

First Minister – Discussion with stakeholders on zonal electricity pricing
16th April 2025, 12:00-13:00
Bute House

Attendees:
[Redacted R. 10(4)(d)]

RE: FM Briefing - Roundtable on Zonal Electricity Pricing - 16 April 25
[Redacted R. 11] on behalf of; First Minister FirstMinister@gov.scot

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>;[Redacted R. 11]

Cc: [Redacted R. 11]Catherine Williams [Redacted R. 11] Kersti Berge [Redacted R. 11]

Adding [Redacted R. 11] for sight of the briefing,

[Redacted R. 11] would you mind updating to add that [Redacted R. 10(5)(f)]

Many thanks,
[Redacted R. 11]

Deputy Private Secretary to the First Minister
Office of the First Minister
5th Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG
M: [Redacted R. 11]

The First Minister's box closes at 2pm, Monday to Friday. Further details, including preferences, can be found here.

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

From: [Redacted R. 11] **On Behalf Of** First Minister
Sent: 14 April 2025 13:12
To: [Redacted R. 11]; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: [Redacted R. 11]Catherine Williams [Redacted R. 11]Kersti Berge [Redacted R. 11]
Subject: RE: FM Briefing - Roundtable on Zonal Electricity Pricing - 16 April 25

Hi [Redacted R. 11]

SE have just confirmed that [Redacted R.10(5)(f)]

Many thanks,
[Redacted R. 11]
Deputy Private Secretary to the First Minister
Office of the First Minister

5th Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG
M: [Redacted R. 11]

The First Minister's box closes at 2pm, Monday to Friday. Further details, including preferences, can be found [here](#).

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

From: [Redacted R. 11]
Sent: 11 April 2025 10:58
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: [Redacted R. 11]Catherine Williams [Redacted R. 11]Kersti Berge [Redacted R. 11]
Subject: FM Briefing - Roundtable on Zonal Electricity Pricing - 16 April 25

Hello First Minister Private Office,

Please find attached a briefing for the First Minister ahead of the Roundtable on Zonal Electricity Pricing scheduled for 16 April 2025.

This meeting is to follow up on the previous conversation from SEAB and hear more about industry concerns regarding electricity market reform and to ensure our engagements with the UK Government fully reflect the interests of Scotland's key stakeholders. [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]

I also attach to this email an Industry letter to UKG – Concerns regarding zonal pricing for Annex E of the brief.

Happy to discuss.

Kind regards,

[Redacted R. 11] Scottish Government| Victoria Quay | Edinburgh | EH6 6QQ
Email: [Redacted R. 11] | [Redacted R. 11]

My working hours are Mon-Fri, 7am-3pm



RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

[Redacted R. 11]

TO: [Redacted R. 11] **First Minister** FirstMinister@gov.scot
CC: **Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy** <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>;
Kersti Berge [Redacted R. 11] **David Hutchison** <David.Hutchison@gov.scot>
[Redacted R. 11] **Emily Mackintosh** Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot
[Redacted R. 11] **Colin McAllister** <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>;

Hi [Redacted R. 11]

I'm just following up to see if the diary team has managed to find a slot for this discussion?

Just to flag also that Cab Sec will be meeting with several members of [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]

Many thanks
[Redacted R. 11]

From: [Redacted R. 11]
Sent: 17 March 2025 15:33
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: **Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy** <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>;
Kersti Berge [Redacted R. 11]
Colin McAllister Colin.McAllister@gov.scot [Redacted R. 11]
David Hutchison David.Hutchison@gov.scot [Redacted R. 11]
>; **Emily Mackintosh** Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot [Redacted R. 11]
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Hi [Redacted R. 11],

Thanks for this. We're looking for Cab Sec NZE to meet with [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]

Many thanks,

[Redacted R. 11]
From: [Redacted R. 11] > On Behalf Of First Minister
Sent: 14 March 2025 15:45
To: [Redacted R. 11] **First Minister** <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: **Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy** <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>;
Kersti Berge [Redacted R. 11] **Catherine Williams** [Redacted R. 11] **Colin McAllister** <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R. 11] **David Hutchison** David.Hutchison@gov.scot > [Redacted R. 11] **Emily Mackintosh** Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot [Redacted R. 11]
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Afternoon [Redacted R. 11]

FM would like to set up a roundtable with the smaller group – with the addition of [Redacted R. 11]. FM would like Ms Martin to attend.

I appreciate we are now past the start of March which was the initial suggestion. I have asked the diary team to identify a slot and will come back to you ASAP I would be grateful if you could give me a steer on whether there are any key milestones ie meetings with UKG etc that we should be aware of when finding dates.

Many thanks,
[Redacted R. 11]
Deputy Private Secretary to the First Minister
Office of the First Minister
5th Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG
M: [Redacted R. 11]

The First Minister's box closes at 2pm, Monday to Friday. Further details, including preferences, can be found here.

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

From: [Redacted R. 11] Sent: 05 March 2025 08:53
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge [Redacted R.11] Catherine Williams [Redacted R.11] Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11] David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot> [Redacted R.11] Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot> [Redacted R.11] Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Hi [Redacted R.11]

Just to follow up on the email below, please could you let us know if FM would like to progress with the stakeholder discussion on zonal pricing which is being considered as part of the UK Government's Review of Electricity Market Arrangements (REMA).

