



Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy

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Dear Mr Lee,

Thank you for your email of 19 December, about the Energy Crisis. I have been asked to reply.

Keeping the lights on is non-negotiable for this government. Secure energy, that families and businesses can rely on now and in the future, underpins the success of our economy. We will work across the oil, gas and electricity sectors to make sure the UK has a well-functioning, competitive and resilient energy system. The measures we have taken mean that homes and businesses will continue to have the secure supplies of energy they need throughout the coming winter and into the future as we upgrade our energy infrastructure for the 21st century.

The electricity transmission and distribution networks in Great Britain have high levels of resilience and nation-wide blackouts are considered a very low likelihood event; though we are not complacent, the Department works closely with key industry stakeholders and Ofgem to ensure proportionate planning to mitigate this risk. The National Electricity Transmission System is very reliable (99.9999% during 2015/16) and the UK has never experienced a national loss of electricity supply.

I hope that this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Val Dias  
BEIS MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE UNIT