WESTMINSTER ENERGY FORUM

Josh Buckland, Director of Strategy, Commercial and Policy, EDF UK

CHANGE IS IN *OUR POWER*



STRATEGIC CHALLENGES TO SYSTEMIC CHANGE WITHIN THE UK ENERGY SYSTEM



Affordability



Electricity demand



Grid connections



Skilled workforce

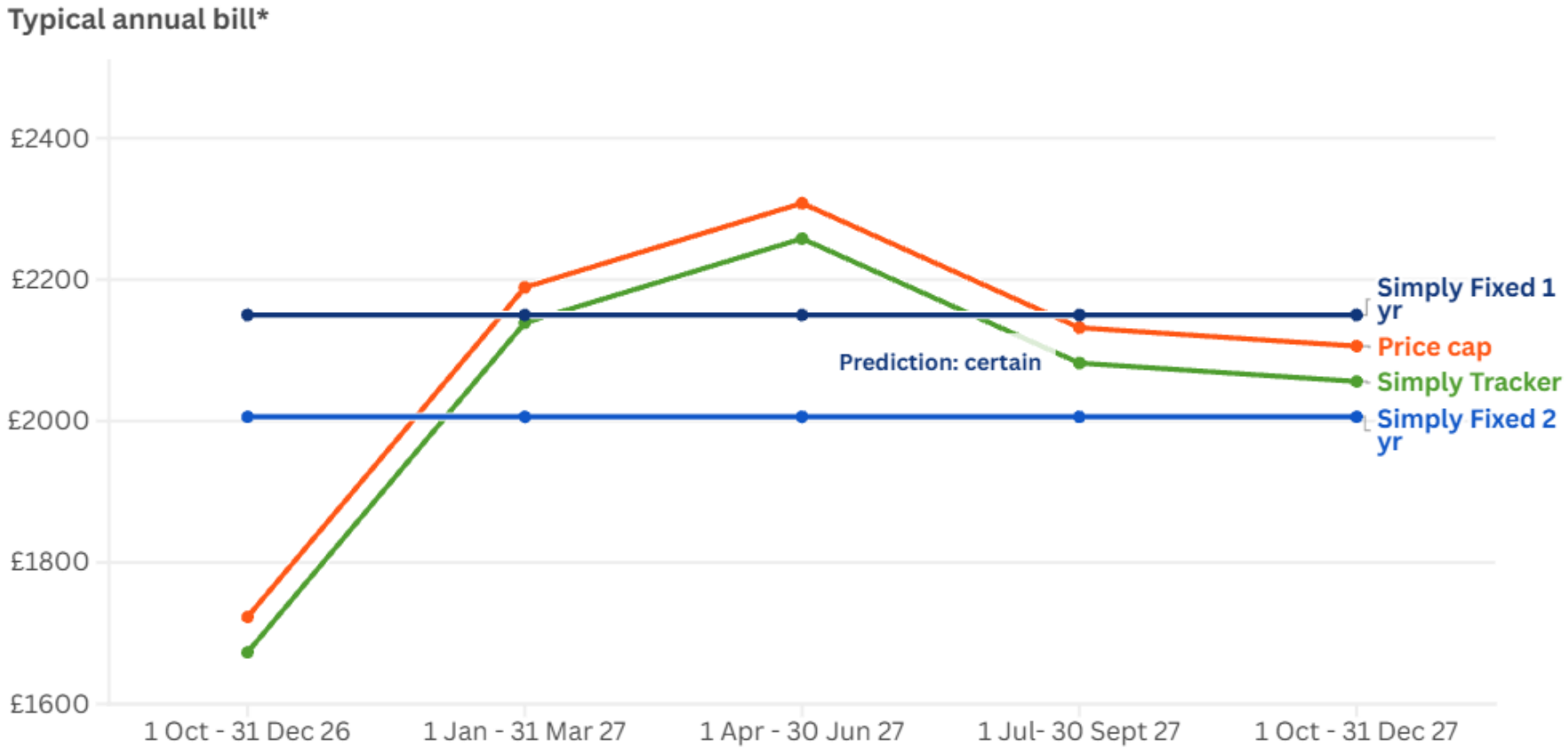


Regulation

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AFFORDABILITY HAS TAKEN CENTRE STAGE AS THE KEY CHALLENGE IN THE ENERGY SYSTEM

