

Upcoming developments in dissemination of Energy Trends and the Digest of UK Energy Statistics

Key headline

This article sets out recent changes in our monthly and quarterly publications on energy production and consumption and sets out a future direction of travel for our annual publications and the way in which we aim to offer data to users in the future. We welcome views on this outline.

Recent changes to Energy Trends

Since the end of 2020 we have taken the opportunity presented by the [Web Content Accessibility Regulations](#) to revisit and revise our [Energy Trends Publication](#). The main changes are:

- We have improved accessibility of documents and spreadsheets in line with the legislation, for example providing alt text commentary, improving the clarity of the text and footnoting, and providing ODS copies of the data to sit alongside the XLS versions.
- For the document itself, we have consciously targeted it towards [inquiring citizens](#). The document is shorter and covers the principal developments over the last quarter rather than providing a fully comprehensive account of production and consumption. The chapter is a high-level summary that will vary in length each edition depending on the key stories.
- Other [user personas](#) are served by access to the underlying data, in both ODS and XLS formats.

We will continue to use the quarterly versions of Energy Trends as a vehicle for both consultation and dissemination of topical issues.

Upcoming developments for the Digest of UK Energy Statistics (DUKES)

We intend to update DUKES in line with the changes to Energy Trends. In particular:

- Simplify and improve the clarity of the text to make the document of greater value to the inquiring citizen persona. This will include moving significant parts of the methodology notes to a separate methodology document along with a focus on the key stories over the last year.
- Improve how easy our spreadsheets are to read by revising formatting and footnotes.
- Provide ODS data for the key chapter outputs alongside XLS outputs
- Continue to review our outputs to ensure continued compliance with legislation.

Longer term direction of travel

Whilst the guiding principle of the main written documents for dissemination (Energy Trends and DUKES) will be to make them short, clear, and aimed at inquiring citizens we are keen to develop our offerings to other users who need and want better access to the underlying data.

We would welcome views on **what** is made available and **how** it is made available.

In terms of the **'what'**, our initial thoughts are to prioritise changes to the presentation of data in the order shown below:

1. Key commodity balances in DUKES, then
2. Key monthly series from Energy Trends, then
3. Key quarterly data from Energy Trends, then
4. Supplementary tables within DUKES (e.g. lists of power stations, interconnector capacities and other annex data).

In terms of the **'how'**, we are at a very early stage and would welcome comments from users on how we might make data available other than via the XLS and ODS spreadsheets that we currently employ.

These developments are aspirational, and tools will be built organically as and when resource allows. Future developments will follow user feedback and engagement with documents and tools that we make available (e.g., through monitoring of application use and webpage hit counts).

User consultation

Should you have any questions or feedback on the recent changes or proposed developments, please do get in touch. You can contact us at energy.stats@beis.gov.uk



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