

Energy Prices Act 2022

2022 CHAPTER 44

Reduction of domestic energy bills in Northern Ireland

5 Domestic energy price reduction schemes for Northern Ireland

- (1) The Secretary of State may establish a domestic electricity price reduction scheme for Northern Ireland.
- (2) A "domestic electricity price reduction scheme for Northern Ireland" is a scheme (including any other related arrangements) that makes provision for and in connection with—
 - (a) reducing the amount that would otherwise be charged for NI domestic electricity supply by licensed electricity suppliers who are parties to the scheme, and
 - (b) making payments to those suppliers in respect of those reductions in charges.
- (3) The Secretary of State may establish a domestic gas price reduction scheme for Northern Ireland.
- (4) A "domestic gas price reduction scheme for Northern Ireland" is a scheme (including any other related arrangements) that makes provision for and in connection with—
 - (a) reducing the amount that would otherwise be charged for NI domestic gas supply by licensed gas suppliers who are parties to the scheme, and
 - (b) making payments to those suppliers in respect of those reductions in charges.
- (5) The Secretary of State may modify or revoke a domestic electricity or gas price reduction scheme for Northern Ireland.
- (6) But if the scheme includes provision about modification or revocation of the scheme, the Secretary of State's power to modify or revoke it is subject to that provision.
- (7) Any such provision of the scheme does not prevent the Secretary of State from modifying the scheme if—
 - (a) the Secretary of State considers that a licensed electricity supplier or licensed gas supplier may make, or has made, arrangements whose primary purpose is to increase payments to the supplier under the scheme, and

- (b) the purpose of the modification of the scheme is to prevent the increased payments or require repayment of increased payments.
- (8) For provision about time limits on the exercise of the powers conferred by this section, see Schedule 6.