

## Public

Ref: FOI/25/072

National Energy System Operator

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5 August 2025

Dear requester

### Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 4 July 2025. This request has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) because we have determined that, should recorded information in scope of your request be held, it would be likely to fall within the definition of 'environmental information' as set out in Regulation 2(1) of the EIR.

### Request

You asked us:

*NESO's Statement on Government Biomass Announcement (10 February 2025) contained the sentence "While alternative options could deliver the same outcomes, these options have greater delivery risks."*

*Please disclose any environmental impact assessments made to support this advice to government on biomass, including, but not limited, emissions to air such as greenhouse gases.*

*I consider this should be treated as a request under the Environmental Information Regulations.*

### Our response

The assessment, analysis and advice provided to the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) on 15 January 2025 related to security of supply. No environmental impact assessment

was undertaken as this was not required in order for NESO to provide the advice and analysis as requested by Government.

We therefore confirm that we do not hold any information in scope of your request.

Regulation 12(4)(a) of the EIR states *"A public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that it does not hold that information when an applicant's request is received."* All EIR exceptions are subject to public interest test (PIT), however the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) recognises that it is not possible to carry out a meaningful PIT where information is not held

This concludes our response to your request.

### **Advice and assistance**

NESO has received a number of information requests relating to [NESO's Statement on Government Biomass announcement](#) and the analysis provided to Government. All previous responses have been published on NESO's [FOI and EIR Disclosure Log](#). Please see requests with references FOI/24/0044, FOI/25/015 and FOI/25/064.

### **Next steps**

If you are dissatisfied with our handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. If you want us to carry out a review, please let us know within 40 working days and quote the reference number at the top of this letter. You can find our procedure here: [Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations | National Energy System Operator](#). The ICO's website also provides guidance on the internal review process: [What to do if you are dissatisfied with the response | ICO](#).

If you are still dissatisfied after our internal review, you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). You should make complaints to the ICO within six weeks of receiving the outcome of an internal review. The easiest way to lodge a complaint is through their website: [www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints](http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints). Alternatively, they can be contacted at: Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, SK9 5AF.

Thank you for your interest in the work of the National Energy System Operator (NESO).

Regards,

The Information Rights Team, National Energy System Operator (NESO)