The meeting would ideally take place in the next two to three weeks to inform our engagement with UK Government on its final decision.

Many thanks,
[Redacted R.11]

From: [Redacted R.11]
Sent: 26 February 2025 09:04
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <[Redacted R.11]> Catherine Williams [Redacted R.11] Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11] David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot> [Redacted R. 11] Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot> [Redacted R.11]

Subject: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Hi [Redacted R.11]

Further to a discussion with SpAds on Monday afternoon, here is an updated proposal for FM's stakeholder discussion on zonal pricing – an action from the last SEAB meeting.

If you need any further information, please let us know. Just to highlight that these discussions would ideally happen by mid-March to inform our engagement with UKG on its final decision.

Many thanks,
[Redacted R.11]

Purpose

[Redacted R. 10(4)(d)]

- [Redacted R. 10(5)(f)]

[Redacted R. 10(4)(d)]

[Redacted R.10(4)(e)]

Optional discussion with non-SEAB members

. [Redacted R.10(4)(e)]

[Redacted R.11]
Wholesale Electricity Markets Team Leader | Energy Strategy and Markets Unit
Onshore Electricity, Strategy and Consents | Directorate of Energy and Climate Change | Scottish Government
5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw, Glasgow G2 8LU
e: [Redacted R.11]

RE: Minister CA Briefing- Roundtable on Zonal Electricity Pricing - 16 April 25

From: [Redacted R.11]

To: Minister for Climate Action ministerforca@gov.scot
Cc: [Redacted R.11]Catherine Williams [Redacted R.11]Kersti Berge
<[Redacted R.11]Ragne Low [Redacted R.11]Susie Townend [Redacted R.11]Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot [Redacted R.11]
Good afternoon PO,

With apologies for the late change, please find attached an updated version of the briefing for tomorrow's zonal pricing roundtable. [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]

Best regards,

[Redacted R.11] Energy Strategic Projects Team Leader
Energy Strategy & Markets Unit
Directorate for Energy & Climate Change | Scottish Government
M: [Redacted R.11]

From: [Redacted R.11]
Sent: 14 April 2025 15:33
To: Minister for Climate Action <ministerforca@gov.scot>
Cc: [Redacted R.11] Catherine Williams <[Redacted R.11]Kersti Berge
<[Redacted R.11] Ragne Low <[Redacted R.11]Subject: RE: Minister CA
Briefing- Roundtable on Zonal Electricity Pricing - 16 April 25

Hello [Redacted R.11]

Please find updated brief which includes [Redacted R.11] who will be attending in [Redacted R.11] absence.

Cheers,

[Redacted R.11]

From: [Redacted R.11]On Behalf Of Minister for Climate Action
Sent: 14 April 2025 08:20
To: [Redacted R.11]>; Minister for Climate Action <ministerforca@gov.scot>
Cc: [Redacted R.11] Catherine Williams <[Redacted R.11]Kersti Berge
<[Redacted R.11]>; Ragne Low [Redacted R.11]Subject: RE: Minister CA
Briefing- Roundtable on Zonal Electricity Pricing - 16 April 25

Good morning,

Just confirming Dr Allan is content with briefing/speaking notes.

Thanks so much!

[Redacted R.11] (she/her)
Private Secretary to the Minister for Climate Action– Alasdair Allan MSP
The Scottish Government
St Andrew’s House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

E: MinisterforCA@gov.scot
M: [Redacted R.11]

From: [Redacted R.11]> On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy
Sent: 27 March 2025 09:19
To: Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot<[Redacted R.11] Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11] First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>;[Redacted R.11]
Cc: Kersti Berge <[Redacted R.11] Catherine Williams [Redacted R.11]Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

[Redacted R.10(4)(e)]

Kind Regards,

[Redacted R.11]
Deputy Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy – Gillian Martin MSP
The Scottish Government
St Andrew’s House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG
T: [Redacted R.11] Email: CabSecforNZE@gov.scot

From: Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot [Redacted R.11]>
Sent: 26 March 2025 17:47
To: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>; Wholesale Electricity Markets Team Leader job-share <ElectricityMarketsTeamLeaderJobShare@gov.scot>; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11]
Cc: Kersti Berge <[Redacted R.11] Colin McAllister Colin.McAllister@gov.scot [Redacted R.11] >; David Hutchison David.Hutchison@gov.scot <[Redacted R.11] Catherine Williams [Redacted R.11]Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

All,

[Redacted R, 10(4)(e)]

Thanks,
Emily

From: [Redacted R.11] On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy
Sent: 26 March 2025 17:19
To: [Redacted R.11] First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11]
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>;
Kersti Berge <[Redacted R.11] [Redacted R.11] Colin McAllister
Colin.McAllister@gov.scot <[Redacted R.11]>; David Hutchison
David.Hutchison@gov.scot [Redacted R.11]>; Emily Mackintosh [Redacted
R.11] Catherine Williams <[Redacted R.11]
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Thanks,

[Redacted R.11]
Deputy Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy –
Gillian Martin MSP
The Scottish Government
St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG
T: [Redacted R.11] | Email: CabSecforNZE@gov.scot

From: [Redacted R.11] On Behalf Of Wholesale Electricity Markets Team
Leader job-share
Sent: 26 March 2025 12:26
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11]
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>;
Kersti Berge <[Redacted R.11] Aedan MacRae <Aedan.MaCrae@gov.scot>;
Colin McAllister Colin.McAllister@gov.scot <[Redacted R.11]>; David
Hutchison David.Hutchison@gov.scot <[Redacted R.11]>; Emily Mackintosh
<[Redacted R.11] Catherine Williams [Redacted R.11]
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Hi [Redacted R.11]

[OUT OF SCOPE] [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]

[OUT OF SCOPE]

Thanks,
[Redacted R.11]

- [Redacted R.10(5)(f)]

From: [Redacted R.11] > On Behalf Of First Minister
Sent: 25 March 2025 15:44
To: [Redacted R.11] First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>;
Kersti Berge <[Redacted R.11] Colin McAllister Colin.McAllister@gov.scot

<[Redacted R.11]>; David Hutchison David.Hutchison@gov.scot <[Redacted R.11]>; Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot<[Redacted R.11]>
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Hi [Redacted R.11]

We have been looking at potential options and for official awareness only at this stage I think we are going to look at offering Friday 25th April, just need to check Ms Martins availability first. [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]

I would be grateful if you could provide contact detail for the below external attendees

- [Redacted R. 10(5)(f)]

Thanks

Many thanks,
[Redacted R.11]

Deputy Private Secretary to the First Minister
Office of the First Minister
5th Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG
M: [Redacted R.11]

The First Minister's box closes at 2pm, Monday to Friday. Further details, including preferences, can be found [here](#).

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

From: Emily Mackintosh <[Redacted R.11]>
Sent: 27 March 2025 16:22
To: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11] First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11]
Cc: Kersti Berge <[Redacted R.11]> Colin McAllister Colin.McAllister@gov.scot <[Redacted R.11]> David Hutchison [Redacted R.11] Catherine Williams [Redacted R.11]
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Hi [Redacted R.11]

[Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]

Thanks,
[Redacted R.11]

17/03/2025

RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing
From [Redacted R.11]
To: [Redacted R.11]; First Minister FirstMinister@gov.scot
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>;
Kersti Berge <[Redacted R.11]> Colin McAllister Colin.McAllister@gov.scot
<[Redacted R.11]>; David Hutchison David.Hutchison@gov.scot <[Redacted R.11]>;
Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot <[Redacted R.11]>

[Redacted R.11]

Ms Martin has noted and will make herself available for the meeting.

Thanks,

[Redacted R.11]
Deputy Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy –
Gillian Martin MSP
The Scottish Government
St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG
T: [Redacted R.11] | Email: CabSecforNZE@gov.scot

From: [Redacted R.11] > On Behalf Of First Minister
Sent: 08 April 2025 12:13
To: Catherine Williams <[Redacted R.11]> First Minister
<FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11]
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>;
Kersti Berge <[Redacted R.11]>; Emily Mackintosh <[Redacted R.11]>
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Hi Catherine,

By way of update I have reached out to stakeholder to see if the 16th works. So far

- [Redacted R.10(5)(f)]

I would be grateful for policy / spad steer on the suggestion of alternative representative for the above. If acceptable I will go back to confirm.

Many thanks,
[Redacted R.11]

Deputy Private Secretary to the First Minister
Office of the First Minister
5th Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG
M: [Redacted R.11]

The First Minister's box closes at 2pm, Monday to Friday. Further details, including preferences, can be found [here](#).

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

From: Catherine Williams <[Redacted R.11]>
Sent: 07 April 2025 14:45
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11]
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <[Redacted R.11]>
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Hi [Redacted R.11] / FMPO

I was just wanting to check if the FM roundtable on zonal pricing was confirmed yet for 16th April.

For awareness, [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)] [Redacted R.11] will be leading this week and if it is confirmed for 16th we will come back to you on Official attendance. It would be useful if we could have a place for 2 officials to attend the session if possible.

Thanks
Catherine

RE: FM Briefing - Roundtable on Zonal Electricity Pricing - 16 April 25
15/04/2025

From [Redacted R.11]

To: First Minister
Cc: [Redacted R.11] Catherine Williams <[Redacted R.11] Kersti Berge <[Redacted R.11] Ragne Low <[Redacted R.11] Susie Townend [Redacted R.11] Emily Mackintosh [Redacted R.11]
Good afternoon FMPO,

With apologies for the late change, please find attached an updated version of the briefing for tomorrow's zonal pricing roundtable. [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]

Best regards,

[Redacted R.11]
| Energy Strategic Projects Team Leader
Energy Strategy & Markets Unit
Directorate for Energy & Climate Change | Scottish Government
M: [Redacted R.11]

From: [Redacted R.11]
Sent: 14 April 2025 15:30
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Emily Mackintosh [Redacted R.11]
Cc: [Redacted R.11] Catherine Williams <[Redacted R.11] Kersti Berge <[Redacted R.11]>; Ragne Low <[Redacted R.11]
Subject: RE: FM Briefing - Roundtable on Zonal Electricity Pricing - 16 April 25

Hello FMPO,

Please find attached updated brief to include [Redacted R. 10(5)(f)]

Cheers,

[Redacted R.11]

RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing 23/04/2025
From [Redacted R.11]
To: Emily Mackintosh [Redacted R.11] >; Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>; Catherine Williams [Redacted R.11] >; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11]
Cc: Kersti Berge [Redacted R.11] Colin McAllister Colin.McAllister@gov.scot <[Redacted R.11] David Hutchison [Redacted R.11] Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy & Gaelic DFMCSEG@gov.scot

Thanks Emily. [Redacted R.11]/PO – please see attached the updated letter.

