



Dear Energy Minister

I am writing this at what feels like a pivotal time for energy and net zero policy, with the UK's clean power target only five years away, and net zero by 2050 moving ever closer.

At npower Business Solutions (nBS), we are fully behind your clean power mission and believe business and industry has a significant role to play in delivering the government's objectives of clean power and economic growth.

We welcome the measures announced by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero so far, and support the ambitions outlined in the recent Clean Power 2030 Action Plan.

It is particularly encouraging to see that two of the biggest concerns highlighted by both our businesses and energy generator customers - planning rules and grid constraints - are set to be addressed.

However, as we know, change needs to happen at pace. We also know that the investments made by businesses will be crucial to achieving the UK's energy and net zero targets.

So, while progress has undoubtedly been made, businesses feel that more can be done.

Our 2024 Business Energy Tracker saw businesses call for more grants and tax incentives to help them install measures such as energy efficiency and on-site generation.

They also highlighted the increasing number of non-commodity costs that are having a huge impact on the amount they are paying for their energy.

Following this feedback, we launched our **Red Tape Challenge**, asking businesses what energy and net zero policies and regulations they would like to see cut - or at the very least reviewed - to support their sustainability ambitions and give them the confidence for future investments.

Together with partners including respected trade publication, Energy Live News, nearly 900 respondents had their say:

- **44% want planning barriers removed**
- **37% want non-commodity costs cut or simplified**
- **31% see grid connections as a major barrier**
- **21% are concerned about the impact of the Review of Electricity Market Arrangements**
- **15% questioned the Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme**

We believe that when it comes to energy and net zero, it is absolutely vital that the voice of business is heard.

We would therefore welcome the opportunity to discuss this directly with you and your colleagues, to ensure these very real concerns from businesses are taken into consideration.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Anthony Ainsworth,
Chief Operating Officer
npower Business Solutions