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Planning authorities, SEPA, Historic Environment
Scotland and NatureScot

Sent via email

15 January 2026

Dear stakeholder,

Launch of New Public Portal for Energy Consents Representations

As the Minister with responsibility for determining energy consent applications, I am writing to inform you of an important development in Scotland's energy consenting process.

From 16 January 2026, the Energy Consents Unit will introduce a new update to our online portal to make it easier for members of the public to submit representations on energy consent applications in Scotland.

This modernised system will replace the existing representations process and is designed to:

- simplify submissions through a clear, accessible online form without the need for registration
- provide instant confirmation that representations have been received
- increase transparency by enabling faster publication of representations and clearer consultation windows
- strengthen safeguards through verification and compliance checks
- enable more consistent analysis and reporting of community concerns, ensuring all material considerations are accurately identified and addressed

Planning authorities and statutory consultees are essential to the integrity of the energy consents process. Your expert input ensures that applications are assessed thoroughly and that public views are considered together with the technical and environmental evidence. Your continued engagement helps deliver balanced, and well-informed decisions.

Please note that the process for submitting responses from planning authorities and statutory consultees remains unchanged.

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot



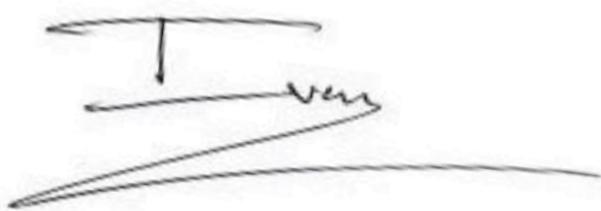
Postal submissions will remain available for those unable to access the portal. Updated guidance and support materials will be published on the Energy Consents Unit website prior to launch.

This upgrade reflects our commitment to improving public engagement and streamline the handling of representations in line with best practice.

I kindly ask that you share this information with relevant colleagues and stakeholders within your organisation.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ivan McKee', is written over a series of intersecting lines that form a stylized 'X' shape.

IVAN McKEE

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