

# Offshore Petroleum Licensing Bill

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AMENDMENT  
TO BE MOVED  
IN GRAND COMMITTEE

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**Clause 1**

LORD RANDALL OF UXBRIDGE  
LORD TEVERSON  
BARONESS YOUNG OF OLD SCONE

Clause 1, page 1, line 10, at end insert –

- “(2A) Before the OGA invites applications for seaward area production licences under this Act, the Secretary of State must publish a marine spatial prioritisation policy.
- (2B) The marine spatial prioritisation policy must establish a process for prioritising the achievement of relevant targets under the Climate Change Act 2008 and the Environment Act 2021 in any decisions relating to the marine environment made by a body undertaking public functions.
- (2C) No invitations may be made under subsection (2) for applications in respect of a block that does not pass the marine spatial prioritisation test.
- (2D) The marine spatial prioritisation test is not met if the result of any licence granted would be that the cumulative effect of activities in a relevant block, or affecting the environment in a relevant block, would not be compatible with the achievement of priorities set out, and the process established, in the marine spatial prioritisation policy.”

***Member's explanatory statement***

*This amendment requires the Secretary of State to publish a “marine spatial prioritisation policy” before the OGA can invite applications for oil and gas exploration or development and for a spatial prioritisation test to be passed before applications for a block can be made. The test would ensure that allocation of sea space is compatible with nature and climate targets.*

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*11 April 2024*

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