FMPO and DFMPPO copied for awareness.

Best,
[Redacted R.11]

From: [Redacted R.11] on behalf of Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>

Sent: Tuesday, April 22, 2025 12:17:00 PM

To: Catherine Williams [Redacted R.11] Emily Mackintosh [Redacted R.11]

Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>;

[Redacted R.11] First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11]

Cc: Kersti Berge <[Redacted R.11]> Colin McAllister <Colin.McAllister@gov.scot>

[Redacted R.11]>; David Hutchison <David.Hutchison@gov.scot> <[Redacted R.11]

Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Attached as word in case you want to make changes Emily.

Thanks,

[Redacted R.11]

Deputy Private Secretary to Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy –

Gillian Martin MSP

The Scottish Government

St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

T: [Redacted R.11] | Email: CabSecforNZE@gov.scot

RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing 09/04/2025

From: First Minister

To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Minister for Climate Action

<ministerforca@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy

<cabsecfornze@gov.scot>; Catherine Williams [Redacted R.11]

Cc: Kersti Berge [Redacted R.11] Emily Mackintosh <Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot>

<[Redacted R.11]

Great – thanks so much!

[Redacted R.11]

Private Secretary to the Minister for Climate Action– Alasdair Allan MSP

The Scottish Government

St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

E: MinisterforCA@gov.scot

M: [Redacted R.11]

From: [Redacted R.11] On Behalf Of First Minister

Sent: 09 April 2025 14:32

To: Minister for Climate Action <ministerforca@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>; Catherine Williams

[Redacted R.11] First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11]
Cc: Kersti Berge [Redacted R.11] Emily Mackintosh [Redacted R.11]
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Sorry for the delay. I think ok for Dr Allan to attend virtually. I will get the teams link set up and sent on.

Many thanks,
[Redacted R.11]
Deputy Private Secretary to the First Minister
Office of the First Minister
5th Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG
M: [Redacted R.11]

The First Minister's box closes at 2pm, Monday to Friday. Further details, including preferences, can be found [here](#).

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

From: [Redacted R.11] On Behalf Of Minister for Climate Action
Sent: 09 April 2025 13:16
To: Minister for Climate Action <ministerforca@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>; Catherine Williams [Redacted R.11]; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11]
Cc: Kersti Berge [Redacted R.11] Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot
[Redacted R.11]
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Hey [Redacted R.11]

[Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]

[Redacted R.11]
Private Secretary to the Minister for Climate Action– Alasdair Allan MSP
The Scottish Government
St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

E: MinisterforCA@gov.scot
M: [Redacted R.11]

From: [Redacted R.11] On Behalf Of Minister for Climate Action
Sent: 08 April 2025 13:16

To: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>; Catherine Williams [Redacted R.11] ; First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11] Minister for Climate Action <ministerforca@gov.scot>
Cc: Kersti Berge [Redacted R.11] Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot [Redacted R.11]
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

[Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]

Thanks so much,

[Redacted R.11]
Private Secretary to the Minister for Climate Action– Alasdair Allan MSP
The Scottish Government
St Andrew's House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG

E: MinisterforCA@gov.scot
M: [Redacted R.11]

From: [Redacted R.11] On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy
Sent: 08 April 2025 12:37
To: Catherine Williams [Redacted R.11] First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11] Minister for Climate Action <ministerforca@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge <[Redacted R.11] Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot [Redacted R.11]>
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

[Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]

[Redacted R.11]
Private Secretary to the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy – Gillian Martin MSP
Scottish Government | St Andrews House Edinburgh EH1 3DG | [Redacted R.11]
CabSecforNZE@gov.scot



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot



I'm dyslexic.
Thank you for
your consideration.
Celebrate neurodiversity!



All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments. Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

From: Catherine Williams [Redacted R.11]
Sent: 08 April 2025 12:19
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11]
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge [Redacted R.11] Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot [Redacted R.11]
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Hi [Redacted R.11]

Many thanks for the update. We will sort out briefing. Can I confirm we are ok to send two Officials?

Thanks
Catherine

RE: Minister CA Briefing- Roundtable on Zonal Electricity Pricing - 16 April 25
17/04/2025

RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing 08/04/2025
From Catherine Williams
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot> [Redacted R.11] Minister for Climate Action ministerforca@gov.scot
Cc: Kersti Berge [Redacted R.11] Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot <[Redacted R.11]>; Ragne Low [Redacted R.11]

Hi [Redacted R.11]

It would be Ragne Low [Redacted R.11]
Ragne previously said she would be able cover, but I haven't been able to confirm with her today as she is out of office so I can double check first thing.

