



Electricity Act 1989

1989 CHAPTER 29

PART I

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

Licensing of supply etc.

9 General duties of licence holders.

[^{F1}(1) It shall be the duty of an electricity distributor—

- (a) to develop and maintain an efficient, co-ordinated and economical system of electricity distribution;
- (b) to facilitate competition in the supply and generation of electricity.]

(2) It shall be the duty of the holder of a licence authorising him to [^{F2}participate in the transmission of] electricity—

- (a) to develop and maintain an efficient, co-ordinated and economical system of electricity transmission; and
- (b) ^{F3}..., to facilitate competition in the supply and generation of electricity.

[^{F4}(2A) Subsection (2)(a) shall not have effect to require the holder of a transmission licence which is subject to a condition of the kind mentioned in section 7(2A)(a) to carry on an activity which he would be authorised by the licence to carry on apart from the condition.]

[^{F5}(2B) The conditions of a licence held by a person to which a duty imposed by subsection (1) or (2) applies may include a condition requiring the person, in performing the duty, to have regard to the interests of existing and future consumers in relation to gas conveyed through pipes (within the meaning of the Gas Act 1986).]

^{F6}(3)

^{F6}(4)

Changes to legislation: Electricity Act 1989, Section 9 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 06 August 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 9(1) substituted (1.10.2001) by 2000 c. 27, s. 50; S.I. 2001/3266, art. 2, **Sch.** (subject to transitional provisions in arts. 3-20)
- F2** Words in s. 9(2) substituted (1.9.2004) by Energy Act 2004 (c. 20), s. 198(2), **Sch. 19 para. 8(2)**; S.I. 2004/2184, art. 2(2), **Sch. 2**
- F3** Words in s. 9(2)(b) repealed (1.10.2001) by 2000 c. 27, s. 108, **Sch. 8**; S.I. 2001/3266, art. 2, **Sch.** (subject to transitional provisions in arts. 3-20)
- F4** S. 9(2A) inserted (1.9.2004) by Energy Act 2004 (c. 20), s. 198(2), **Sch. 19 para. 8(3)**; S.I. 2004/2184, art. 2(2), **Sch. 2**
- F5** S. 9(2B) inserted (31.1.2024) by Energy Act 2023 (c. 52), **ss. 177(2)**, 334(1); S.I. 2024/32, reg. 3(a) (vii)
- F6** S. 9(3)(4) repealed (1.10.2001) by 2000 c. 27, ss. 71, 108, **Sch. 8**; S.I. 2001/3266, art. 2, **Sch.** (subject to transitional provisions in arts. 3-20)

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 9(1)(b): functions transferred to Scottish Ministers (S.) (14.12.2000) by virtue of S.I. 2000/3253, arts. 1(1), 2, **Sch.** (with art. 6)

Changes to legislation:

Electricity Act 1989, Section 9 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 06 August 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 4(1)(f) and word inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 186\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 4(1)(ca) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 166\(2\)](#)
- s. 4(1)(da) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 205\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 4(3H)(3I) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 186\(4\)](#)
- s. 4(3CA) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 205\(3\)](#)
- s. 4(3EA) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 205\(5\)](#)
- s. 6(1)(g) and word inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 186\(7\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 6(1)(ea) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 205\(8\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 6(2C) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 186\(8\)](#)
- s. 6(2AA) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 205\(9\)](#)
- s. 6(6E) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 205\(10\)](#)
- s. 7(3GA) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 186\(17\)](#)
- s. 7A(11B) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 186\(18\)](#)
- s. 8A(1C) inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 206\(6\)](#)
- s. 10NA inserted by [2023 c. 52 s. 207\(2\)](#)
- s. 11E(2)(d) and word inserted by [2013 c. 32 s. 138\(5\)\(b\)\(iii\)](#)
- s. 15(2)(aa) inserted by S.I. 2019/93, Sch. 1 para. 3(2)(b) (as substituted) by S.I. [2019/1245 reg. 19](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The affecting statutory instrument has no legal effect. It was made under a procedure which meant that it ceased to have effect 28 days after signing unless it was debated and approved in Parliament within that time. It was not debated and approved within 28 days, so it has expired with no effect.)
- s. 25(8A) inserted by [2023 c. 52 Sch. 14 para. 7\(3\)](#)
- s. 43(8) inserted by [2024 c. 13 Sch. 29 para. 9](#)
- s. 44A inserted by [1992 c. 43 s. 23](#)
- s. 44A(6)(b)(i) words substituted by [2013 c. 22 Sch. 9 para. 52](#)
- s. 44B(1)(a)(iiia) inserted by [2023 c. 52 Sch. 17 para. 8](#)
- s. 44B(1)(vi) and word inserted by S.I. [2024/706 reg. 3\(11\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 56C(6)(d) and word inserted by [2013 c. 32 s. 138\(5\)\(d\)\(ii\)](#)
- s. 56CB(7) inserted by [2024 c. 13 Sch. 30 para. 10\(5\)](#)
- Sch. 6A para. 9ZA and cross-heading inserted by [2023 c. 52 Sch. 14 para. 8](#)
- Sch. 6A para. 4A and cross-heading inserted by S.I. [2024/706 reg. 3\(14\)\(b\)](#)