



The Rt Hon Rachel Reeves MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer  
The Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP, Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero  
Shona Robison MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government  
Gillian Martin MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Climate Action and Energy  
*By email*

4 March 2026

Dear Chancellor, Secretary of State and Cabinet Secretaries,

The End Fuel Poverty Coalition is writing to intervene in the current public debate between the UK and Scottish Governments regarding the future of the Energy Profits Levy (EPL).

While we recognise the importance of supporting workers and communities through the energy transition, we are concerned that weakening or accelerating the removal of the EPL risks prioritising industry interests at a time when millions of households continue to face unaffordable energy bills and rising energy debt.

**The levy was introduced in response to extraordinary profits during the energy crisis, and from a consumer and fuel poverty perspective the case for maintaining a robust windfall mechanism remains strong.**

Even with the EPL in place, the energy industry has made tens of billions of pounds of profits as energy prices remain relatively high [1]. And recent market movements demonstrate that the conditions which made a Windfall Tax necessary could return at any point.

Ongoing conflict in the Middle East has pushed global gas prices upward again, with wholesale markets showing renewed volatility. UK wholesale gas prices are now at levels last seen in winter 2022/23 and are up 52% year on year. [2]

At the same time, energy company share prices have surged on the London Stock Exchange, with firms including Ithaca Energy (+15%), Harbour Energy (+13%) and BP (+4%) all rising strongly. [3]

This pattern is exactly why a durable windfall mechanism remains essential to protect consumers.

Public opinion in Scotland strongly backs this position. Next week we will be releasing polling which shows that twice as many people support the Windfall Tax as oppose it.

It is also important to recognise the longer term context: North Sea production is expected to decline over time due to the geology of the ageing basin. Policy should therefore focus on managing that transition fairly and proactively. [4]

We would welcome continued engagement with both governments on how policy can best protect households and support the shift to a fair, secure and affordable energy system.

Yours sincerely,  
Simon Francis  
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End Fuel Poverty Coalition  
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[1] End Fuel Poverty Coalition profits tracker:  
<https://www.endfuelpoverty.org.uk/uk-energy-industry-profits-surge-past-125bn-since-2020/>

[2] Trading Economics Data as at 4 March 0900.  
<https://tradingeconomics.com/commodity/uk-natural-gas>

[3] Data from Bloomberg 3 March 1700. Harbour rose from 242.4 on 25 Feb to 274.8 on 3 March. Ithaca 213.5 to 245.5. BP 470.25 to 488.20

[4] North Sea Gas Unable To Meet Heating Needs from 2027  
<https://www.endfuelpoverty.org.uk/north-sea-gas-unable-to-meet-national-heating-needs-from-2027/>

### **About the End Fuel Poverty Coalition**

The End Fuel Poverty Coalition is a [broad coalition of more than 100 anti-poverty, health, housing and environmental campaigners, charities, local authorities, trade unions and consumer organisations](#). It is also supported by academics, social enterprises and those working on the front line of fighting fuel poverty.

We believe that everybody has the right to a warm, dry home that they can afford to heat and power.

Members of the Coalition include: [Act on Energy](#), [Action with Communities in Rural England](#) (ACRE), [Age UK](#), [Anti-Austerity Action Group](#), [Association of Local Energy Officers](#), [Association for Decentralised Energy](#), [Asthma + Lung UK](#), [Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council](#), [Beat the Cold](#), Bruton Town Council, [Camden Federation of Private Tenants](#), [Carers Trust](#), [Child Poverty Action Group](#), Church Poverty Action, [Chartered Institute of Environmental Health](#), [Chartered Institute of Housing](#), [Community Action Northumberland](#), [Centre for Sustainable Energy](#), Citizens Advice Newcastle, [Climate Action Network West Midlands](#), Cyngor Gwynedd, [Debt Justice](#), [Disability Poverty Campaign Group](#), [Disability Rights UK](#), [E3G](#), East Durham Trust, EBICO, Energise East Sussex, [Energise Sussex Coast](#), Energy Advice Helpline, Energy Cities, [Epilepsy Action](#), [Exeter Community Energy](#) (ECOE), Fair Energy Campaign, [Fair By Design](#), Fairer Housing, [Fuel Poverty Action](#), Fuel Poverty Research Network, [Generation Rent](#), [Green Alliance](#), [Groundwork](#), Hackney Foodbank, [Heat Trust](#), the [HEET project](#), [Independent Age](#), [Independent Food Aid Network](#), [Inner City Life](#), [Joseph Rowntree Foundation](#), [Lambeth Pensioners Action Group](#), Living Rent, [Local Storytelling Exchange](#), [London Borough of Camden](#), London Borough of Lewisham, [Marches Energy Agency](#), [Marie Curie](#), [MCS Foundation](#), [Mencap](#), [Mayor of London](#), [MECC Trust](#), MND Association, Moorland Climate Action, [National Pensioners](#)

[Convention](#), [Students Organising for Sustainability](#), National Children's Bureau, [National Energy Action](#), [New Economics Foundation](#), National Federation of Women's Institutes, [Northern Health Services Alliance](#), [Oxford City Council](#), [Positive Money Tower Hamlets](#), [Possible](#), [Plymouth Energy Community](#), Redcar & Cleveland Council, [Repowering London](#), Retrofit Bruton, [Rossendale Valley Energy](#), [Ryecroft Community Hub](#), [Save the Children](#), [Sense](#), [Severn Wye](#), [Scope](#), [Social Workers Union](#), [South Dartmoor Community Energy](#), [South East London Community Energy \(SELCE\)](#), [Southwark Group of Tenants Organisations](#), [South West London Law Centres](#), [Tamar Community Energy](#), [Thinking Works](#), Uplift, [UNISON](#), [Warm & Well in Merton](#), [Winter Warmth Network](#), [Young Lives vs Cancer](#), Village Larder (Cumbria), [Voluntary Organisations Disability Group \(VODG\)](#), [361 Energy](#). We work closely with [Energy Action Scotland](#), [NEA Wales](#) and the [Fuel Poverty NI Coalition](#).

The Coalition is also part of the [End Child Poverty Coalition](#), the Essential Services Advisory Network, the No Child Left Behind campaign and the [Renters Reform Coalition](#).

Academics involved in the Coalition include those from the Universities of Bangor, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Exeter, Leeds, Leicester, Oxford, Strathclyde, Sussex, Worcester and York.

The coordination for the [End Fuel Poverty Coalition](#) is provided by social enterprise [Campaign Collective](#). Contact: [info@endfuelpoverty.org.uk](mailto:info@endfuelpoverty.org.uk)