Thanks
Catherine

From: [Redacted R.11] On Behalf Of First Minister
Sent: 08 April 2025 13:36
To: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy ; Catherine Williams ; First Minister ; [Redacted R.11]; Minister for Climate Action
Cc: Kersti Berge ; [Redacted R.11] ; Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Just had confirmation that [Redacted R. 10(5)(f)]

Apologies [Redacted R.11] should have copied Dr Allan's PO. The meeting will be 12:00 – 13:00 on the 16th in Bute house. This is an in person meeting, can I check whether Dr Allan will be able to come along?

@Catherine Williams we should be fine for 2 officials. Grateful if you can let me know about the alternative representation asap, I don't suspect it will be an issue but want to check before I go back to stakeholders.

Many thanks,
[Redacted R.11]
Deputy Private Secretary to the First Minister
Office of the First Minister
5th Floor | St Andrews House | Regent Road | Edinburgh | EH1 3DG
M: [Redacted R.11]

The First Minister's box closes at 2pm, Monday to Friday. Further details, including preferences, can be found [here](#).

All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments.

Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

From: [Redacted R.11] On Behalf Of Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy
Sent: 08 April 2025 12:37
To: Catherine Williams [Redacted R.11] First Minister
<FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11] [Redacted R.11] Minister for Climate Action <ministerforca@gov.scot>
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge [Redacted R.11] Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot [Redacted R.11]
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Looping in Dr Allan as hes representing NZE portfolio next week. Is it in person [Redacted R.11]? Do we have rough timing at all?

Thanks!

[Redacted R.11] (she/her)
Private Secretary to the Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy – Gillian Martin MSP
Scottish Government | St Andrews House Edinburgh EH1 3DG | [Redacted R.11] CabSecforNZE@gov.scot



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot



I'm dyslexic.
Thank you for
your consideration.
Celebrate neurodiversity!



All e-mails and attachments sent by a Ministerial Private Office to any other official on behalf of a Minister relating to a decision, request or comment made by a Minister, or a note of a Ministerial meeting, must be filed appropriately by the recipient. Private Offices do not keep official records of such e-mails or attachments. Scottish Ministers, Special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

From: Catherine Williams <[Redacted R.11]>
Sent: 08 April 2025 12:19
To: First Minister <FirstMinister@gov.scot>; [Redacted R.11]
Cc: Cabinet Secretary for Net Zero and Energy <cabsecfornze@gov.scot>; Kersti Berge [Redacted R.11] Emily Mackintosh Emily.Mackintosh@gov.scot [Redacted R.11]
Subject: RE: Follow-on discussion on zonal pricing

Hi [Redacted R.11]

Many thanks for the update. We will sort out briefing. Can I confirm we are ok to send two Officials?

Thanks
Catherine

What	Attending a roundtable chaired by the First Minister, with a subset of members of the Scottish Energy Advisory Board, to hear their views on zonal electricity pricing, which the UK Government is considering as part of the ongoing Review of Electricity Market Arrangements (REMA). This is a follow-up to the SEAB meeting on 4 th February where attendees raised various views about the impacts of zonal pricing, particularly in relation to renewables development and consumer bills.
Where	Bute House – joining remotely via Teams [Teams link in calendar invite from FM's Private Office]
When	12:00-13:00, 16 April 2025
Key message	[Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Redacted R. 10(5)(f)]
Why	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To follow up the conversation at SEAB with a specific and in-depth discussion on key stakeholders' views on zonal. • [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]
Supporting official	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ragne Low, Deputy Director, Offshore Wind Programme & Investment • [Redacted R. 11], Team Leader, Energy Strategic Projects
Briefing Contents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annex A – Summary • Annex B – Attendee information • Annex C – Zonal Pricing and REMA top lines • Annex D – Additional Briefing, including TNUoS, social tariff, and rebalancing • Annex E – Industry letter to UKG re: ruling out zonal pricing (attached separately) • Annex F – Draft letter: Cab Sec NZE to Minister Shanks
Media Handling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officials are not recommending proactive comms or social media content on this meeting.

ANNEX A

Summary

Purpose

- To continue the previous conversation from SEAB and hear more about concerns regarding electricity market reform;
- To inform the Scottish Government's position on this issue;
- To ensure our engagements with the UK Government fully reflect the interests of Scotland's key stakeholders.

Suggested prompt questions you may wish to raise in discussion
 (note: the FM has also been given these as questions to ask when chairing)
 [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]

Background – SEAB discussion

- [Redacted R. 10(4)(d)].

Background – REMA and zonal pricing

- The UK Government (UKG) is expected to publish a decision on whether to introduce zonal pricing in the GB electricity market, or to retain a single price of electricity across GB but make a set of incremental changes (referred to as “a reformed national market (RNM)”.
- [Redacted R. 6(1)(b) – Link: [Review of electricity market arrangements \(REMA\): second consultation - GOV.UK](#)]

