

We will cover this in more detail in a future issue of *Energy Spectrum*.

ESC publishes ‘Resilience in our Net Zero Energy System’ report

On 10 December, Energy Systems Catapult (ESC) published its ‘[Resilience in our Net Zero Energy System](#)’ report, which offers a sector-wide perspective on the considerations and actions needed to deliver resilience during the UK’s net zero transition. The report outlines key messages to deliver resilience, including designing resilience into planning and investments to ensure future energy systems are able to withstand impacts from climate change; using technology systems – such as artificial intelligence – to provide resilience at lower costs to consumers; and ensuring that relationships between infrastructure investment, public risk acceptance and willingness to pay is acknowledged and navigated.

We will cover this in more detail in a future issue of *Energy Spectrum*.

IPPR publishes report on a four nations approach to UK wind deployment

On 12 December, the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR) [published a report](#) on the need for a four nations approach to accelerate wind deployment in the UK. The report explores the existing interactions between relevant powers and establishes a framework on the barriers to a coordinated approach for the UK wind sector. The IPPR calls for a “more determined” four nations approach to policy making with shared goals, aligned strategies, and systems to track progress, which it states would ensure the Government, Ofgem, and the National Energy System Operator are held accountable. Other recommendations include better planning and skill-building, investing in infrastructure and manufacturing, and involving the public.

We will cover this in more detail in a future issue of *Energy Spectrum*.

Other news for the festive period: Turkeys vote against Christmas by Professor Stephen Littlechild

The Office of Fair and Fowl Regulation (OFFR) has announced the results of its October 2024 consultation on whether to extend its present ban on Christmas.

In May 2024, OFFR had proposed to remove its ban on Christmas. But in its October 2024 consultation, OFFR proposed extending the ban, for several reasons: i) to bolster consumer trust because removing the ban could lead to an erosion of trust through the perception of an unfair situation that favoured those people who could get themselves organised for Christmas; ii) to protect vulnerable customers who were unable or unwilling to celebrate Christmas; iii) to observe its effect in the more stable market following the US presidential election; iv) to provide stability and consistency for turkeys ahead of upcoming turkey resilience measures; v) to bring in line with future decisions on the future of public holidays.

Responses to the OFFR consultation were summarised as follows. The Better Eating Association said that Christmas was unfair on those consumers who found it all too much of a faff. All 11 turkeys that replied said they would taste better if they weren’t subject to the stress of preparing for Christmas. On the other hand, the Cranberry Growers Federation and the Bread Sauce Society said that Christmas encouraged their members to produce new and better priced products. And 60 consumers said they used to have a jolly good time at Christmas and it would be unfair to prevent them celebrating. They suggested that OFFR should take crackers and paper hats round to all those consumers who hadn’t got themselves organised by the middle of December.

OFFR noted that there was a derogation allowing single person households to celebrate Christmas provided no one else was invited and curtains were kept drawn. But there was negligible real-world evidence on the impact or potential impact of this.

In conclusion, OFFR said that opinions on the ban were strongly divided and the arguments were very finely balanced. But it concluded that it would be in consumers’ interests to retain the present ban on Christmas for a further two years, unless it changed its mind again.