

## Public

Ref: FOI/25/082

National Energy System Operator

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Dear requester

## Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information which we received on 22 July 2025. Your request has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR).

## Request

You asked us:

*Figure 21 [page 79] in [Clean Power 2030: Advice on achieving clean power for Great Britain by 2030](#) shows different values for annual operating hours where gas-fired generation is used.*

- a) Please share this data at half-hourly intervals instead. Or any expected differences (i.e. higher or lower figures) if it were at half-hourly intervals.*
- b) Please share the hourly data for years other than 2023 (as far back as 2018) if you have it.*
- c) Please share any other years in the modelled scenarios or counterfactual, (for example, you may have modelled the situation for New Dispatch in 2028).*

## Our response

Figure 21 (page 79) of the [Clean Power 2030 \(CP30\) Report](#) illustrates the percentage of annual operating hours where gas-fired generation was used in 2023 (100%), and a forecast for 2030 by clean power pathway.

The CP30 Report is NESO's advice to Government on the feasibility of achieving a clean power system by 2030. The data used within the report is from 2023 as a representation of the current situation, and modelling of what the power system could look like in 2030.

*a) Please share this data at half-hourly intervals instead. Or any expected differences (i.e. higher or lower figures) if it were at half-hourly intervals.*

The percentage of annual operating half hours where gas-fired generation will be used was not modelled for the CP30 Report. This information is not, therefore, held by NESO.

There is no requirement for public authorities to create new information when responding to an information request so we are unable to comment on what any expected differences may be.

*b) Please share the hourly data for years other than 2023 (as far back as 2018) if you have it.*

The percentage of annual operating hours where gas-fired generation was used for years prior to 2023 was not calculated for the CP30 Report. However, information on historic generation (e.g. gas fired) can be found by half hour on the NESO website as part of the Data Portal ([https://www.neso.energy/data-portal/historic-generation-mix/historic\\_gb\\_generation\\_mix](https://www.neso.energy/data-portal/historic-generation-mix/historic_gb_generation_mix)). Also, in case it is helpful, it is possible to state that the percentage of annual operating hours for unabated gas plant is 100% for the years prior to 2023 as NESO has not yet met its ambition of being able to operate the power system using only zero carbon sources for a period of time in 2025.

*c) Please share any other years in the modelled scenarios or counterfactual, (for example, you may have modelled the situation for New Dispatch in 2028).*

In our response to a previous information request ([FOI/25/035](#)) we confirmed that NESO does not hold information on an estimated 'percentage of annual operating hours where gas-fired generation is used' for 2026 or 2028. This was not modelled for the CP30 Report for those years or for any other years, for either of the clean power pathways, or for the counterfactual.

This concludes our response to your request.

### **Advice and assistance**

NESO's zero carbon ambition is to be able to run Great Britain's electricity system carbon free for one thirty-minute settlement period in 2025, if the market provides us with electricity purely from renewable sources (see page 19 [NESO Summer Outlook 2025](#)).

Zero Carbon Operation is defined as the total transmission generation from domestic zero carbon generation sources, as a percentage of total GB transmission generation. Transmission connected generation is defined as generation directly connected to the transmission system and participates in the Balancing Mechanism. Domestic zero carbon transmission connected generation sources include power supplied from wind, solar, hydro, pumped storage, nuclear,

biomass, and batteries. We will include other clean power technologies as they become operational (see page 8 [Operability Strategy Report](#)).

NESO publishes monthly energy statistics (available here: [Great Britain's Monthly Energy Stats | National Energy System Operator](#)) and a live carbon intensity dashboard ([Carbon intensity dashboard | National Energy System Operator](#)) that may be of interest.

### **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)