

SUPPLEMENTARY LEGISLATIVE CONSENT MEMORANDUM (MEMORANDUM NO 3)

GREAT BRITISH ENERGY BILL

1. This legislative consent memorandum is laid under Standing Order (“SO”) 29.2. SO29 prescribes that a legislative consent memorandum must be laid, and a legislative consent motion may be tabled, before Senedd Cymru¹ if a UK Parliamentary Bill makes provision in relation to Wales that has regard to devolved matters.
2. The Great British Energy Bill (“the Bill”) was introduced in the House of Commons on 25 July 2024. The Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Transport and North Wales laid an LCM on 8 August 2024 on the Bill as introduced which includes a summary of the Bill. I laid a Supplementary LCM on 24 January 2025 covering UK Government amendments laid on 23 January 2025.
3. The Bill completed House of Lords Report Stage on 11 February 2025. This Supplementary LCM covers further UK Government amendments laid on 5 February 2025. The latest version of the Bill is available at: [Great British Energy Bill](#)

Policy Objective

4. The UK Government’s stated policy objectives are for the company Great British Energy to drive clean energy deployment, create jobs, boost energy independence, and provide value for the UK taxpayer. The Bill seeks to establish, Great British Energy to engage in all aspects of clean energy projects, including design, development, construction, commissioning and operation of projects. The policy intent covers supporting infrastructure across the clean energy supply chain, establishing the Local Power Plan, and measures that support the security of supply and energy efficiency.

Update on position since the publication of the first Legislative Consent Memorandum

5. The UK Government tabled two amendments to the Bill after House of Lords Committee Stage on 23 January 2025 which made relevant provision for Wales. Those tabled amendments were covered in the sLCM published on 24 January 2025. On the basis of those tabled amendments, I recommended the Senedd consent to the Bill. Senedd consent was provided in the debate on 4 February 2025.

¹ Please note in accordance with Welsh Government policy we refer to the legislature in Wales as “Senedd Cymru” on first use and “the Senedd” thereafter unless the context stipulates otherwise.

Welsh Government position on the changes to the Great British Energy Bill following the government amendments tabled on 5 February 2025

6. Amendment 8 affects Clause 3 inserting: “(including through projects involving or benefiting local communities).” This amendment clarifies that Great British Energy may facilitate, encourage and participate in the things mentioned in subsection (2)(a) to (d) through projects involving or benefiting local communities. This amendment is unlikely to materially impact the effect of the provisions in the clause for which consent was previously sought.
7. Amendment 21 affects Clause 5 inserting: “(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.” This amendment requires the Secretary of State to prepare a statement of strategic priorities for Great British Energy within the period of six months beginning with the day on which this Act comes into force. During the debate in the Senedd on 4 February there was some concern regarding the potential overlap between functions of GBE and delivery bodies in Wales. The publication of strategic priorities within six months will help reduce uncertainty and will help clarify how GBE will function in Wales.
8. Amendment 38 introduces a new clause after Clause 7 inserting: “7A Sustainable development Great British Energy must keep under review the impact of its activities on the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom.” This amendment requires Great British Energy to keep under review the impact of its activities on the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom. The Welsh Government has set strong requirements on sustainable development and the Well-being of future Generations Act 2015 sets out our approach to improve the well-being of Wales. The amendment will support our aims to improve the well-being of Wales.

Welsh and UK Government views on the need for consent

9. The amendments would make relevant provision with regard to devolved matters to the same extent set out at paragraphs 13-24 of the LCM laid on 8 August 2024. Consequently, the Senedd’s consent should be sought for them. The UK Government agrees with this assessment.

Financial implications

10. There are no financial implications for Wales if the Senedd consents to the provisions applying in Wales.

Conclusion

11. The climate emergency is one of the greatest challenges we face, and Welsh Government is supportive of legislation to establish GBE to help facilitate and encourage the development of renewable energy projects.
12. I welcome the consent of the Senedd to the Great British Energy Bill following the debate on 4 February 2025. These further amendments to the Bill make minor supplementary provision to those clauses for which consent was previously sought. As a result, this SLCM remains in line with the consent previously given.

Rebecca Evans MS

Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Planning

19/02/2025