

# Offshore Petroleum Licensing Bill

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AMENDMENTS  
TO BE MOVED  
IN GRAND COMMITTEE

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**Clause 1**

BARONESS HAYMAN  
BARONESS BLAKE OF LEEDS  
LORD RANDALL OF UXBRIDGE  
EARL RUSSELL

Clause 1, page 1, line 3, at end insert—

- “(1ZA) The OGA must not invite any new seaward area production application licences until the Secretary of State has by regulations brought into effect a ban on flaring and venting relating to new offshore installations other than that required in an emergency.
- (1ZB) From two years after the day on which this Act is passed, the OGA must not invite any new seaward area production application licences until the Secretary of State has by regulations brought into effect a ban on flaring and venting relating to existing offshore installations.
- (1ZC) A statutory instrument which contains regulations under subsection (1ZA) or (1ZB) may not be made unless a draft of the instrument has been laid before and approved by a resolution of each House of Parliament.
- (1ZD) In subsections (1ZA) and (1ZB)—  
“flaring” means the burning of hydrocarbons produced during oil and gas extraction;  
“venting” means the release of un-combusted hydrocarbons directly into the atmosphere.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment prevents the invitation of new seaward area production licences until the Secretary of State has introduced a ban on flaring and venting by new offshore installations. It also requires the Secretary of State to prevent licensing rounds if a wider ban is not in place within two years of Royal Assent.*

## EARL RUSSELL

Clause 1, page 1, line 7, at end insert –

“(c) the cost of living and consumer energy pricing test (see section 4ZD).”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment and one other in the name of Earl Russell would introduce a cost of living and consumer energy pricing test that the OGA must conduct before inviting applications for seaward area production licences.*

BARONESS WILLIS OF SUMMERTOWN  
THE LORD BISHOP OF NORWICH  
LORD RANDALL OF UXBRIDGE  
BARONESS YOUNG OF OLD SCONE

Clause 1, page 1, line 20, at end insert –

- “(6) A notice under subsection (2) must not invite applications in respect of any block that would include exploration or development within or under a Marine Protected Area, and must specify that no application will be considered that would include exploration or development within or under a Marine Protected Area.
- (7) For the purposes of this section, “protected area” includes Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Marine Conservation Zones, Nature Conservation Marine Protected Areas, Highly Protected Marine Areas, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Areas of Special Scientific Interest and Ramsar sites.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment would rule out the issuing of notices for applications for production licences in Marine Protected Areas.*

## EARL RUSSELL

Clause 1, page 3, line 23, at end insert –

**“4ZD The cost of living and consumer energy pricing test mentioned in s 4ZA**

The cost of living and consumer energy pricing test is met in relation to a relevant year if the production of domestic natural gas will clearly –

- (a) lower consumer energy pricing
- (b) reduce the cost of living.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment and one other in the name of Earl Russell lays out the cost of living and consumer energy pricing test.*



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*5 April 2024*

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PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS