

14 April, 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

On Monday 17th April, peers in the House of Lords have an opportunity to address the wasteful practice of venting and flaring in the oil and gas sector.

A ban on oil and gas industry flaring by 2025 is the biggest single action that the UK can take to dramatically reduce methane emissions from the sector. This measure has been recommended by the House of Commons [Environmental Audit Committee](#) and the [Mission Zero Independent Review](#). North Sea oil and gas companies currently waste enough gas to supply at least [760,000 average UK homes](#). Moving forward a ban will therefore support UK energy security in a time of crisis – the current 2030 targets won't come into effect in time.

Methane emerged as a global climate priority at COP26, where the UK government helped lead the creation of the Global Methane Pledge. It is a greenhouse gas around 80 times more potent than carbon dioxide over a 20-year timeframe. Regulating methane – especially in the oil and gas sector – is one of the fastest, most cost-effective, and most impactful actions governments can take to achieve their climate goals.

As a result of the UK's efforts in Glasgow, more than 150 countries have committed to a 30% reduction of methane emissions by 2030. The UK can cement its position as an international leader on methane by adopting the proposed amendment. Moreover, we can also reduce the waste of a valuable energy resource at a time when we desperately need to find ways to conserve energy and lower costs for households.

We urge the peers in the House of Lords to support an amendment to the Energy Bill to ban venting and flaring in the oil and gas sector by 2025, and to work together to ensure that this important legislation is passed without delay.

Sincerely,

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