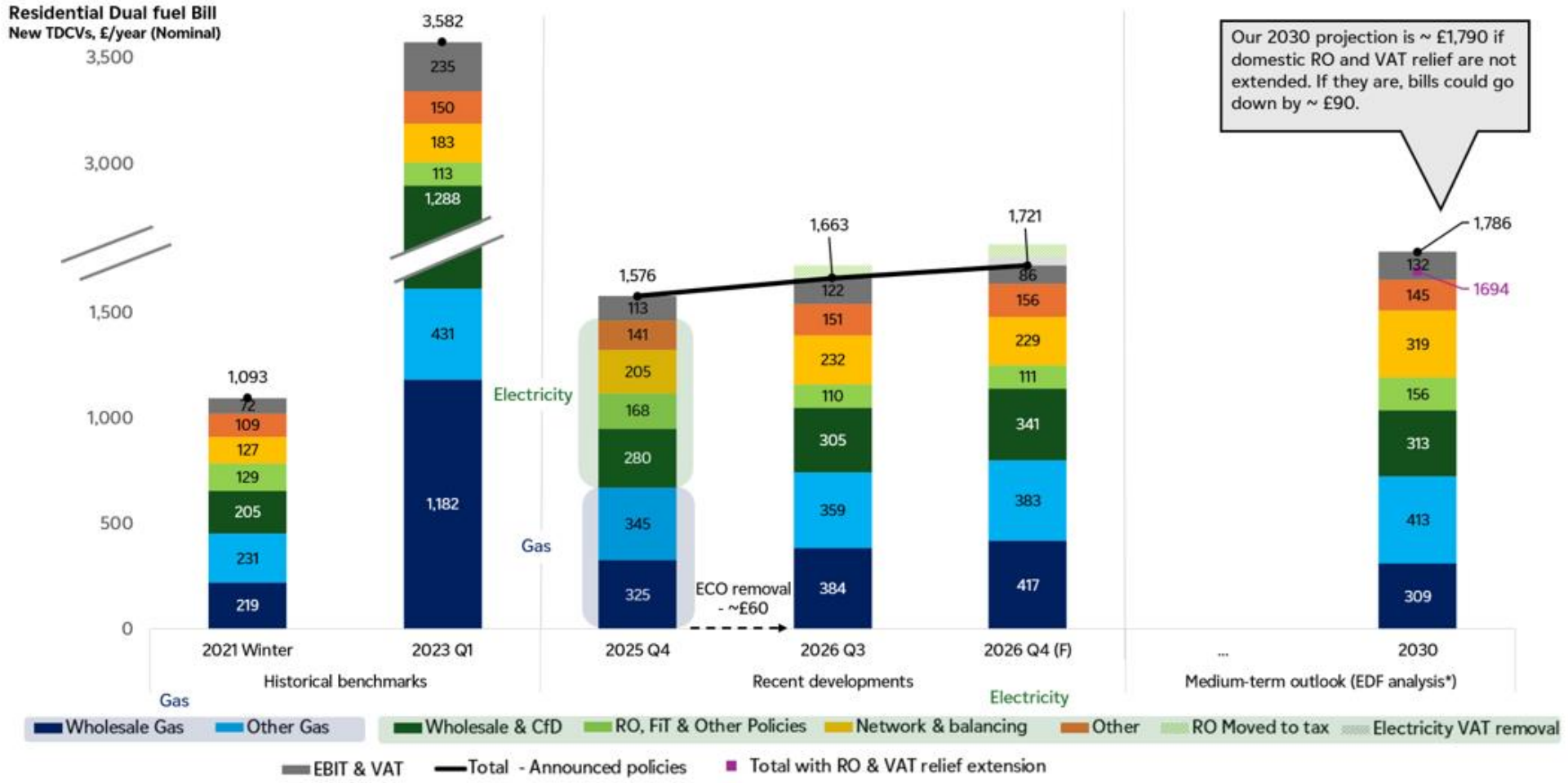
EDF prediction of future prices of Ofgem's annual cap amount, compared to our Simply Fixed tariffs



https://www.edfenergy.com/gas-and-electricity/price-cap-predictions

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RISING NETWORK AND POLICY COSTS ARE A KEY CHALLENGE TO LONG-TERM AFFORDABILITY…