Zonal Pricing

- Zonal pricing would redesign the wholesale electricity market so that prices are set based on supply and demand in a particular region.
- DESNZ and different parts of industry have all carried out modelling of the impact of a move to zonal. [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]
- [Redacted R. 6(1)(b) Link - [System benefits from efficient locational signals](#)]
 [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]
- For Scotland, evidence suggests zonal pricing could increase costs for those investing in renewables in Scotland, but that it could also lower electricity costs for Scotland's consumers.
- [Redacted R. 6(1)(b) Link - [GB wholesale electricity market reform: impacts and opportunities for Scotland](#)]
- [Redacted R. 6(1)(b) Link - [Prioritising growth for a more prosperous Britain – Concerns over zonal pricing | GIIA](#)]
- [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]
- Redacted R. 6(1)(b) Link - <https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&ved=2ahUKewjktG49J2NaxUnWUEAHRiKGBUQFnoECBkQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.neso.energy%2Fdocument%2F268781%2Fdownload&usq=AOvVaw1KxDiDWqAIEJaZavCtZ8WC&opi=89978449>]
- [Redacted 6(1)(b) Link - [GB wholesale electricity market reform: impacts and opportunities for Scotland](#)]
- [Redacted 6(1)(b) Link - [Review of electricity market arrangements \(REMA\): second consultation - GOV.UK](#)]
- [Redacted 10(4)(e)]

Sensitivities

Commented [CW1]: I think we need to release some of this to avoid EIR review. I've highlighted in yellow what I think shouldn't be redacted as it is basically factual and publicly available info.

Purple = should be redacted

- [Redacted 10(4)(e)]

Views on zonal pricing

- Several letters with signatories including renewables developers (including Scottish Power and SSE), businesses and Unions have been sent to the Prime Minister, First Minister and Deputy First Minister calling on UKG to urgently rule out zonal pricing (see Annex E).
- However, Octopus Energy, the National Energy System Operator, and Ofgem have voiced support for zonal pricing. Consumer representative organisations, including Consumer Scotland, have retained a largely neutral stance on zonal pricing, but recognise the opportunities for lower bills in Scotland.
- Generators and investors are particularly concerned about how existing assets will be protected through legacy and grandfathering arrangements – this has not been made clear by DESNZ. They have committed to further detail on this in their decision.

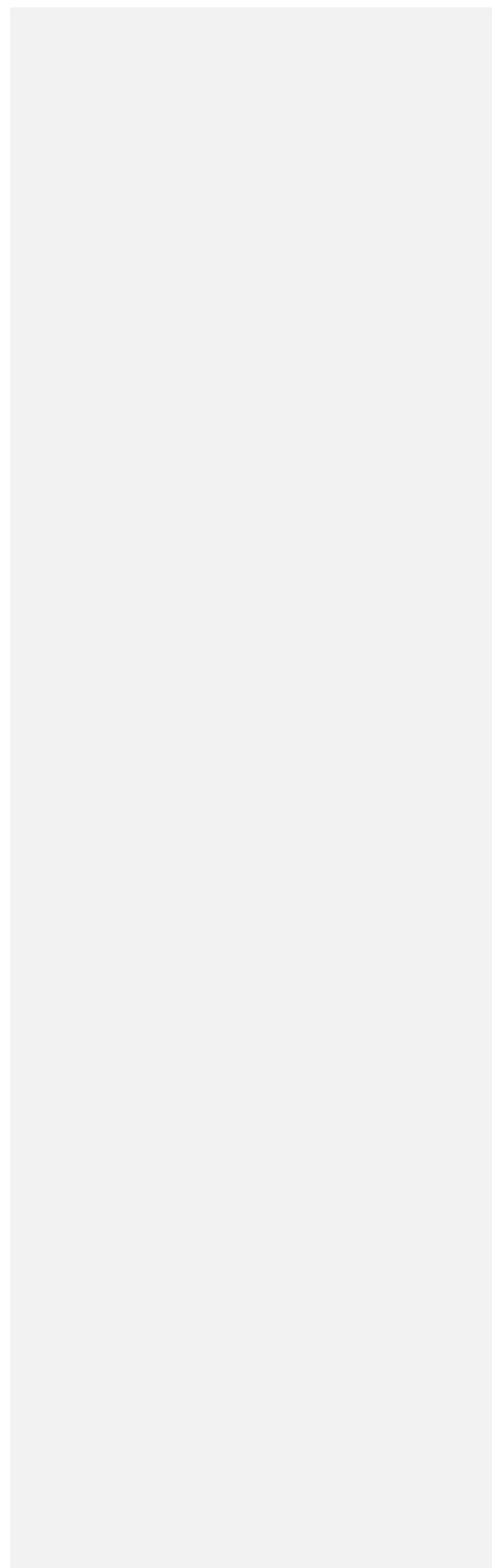
Scottish Government position on zonal pricing

- Wholesale electricity markets policy is fully reserved to UKG.
- [Redacted 10(4)(e)]

Attendee Information

[Redacted R. 10(5)(f)]

ANNEX B



ANNEX C

Zonal Pricing and REMA Top Lines

- [Redacted 10(4)(e)]

Additional Lines

- [Redacted 10(4)(e)]

ANNEX D

ANNEX E

Industry letter to UKG – concerns regarding zonal pricing

[Redacted R. 6(1)(b) Link - [Prioritising growth for a more prosperous Britain – Concerns over zonal pricing | GIIA](#)]

DRAFT of letter from Cab Sec NZE to Minister Shanks

[Redacted R.10(4)(d)]

