



Rt. Hon. Jacob Rees-Mogg M.P.  
Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy  
1 Victoria Street London  
SW1H 0ET

Sarah Munby, Permanent Secretary for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

By Email

24 October 2022

### **Energy Bill Relief Scheme**

Dear Sarah,

Thank you for your letter of 24th October 2022.

I agree with your assessment that the introduction of the Energy Bill Relief Scheme (EBRS) is crucial to support businesses. Energy bills for businesses are uncapped, and their costs have increased dramatically as a result of global factors, notably Russia's invasion of Ukraine. It is right that the Government should put in place measures to enable businesses to survive these challenges and go on to thrive and help grow our economy. Like you I am proud of our Department's work to prepare the EBRS so that we can support businesses as we head into the winter months.

I am grateful for your carefully considered assessment of the scheme from an Accounting Officer perspective. I note the risks that you outline, and also the steps that we are taking as a Department to mitigate those risks as much as possible. I recognise given the scale of the intervention and the speed with which it has been developed that you are unable to provide me with full assurance that this proposal meets your obligations under Managing Public Money.

I am firm in my view that we must nevertheless proceed to introduce legislation to enable the delivery of the EBRS this November. As such, I am formally directing you as Accounting Officer to continue to prepare the EBRS scheme to be ready to deliver it in line Parliament's forthcoming intentions. The scope of my Direction covers the main EBRS scheme in Great Britain and Northern Ireland and associated support schemes.

I am copying this letter to the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, the Chairman of the BEIS Select Committee, the Comptroller and Auditor General and the Treasury Officer of Accounts, and note that your letter and this reply will be published.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jacob Rees-Mogg'.