

The Rt Hon Claire Perry MP
Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

DATE

Domestic Properties (Minimum Energy Performance) Bill.

Dear Minister,

We write to ask you to support the *Domestic Properties (Minimum Energy Performance) Bill*.

The government's commitments in the Clean Growth Strategy and the 2017 Conservative Party manifesto were extremely encouraging, as is your own. Without a doubt, upgrading all fuel poor homes to EPC band C by 2030 and a further aspiration for all homes to be at this level by 2035 are welcome targets.

We note your words in the Westminster Hall debate on 8th March that you want to achieve the targets without legislation. However, enshrining them in law would ensure an ongoing commitment and legacy. It is needed for the following reasons:

1. Whilst we do not question your commitment to these objectives, we are concerned that a future Minister may be less committed to such proposals and could easily disregard them. So it is therefore vital that these provisions are incorporated into law so as to prevent any future government disregarding such goals.
2. In order for the energy industry to assist the government in achieving its ambitions, boardrooms and banks must be persuaded to invest in long-term infrastructure such as manufacturing and equipment together with research and development. This legislation will provide the certainty needed to trigger this vital investment in our sector.
3. The Bill has cross-party support from notable parliamentarians, including Sir Graham Brady and Sir Ed Davey. It will also be a crucial determinant in finally eradicating fuel poverty.
4. In addition, the Bill will encourage investment in innovative technology, an issue on which we know you are very enthusiastic.
5. Finally, not only will the Bill respect the devolution powers of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, it is also revenue neutral. As the figures provided in the Treasury Green Book suggest, the Bill will not place an unsustainable burden on public finances and is very much achievable.

For the above reasons we ask that you support the Bill and that the government gives it the appropriate time required to become law. We note your stated support at the UK100 event on 27 February for the Climate Change Act and the benefits that such legislation brings. I hope you will support this Bill and leave a positive legacy in the way that the Climate Change Act has.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,