



## Department for Transport

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From the Minister of State  
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### Infrastructure Bill: Public Bill Committee Community Electricity Right Provisions

Thank you for your involvement and contributions to the Public Bill Committee debates on the Infrastructure Bill over the last two weeks.

During the debate on the Community Electricity Right (CER) provisions, you referred to recent developments on the capacity market. To ensure security of electricity supply on the Government's path to decarbonise, the first Capacity Market auction has now been completed. This auction contracted 49.26GW of capacity at a clearing price of £19.40/kW. Full results of the capacity auction are available at: [www.emrdeliverybody.com](http://www.emrdeliverybody.com).

Sub-20MW generation units represented approximately 780MW of new capacity awarded fifteen-year agreements in the auction. This represents about 1.6% of capacity procured. Such generation has a role to play in providing reliable capacity as it can quickly be switched on when needed, though we expect this to run very infrequently in practice.

You also asked about whether the CER provisions might be extended in the future to non-renewable electricity sources. We support community engagement in relation to the development of all energy projects. However the community shared ownership policy has been designed specifically for renewable electricity facilities, as set out in the Government's Community Energy Strategy published last year<sup>1</sup>. The voluntary approach is preferable and the Shared Ownership Taskforce that we convened to progress this recently launched their Framework to drive this forward<sup>2</sup>. Nevertheless the CER provisions provide a back-stop power should the voluntary approach not succeed.

I trust this responds to your questions. I am copying this letter to the Chair and members of the Public Bill Committee and a copy will be placed in the House libraries.

THE RT. HON. JOHN HAYES MP

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[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/275169/20140126Community\\_Energy\\_Strategy.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/275169/20140126Community_Energy_Strategy.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/shared-ownership-taskforce>