

Jeremy Miles AS/MS
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Ynni a'r Gymraeg
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Energy and Welsh Language



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ92393

Rhys ab Owen MS
Member of the Senedd for South Wales Central

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03 May 2024

Dear Rhys,

You recently submitted a written Senedd Question asking what progress has been made in decarbonising energy networks in Wales.

Energy policy in Wales is focused on enabling the decarbonisation of the energy system. This involves both encouraging low carbon generation and reducing emissions from high carbon sources. Welsh Government has set ambitious targets for energy generation to meet the equivalent of 100% of our annual electricity consumption from renewable sources by 2035, and to continue to keep pace with consumption thereafter. The Energy Generation in Wales 2022 report indicates that we supply the equivalent of 59% of our annual electricity consumption from renewables. This represents an increase of 4 percentage points compared to 2021 levels.

It is the established policy of the Welsh Government to bring to a managed end the extraction and consumption of fossil fuels. Wales is currently the only UK country with a published policy position of presuming against coal extraction and a published policy against exploring or developing new petroleum extraction. Planning Policy Wales (PPW) which contains the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government includes more detail on this approach including that the planning system should maximise renewable and low carbon energy generation and move away from the extraction of energy minerals, the burning of which is carbon intensive.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Miles AS/MS
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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.