



Utilities Act 2000

2000 CHAPTER 27

PART II

OBJECTIVES OF REGULATION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY

Electricity

14 Guidance on social and environmental matters in relation to electricity

After section 3A of the 1989 Act (which is inserted by section 13 above) there is inserted—

“3B Guidance on social and environmental matters

- (1) The Secretary of State shall from time to time issue guidance about the making by the Authority of a contribution towards the attainment of any social or environmental policies set out or referred to in the guidance.
- (2) The Authority shall, in carrying out its functions under this Part, have regard to any guidance issued under this section.
- (3) Before issuing guidance under this section the Secretary of State shall consult—
 - (a) the Authority;
 - (b) the Gas and Electricity Consumer Council (in this Act referred to as “the Council”);
 - (c) licence holders; and
 - (d) such other persons as the Secretary of State considers it appropriate to consult in relation to the guidance.
- (4) A draft of any guidance proposed to be issued under this section shall be laid before each House of Parliament.
- (5) Guidance shall not be issued under this section until after the period of forty days beginning with—

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

- (a) the day on which the draft is laid before each House of Parliament; or
 - (b) if the draft is laid before the House of Lords on one day and the House of Commons on another, the later of those two days.
- (6) If, before the end of that period, either House resolves that the guidance should not be issued, the Secretary of State must not issue it.
- (7) In reckoning any period of forty days for the purposes of subsection (5) or (6), no account shall be taken of any time during which—
 - (a) Parliament is dissolved or prorogued; or
 - (b) both Houses are adjourned for more than four days.
- (8) The Secretary of State shall arrange for any guidance issued under this section to be published in such manner as he considers appropriate.”