ANNEX F



BRIEFING FOR THE FIRST MINISTER

ROUNDTABLE ON ZONAL ELECTRICITY PRICING

16 APRIL 2025

Key message	[Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]
What	Chairing a roundtable with a subset of members of the Scottish Energy Advisory Board (SEAB) to discuss their position on zonal electricity pricing, which the UK Government is considering as part of the ongoing Review of Electricity Market Arrangements (REMA). This is a follow-up to the SEAB meeting on 4 th February where attendees raised various views about the impacts of zonal pricing, particularly in relation to renewables development and consumer bills.
Why	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To follow up the conversation at SEAB with a specific and in-depth discussion on key stakeholders' views on zonal.• [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]
Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• [Redacted 10(5)(f)] The Minister for Climate Action will join online via Teams.
Where	Bute House
When	12:00-13:00, 16 April 2025
Likely themes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Renewables developers' concerns that zonal pricing would reduce certainty that electricity prices will offer a return on capital investment, making some Scottish renewables projects unviable or slowing their development.• The opportunity zonal pricing may offer for consumers in Scotland to benefit from the lower costs of renewables; and conversely, the risk this could be offset by increased bills due to renewables development being disincentivised.

Media	Officials are not recommending proactive comms or social media content on this meeting.
Supporting officials	Ragne Low, Deputy Director, Offshore Wind Programme & Investment [Redacted R.11], Team Leader, Energy Strategic Projects
Contents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annex A – Summary • Annex B – Attendee information • Annex C – Zonal Pricing and REMA top lines • Annex D – Additional Briefing, including TNUoS, social tariff, and rebalancing • Annex E – Industry letter to SG/UKG re: ruling out zonal pricing (attached separately) • Annex F – draft of letter from Cab Sec NZE to Minister Shanks

ANNEX A

Summary

Purpose

- To continue the previous conversation from SEAB and hear more about concerns regarding electricity market reform;
- To inform the Scottish Government's position on this issue;
- To ensure our engagements with the UK Government fully reflect the interests of Scotland's key stakeholders.

Suggested questions to ask when chairing:

[Redacted R.10(4)(e)]

Background – SEAB discussion

[Redacted R. 10(4)(d)].

Background – REMA and zonal pricing

- The UK Government (UKG) is expected to publish a decision on whether to introduce zonal pricing in the GB electricity market, or to retain a single price of electricity across GB but make a set of incremental changes (referred to as "a reformed national market (RNM)").
- [Redacted R. 6(1)(b) – Link: [Review of electricity market arrangements \(REMA\): second consultation - GOV.UK](#)]

Zonal Pricing

- Zonal pricing would redesign the wholesale electricity market so that prices are set based on supply and demand in a particular region.
- DESNZ and different parts of industry have all carried out modelling of the impact of a move to zonal. [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]
- [Redacted R. 6(1)(b) Link - [System benefits from efficient locational signals](#)]
[Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]
- For Scotland, evidence suggests zonal pricing could increase costs for those investing in renewables in Scotland, but that it could also lower electricity costs for Scotland's consumers.
- [Redacted R. 6(1)(b) Link - [GB wholesale electricity market reform: impacts and opportunities for Scotland](#)]
- [Redacted R. 6(1)(b) Link - [Prioritising growth for a more prosperous Britain – Concerns over zonal pricing | GIIA](#)]
- [Redacted R. 10(4)(e)]
- Redacted R. 6(1)(b) Link - <https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&ved=2ahUKewjktG49J2NaxUnWUEAHRiKGBUQFnoECBkQAQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.neso.energy%2Fdocument%2F268781%2Fdownload&usg=AOvVaw1KxDiDWqAlEJaZavCtZ8WC&opi=89978449>]
- [Redacted 6(1)(b) Link - [GB wholesale electricity market reform: impacts and opportunities for Scotland](#)]

- [Redacted 6(1)(b) Link - [Review of electricity market arrangements \(REMA\): second consultation - GOV.UK](#)]
- [Redacted 10(4)(e)]

Sensitivities

- [Redacted 10(4)(e)]

Views on zonal pricing

- Several letters with signatories including renewables developers (including Scottish Power and SSE), businesses and Unions have been sent to the Prime Minister, First Minister and Deputy First Minister calling on the UK Government to urgently rule out zonal pricing (see Annex E for most recent example).
- However, Octopus Energy, the National Energy System Operator, and Ofgem have voiced support for zonal pricing. Consumer representative organisations, including Consumer Scotland, have retained a largely neutral stance on zonal pricing, but recognise the opportunities for lower bills in Scotland.
- Generators and investors are particularly concerned about how existing assets will be protected through legacy and grandfathering arrangements – this has not been made clear by DESNZ. They have committed to further detail on this in their decision.

