and section (*Framework document*) come into force on the day on which this Act is passed.
- (2A) Other sections in this Act come into force on such a day as the Secretary of State may by regulations appoint, which must not be before the statement of strategic priorities has been approved by both Houses of Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment defers commencement of other provisions in the Bill until after a framework document (see earlier amendment introducing a new clause after Clause 5) has been laid before Parliament.

EARL RUSSELL

Clause 8, page 4, line 15, leave out subsection (2) and insert –

- “(2) This section and section 5 come into force on the day on which this Act is passed.
- (2A) Sections 1 to 4, 6 and 7 come into force on the day the statement required by section 5(1) is laid before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment means the Bill cannot come into force unless the statement of strategic priorities has been laid before Parliament.

EARL RUSSELL

Clause 8, page 4, line 15, leave out subsection (2) and insert –

- “(2) This section and section 5 come into force on the day on which this Act is passed.
- (2A) Sections 1 to 4, 6 and 7 come into force on the day the statement required by section 5(1) has been approved by both Houses of Parliament, in the form of a motion for resolution under section 5(3A).”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment means the Bill cannot come into force unless the statement of strategic priorities has been laid and approved by Parliament.

EARL RUSSELL

Clause 8, page 4, line 15, leave out subsection (2) and insert –

- “(2) This section and section 5 come into force on the day on which this Act is passed.
- (2A) Sections 1 to 4, 6 and 7 come into force on the day a document containing thematic headings with details outlining the intent and general approach of the Secretary of State in relation to the statement of strategic priorities required by section 5(1) is laid before Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This amendment means the Bill cannot come into force unless a document setting out the thematic headings of the statement of strategic priorities have been laid before Parliament.

LORD OFFORD OF GARVEL

★

Clause 8, page 4, line 15, leave out subsection (2) and insert –

- “(2) This section comes into force on the day on which this Act is passed.
- (2A) Sections 1 to 4, 6 and 7 come into force two months after a revised Financial Framework Document has been laid before Parliament and the Secretary of State has tabled a motion for resolution on the Financial Framework Document in each House of Parliament.”

Member's explanatory statement

This would require the publication of the Financial Framework Document before the Act is passed.

Great British Energy Bill

RUNNING LIST OF ALL AMENDMENTS IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

Tabled up to and including

28 November 2024

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