Dear Mike,

Thank you for your letter of 10 February 2021 formally notifying me of the Committee’s intention to report on the package of Climate Change Regulations laid on 9 February 2021. I note the Committee’s concern regarding the timetable for these Regulations.

Following my letter to you in June 2020 (our ref: MA/LG/0821/20), you will be aware of the unavoidable delay in the publication of the Climate Change Committee’s advice, required to inform the development of these Regulations. Despite this delay, the Regulations are available for scrutiny for the standard 20 sitting days between being laid and the debate. The debate is currently scheduled for 9 March 2021 with the aim of the Regulations coming into force, subject to the will of the Senedd, on 12 March 2021.

Further to your letter and request to enable the Committee to undertake its scrutiny and report, I have agreed to move the plenary debate on the Regulations to 16 March 2021. I am sure the Committee will support this move, however Members will wish to note this will, by necessity, affect the proposed coming into force date of the Regulations, which will move to 19 March 2021. This change will be made after the Regulations have been approved by the Senedd.

My officials are available to provide a technical briefing on the Regulations to your Committee staff, as they provided in 2018.

2nd March 2021
I am copying this letter to Mick Antoniw MS, Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Lesley Griffiths AS/MS
Gweinidog yr Amgylchedd, Ynni a Materion Gwledig
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs