

Rt Hon Michael Gove MP

Secretary of State for Levelling up, Housing and Communities

25 July 2023

Dear Secretary of State,

I am writing to you as Chair of the Senedd's Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee concerning the Infrastructure (Wales) Bill, which was introduced in the Senedd by the Minister for Climate Change on 12 June 2023.

The Minister wrote to you on 7 January 2022 and 11 January 2023 to request that the Senedd should be transferred legislative competence:

- (a) For the consenting of energy generating stations offshore between the edge of the territorial sea and the edge of the Welsh zone (an area roughly between 12 and 200 nautical miles ("nm") off the shoreline); and
- (b) Which clarifies the Senedd's ability to legislate in respect of energy storage.

We understand that the Minister has made several attempts to communicate with your office on this matter but is yet to receive a response to these letters.

We are deeply concerned that the lack of response from your office to the Welsh Government's requests is impinging the Senedd's ability to scrutinise the Bill appropriately. We, therefore, urge you to take the necessary steps to address this issue at the earliest opportunity, given that the Infrastructure (Wales) Bill has now begun its passage through the Senedd.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Llyr', is centered within a light yellow rectangular background.

Llyr Gruffydd MS,

Chair, Climate Change, Environment and Infrastructure Committee

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

