

REA Members Briefing on Pre-General Election 2024 'Legislation Washup' and Policy Development Impacted, for the renewables and clean technology sector

Summary Parliamentary position

Parliamentary business ended on Friday 24th May 2024 and officially disolved 'prorogued' on the 30th May. Any primary legislation must have been agreed to by then. Secondary legislation continues to implementation unless it is in the form of an Affirmative Motion (requiring debate)- there were only three such affected measures across Parliament this session and none impacting our sector.

The 'Pre-election Period of Sensitivity (previously known as 'Purdah') began on 30th May 2024 – no new Government policy announcements can now be made and there are restrictions on civil servant public engagement.

Legislation passing in time

The Finance Bill - implementing decisions at Spring Budget 2024 – eg Departmental spending profiles, enhanced tax reliefs for some R&D and capital spending.

Simpler Recycling May 2024 Regulations (implementing part of the Simpler Recycling plans) - <u>The Environment Act 2021 (Commencement No. 9 and Transitional Provisions)</u> Regulations 2024 (legislation.gov.uk).

The commencement regulations have been laid confirming start dates of mandatory separate collections. A further statutory instrument and statutory guidance is expected to confirm the exemption for co-collection, expanded list of non-domestic premises etc. Our assumption is this will be after the General Election.

SEPA consultation on permitting requirements for Organics sites in Scotland are still expected in July. Two SEPA consultations are planned:

- Activity charges
- Standard conditions for registrations and permits

The Green Gas Support Scheme (GGSS) extension regulations - REA are pleased to announce that as of **4th June 2024** the Green Gas Support Scheme (Amendment)

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Regulations 2024 have been passed, and the changes have now come into force. The regulations can be viewed online <u>here</u>.

Ofgem, the GGSS administrator, will shortly publish revised guidance for the scheme. A draft version is currently available and can be found <u>here</u>.

Applicants applying from now to join the GGSS scheme can benefit from the extended date. This will not be eligible to those that have already applied unless they re-apply.

Ongoing Live Consultations unimpacted by Purdah (though no decisions will be made on them)

The following consultations started before Purdah or are unaffected by the election and will continue accepting submissions as usual. REA are working to respond to these on our members behalf, as usual:

Consultation Title &	Pillar	Date
Organisation		Closes
DAERA (Northern Ireland):	CBR	27/06/2024
Rethinking our Resources		
HMT & HMRC: CBAM	All	13/06/2024
Scottish Government:	All	12/06/2024
Bioenergy position		
statement		
SSES: Energy Smart	Power /	21/06/2024
appliances	Heat /	
	Transport	
SSES: Load Control Licence	Power /	21/06/2024
proposals	Heat /	
	Transport	
SSES: Time of Use Tariff data	Power /	11/06/2024
accessibility	Heat /	
	Transport	
DESNZ: Carbon Transport &	Power &	16/07/2024
Storage Non-Pipeline	Flex	
Proposals		
DESNZ: Barriers to	All	30/06/2024
Community Energy		
consultation		
DfT: SAF Revenue Certainty	Transport	20/06/2024
Mechanism		
DESNZ: Integrating	Power &	15/08/2024
greenhouse gas removals in	Flex,	
the UK Emissions Trading	Finance,	
Scheme. Including CfE on	Heat	
Heat Networks		

DfE (NI) Call for evidence on	Heat	09/08/2024
developeing biomethane		
production in Northern		
Ireland		

The following policy or regulations did not make it through Parliament or avoid Purdah in time and will need to be published/ legislation re-started, post-election

Solar Taskforce report publication

Smart EV Charging Regulations

Low Carbon Transport Strategy publication

Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Mandate affirmative regulations

Landfill Gas site Repowering decisions

Further Hydrogen policy development

Aspects of the Simpler Recycling proposals

Green Gas Support Scheme Review longer term decisions

Waste exemption charging framework

Crop sustainability framework for bioenergy energy projects

UK Fertiliser Regulations consultation and call for evidence

Next steps

At time of writing, the party-political manifestos are expected to be published in the week commencing 10th June.

Parliament is due to reconvene after the election on the 9th July.

The Kings Speech, which sets out the next Government's legislative agenda, is set to be held on the 17th July which will be a key date for the sector.

REA will continue to monitor the situation post-election and put the interests of the sector forwards during the campaign.