



**Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero**

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**Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP
Secretary of State**

**Department for Energy Security
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2 June 2026

Dear Toby,

Setting the Seventh Carbon Budget

Thank you for your time last month to discuss the government's plans to set the level of the seventh carbon budget, and the Environmental Audit Committee's inquiry into it. I am writing to inform you that, today, government will propose legislation to Parliament to set the level of the Seventh Carbon Budget. I also attach the government response to your Committee's report.

Setting the level for Carbon Budget 7 will determine the shape of the UK's journey for 2038 to 2042 and form the basis for the pathway to remain on track for net zero by 2050. The government is proposing to Parliament that the seventh carbon budget is set at 535 MtCO₂e, equivalent to an ~87% reduction in emissions in 2040 from a 1990 baseline, as recommended by the Climate Change Committee and the EAC.

As we lay this legislation in Parliament, I am also pleased to share the government response to the EAC's report, 'The Seventh Carbon Budget', published on 4 March 2026. Thank you for undertaking this inquiry; the insight from you, your colleagues on the Committee, and all those who provided evidence will help support Parliament to consider the proposed level for Carbon Budget 7. The government response welcomes the EAC's report and sets out the government position on the Committee's recommendations across the proposed level and delivery of the seventh carbon budget, parliamentary scrutiny, and the role of different sectors in delivering emissions reductions.

Against a backdrop of geopolitical instability and volatile energy markets, we are setting an ambitious, credible and deliverable target towards clean, domestic power and faster electrification. Fossil fuel shocks have driven around half of UK recessions since 1970. Our long-term pathway is the best way to strengthen our energy security and protect households from future fossil fuel price shocks.

The Government remains grateful to the Committee for its work on Carbon Budget 7 and looks forward to continued engagement as Parliament considers the budget level and the next steps towards delivery.

Yours ever,

RT HON ED MILIBAND MP
Secretary of State for Energy Security & Net Zero