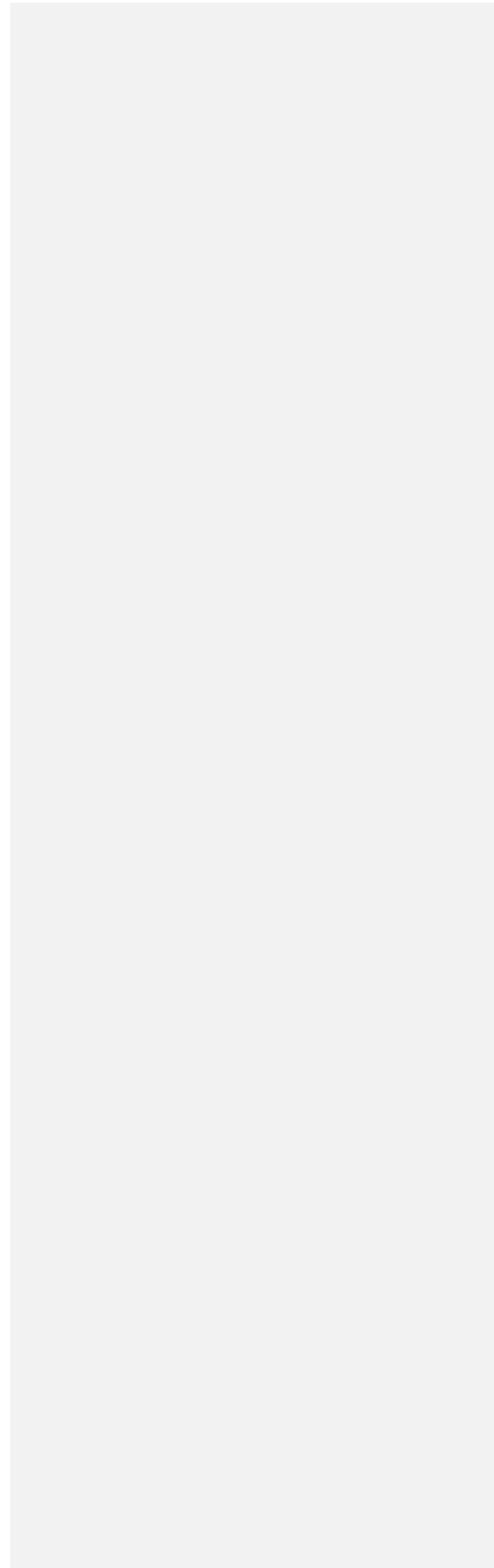
Scottish Government position on zonal pricing

- Wholesale electricity markets policy is fully reserved to the UK Government.
- [Redacted 10(4)(e)]

Attendee Information

The Minister for Climate Action will join online via Teams.
[Redacted R. 10(5)(f)]

ANNEX B



ANNEX C

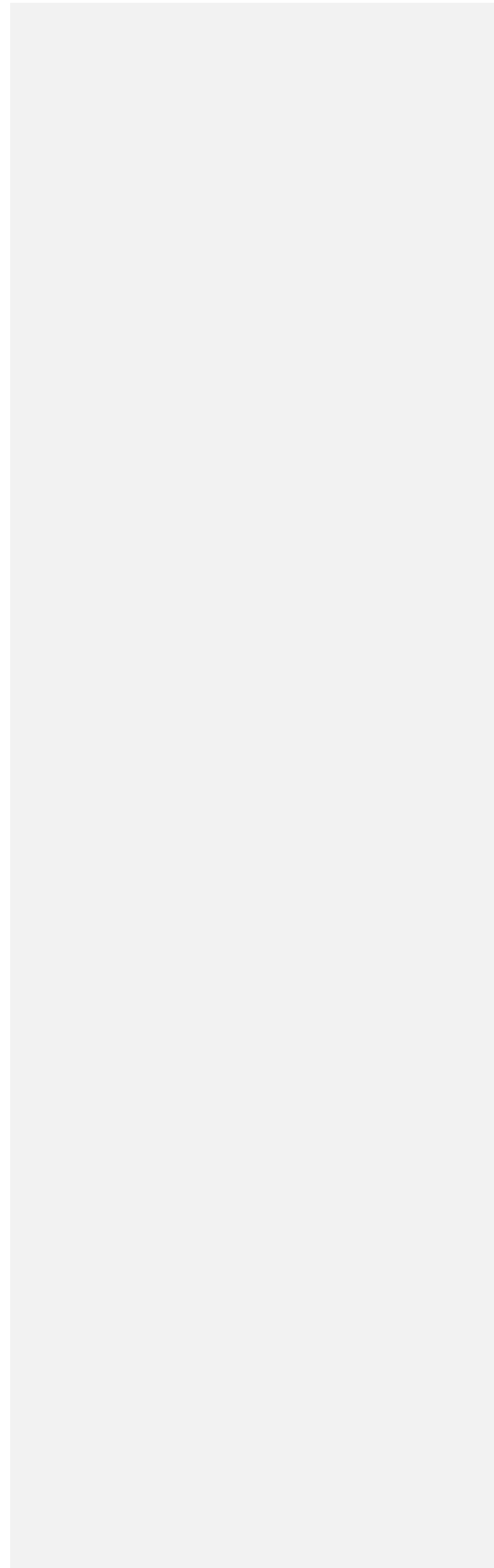
Zonal Pricing and REMA Top Lines

- [Redacted 10(4)(e)]

Additional Lines

- [Redacted 10(4)(e)]

ANNEX D



ANNEX E

Industry letter to UKG – concerns regarding zonal pricing

[Redacted R. 6(1)(b) Link - [Prioritising growth for a more prosperous Britain – Concerns over zonal pricing | GIIA](#)]

ANNEX F

Draft of letter from Cab Sec NZE to Minister Shanks
[Redacted R.10(4)(d)]

