

Vaughan Gething AS/MS
Gweinidog yr Economi
Minister for Economy



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref VG/0619/21

Paul Davies MS
Chair
Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee
Welsh Parliament
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1SN

9 November 2021

Dear Paul,

Legislative Consent Memorandum for the Advanced Research and Invention Agency Bill

Many thanks for your letter dated 30 September requesting further information about the reasons given in the LCM as to why it is considered that the consent of the Senedd is required for Clause 5 of the Advanced Research and Invention Agency Bill ("the Bill"). The Bill makes provision for and in connection with the establishment of the Advanced Research and Invention Agency.

Clause 1 establishes that Agency and, for the reasons given in paragraph 7.2 of the LCM analysis, the Senedd could equally establish an Agency. Clause 5 is simply conferring a power on the Secretary of State to issue directions to that Agency, and mandating compliance with such directions. If the Senedd were to create an Agency, powers could be conferred on Welsh Ministers to issue directions to that Agency for reasons specified in a Bill.

Therefore, clause 5 is legislating to empower the Secretary of State to issue directions and mandating compliance, it is not legislating about national security. The reference to national security is the reason for issuing directions rather than the purpose of the clause itself.

Yours sincerely,

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.