

**GENERAL LICENCE: Payments to Utility Companies for Gas and Electricity by UK Designated Persons
who Own or Rent Properties in the UK**

INT/2022/2300292

1. This licence is granted under all UK Autonomous Sanctions Regulations listed in Annex 1 of this licence (the "Regulations").
2. Any act which would otherwise breach any of the prohibitions set out in the Regulations, is exempt from those prohibitions to the extent required to give effect to the permissions in this licence.
3. In this licence:

"Energy Companies" or "the Energy Company" means	An Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (OFGEM) registered firm with permission to provide gas and/or electricity to properties in the UK.
"UK DPs" means	Those individuals or entities designated (or owned or controlled by an individual or an entity designated) for the purposes of an asset freeze by the UK under the UK Autonomous Sanctions Regulations only, but not those sanctioned by the United Nations excluding those designated for the purpose of compliance with United Nations obligations.
"the UK Autonomous Sanctions Regulations" or "the Regulations" means	Sanctions regulations made under the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Act 2018 (the Sanctions Act) and listed in Annex 1.
"Permitted Payment(s)" means	Utility payments for gas and electricity supplies and heating and/or hot water powered by gas or electricity from an external source, such as through a district heating network, to UK properties owned or rented by UK DPs. Payments for gas and electricity meter installation, certification, validation, monitoring, replacement, removal, including meters related to district heating networks, and other payments in relation to these activities.
"Return Payment(s)" means	Payments due as a result of over-payments made pursuant to this licence or in relation to the UK Government energy subsidy payments under the Energy Bills Support Scheme over winter 2022 to 2023 Energy Bills Discount Scheme (EBDS) (which closed on 31 March, 2024).
a "Yearly Quarter" means	A yearly quarter refers to one of the four three-month periods that make up a full year as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - January 1 – March 31 - April 1 – June 30 - July 1 – September 30 - October 1 – December 31
a "Relevant UK Institution" means	A person that has permission under Part 4A of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (permission to carry on regulated activity). A person that is authorised or registered under Part 2 of the Payment Services Regulations (SI 2017/752). A person that is authorised or registered under Part 2 of the Electronic Money Regulations (SI 2011/99).

	<p>A person that is a "recognised clearing house", "third country central counterparty", "recognised CSD" or "third country CSD" for the purposes of s.285 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.</p> <p>A person that is an operator of a recognised payment system (or that is a service provider in relation to recognised payment systems) for the purposes of Part 5 of the Banking Act 2009.</p>
"Person" means	An individual or a body of persons corporate or unincorporate but does not include a UK DP

Permissions

4. Under this licence, subject to the conditions in Paragraphs 8-10 below:
 - 4.1 UK DPs may make Permitted Payments to Energy Companies ~~from a frozen UK bank account by bank transfer or by direct debit~~; and
 - 4.2 Any Person may make a Permitted Payment to Energy Companies (directly or indirectly), for or on behalf of a DP or for the benefit of a DP; and
 - 4.3 Energy Companies may receive the Permitted Payments made under paragraphs 4.1 or 4.2.
5. Under this licence, subject to the conditions in Paragraphs 8-10 below:
 - 5.1 Energy Companies may make Return Payments to frozen UK bank accounts; and
 - 5.2 UK DPs may receive Return Payments from Energy Companies into a frozen UK bank account.
6. A Relevant UK Institution may process payments made in accordance with paragraphs 4 and 5 above
7. This licence does not permit the payment for gas and/or electricity to any person designated by the United Nations.

Reporting Requirements

8. ~~On a monthly basis~~ Within 30 days of the end of a Yearly Quarter, the UK DP must make a report to HM Treasury in respect of all Permitted Payments made during that Yearly Quarter, with details and supporting evidence of:
 - i) The name of the Energy Company;
 - ii) The amount(s) paid;
 - iii) The payment route used; and
 - iv) The date on which the funds were paid.
9. Within 14 days of making a Return Payment under this licence, the Energy Companies must report to HM Treasury, with details and supporting evidence of:
 - v) The amount(s) transferred;
 - vi) The payment route used;
 - vii) The date on which the funds were transferred; and
 - viii) The reason for the Return Payment.

Record-keeping Requirements

10. The Energy Companies and UK DPs must keep accurate, complete and readable records, on paper or electronically, of any activity purporting to have been permitted under this licence for a minimum of 6 years.

General

11. The permissions in this licence do not authorise any act which will result in funds or economic resources being made available in breach of the relevant UK Autonomous Sanctions Regulations, save as permitted under a licence granted under those Regulations.
12. Information provided to HM Treasury in connection with this licence shall be disclosed to third parties only in compliance with the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018.

13. This licence takes effect from 17 November 2022.

14. HM Treasury may vary, revoke or suspend this licence at any time.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'OFSI'.

Office of Financial Sanctions Implementation

HM Treasury

17 November 2022

Amended 24 February 2023

Amended 13 October 2023

Amended 15 December 2023

Amended 29 February 2024

Amended 28 October 2024

Amended 26 September 2025

Amended 31 March 2026.

Annex 1 – UK Autonomous Sanctions Regulations

Regime	Relevant Regulations
The Republic of Belarus (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 11 to 15
The Bosnia & Herzegovina (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020	Regulations 11 to 15
The Burundi (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 11 to 15
The Central African Republic (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020	Regulations 12 to 16
The Chemical Weapons (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 11 to 15
The Counter-Terrorism (International Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 11 to 15
The Counter-Terrorism (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 11 to 15
The Cyber (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020	Regulations 11 to 15
The Democratic People's Republic of Korea (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 13 to 17
The Democratic Republic of the Congo (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 12 to 16
The Global Anti-Corruption Sanctions Regulations 2021	Regulations 11 to 15
The Global Human Rights Sanctions Regulations 2020	Regulations 11 to 15
The Global Irregular Migration and Smuggling in Persons (Sanctions) Regulations 2025	Regulations 14 to 18
The Guinea (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 11 to 15
The Republic of Guinea-Bissau (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 11 to 15
The Iran Human Rights (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 11 to 15
The Iran (Sanctions) (Nuclear) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 12 to 17
<u>The Iran (Sanctions) Regulations 2023</u>	<u>Regulations 15 to 19</u>
The Libya (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020	Regulations 12 to 16
<u>The Mali (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020</u>	<u>Regulations 12 to 16</u>
The Myanmar (Sanctions) Regulations 2021	Regulations 11 to 15
The Nicaragua (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020	Regulations 11 to 15
The Russia (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 11 to 15 and/or 17A
The Somalia (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020	Regulations 12 to 16
The South Sudan (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 12 to 16
The Sudan (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020	Regulations 12 to 16
The Syria (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 11 to 15
The Venezuela (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 11 to 15
The Yemen (Sanctions) (EU Exit) (No.2) Regulations 2020	Regulations 12 to 16
The Zimbabwe (Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019	Regulations 11 to 15