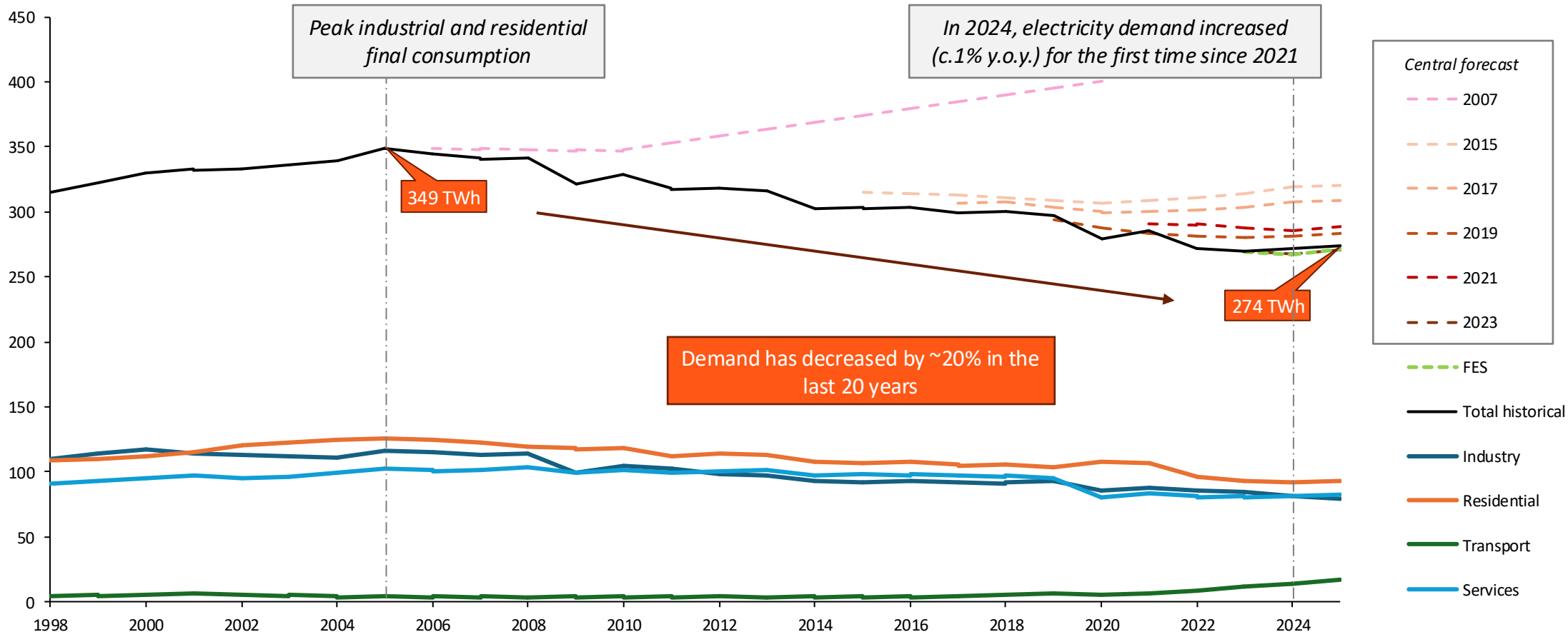
* EDF analysis based on Aurora central wholesale prices and generation mix. Based on latest Ofgem typical domestic consumption levels, which were adjusted downwards in Q3 2026.

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… ESPECIALLY IF BORNE BY A RELATIVELY MODEST DEMAND BASE

Electricity final consumption and illustrative UK Government Forecasts

TWh, 2000 – 2025



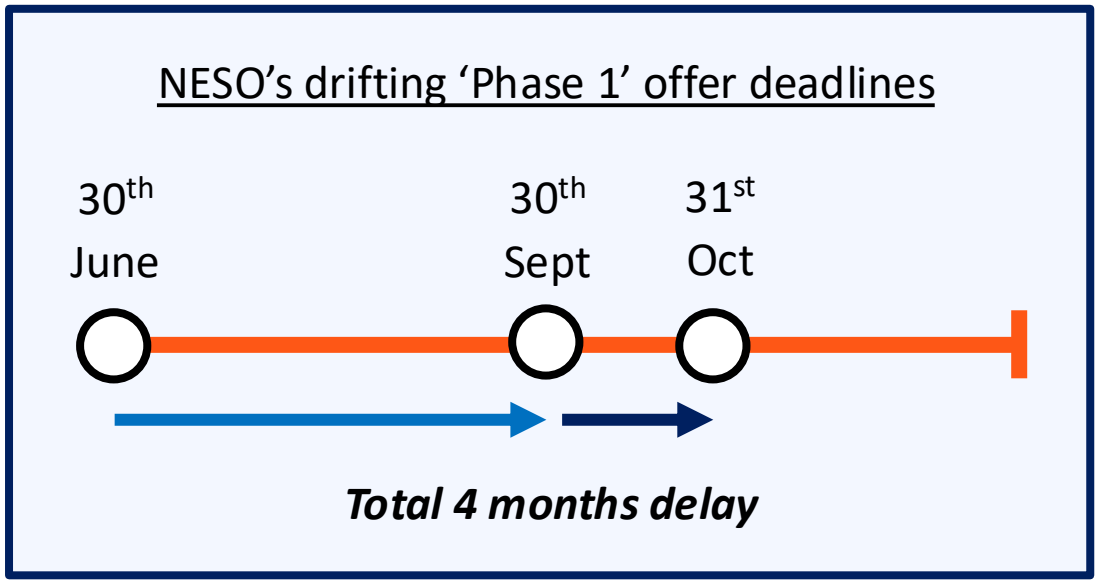
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THE GRID CONNECTIONS QUEUE HAS BECOME A MAJOR CONSTRAINT ON THE DELIVERY OF NEW ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE

Grid connection queue of **700GW+** and, despite progress, connection reform delivery is running late

Where offers have been made:

Average **2-year delay** to connection	Large connection **cost increases of 2-3x**



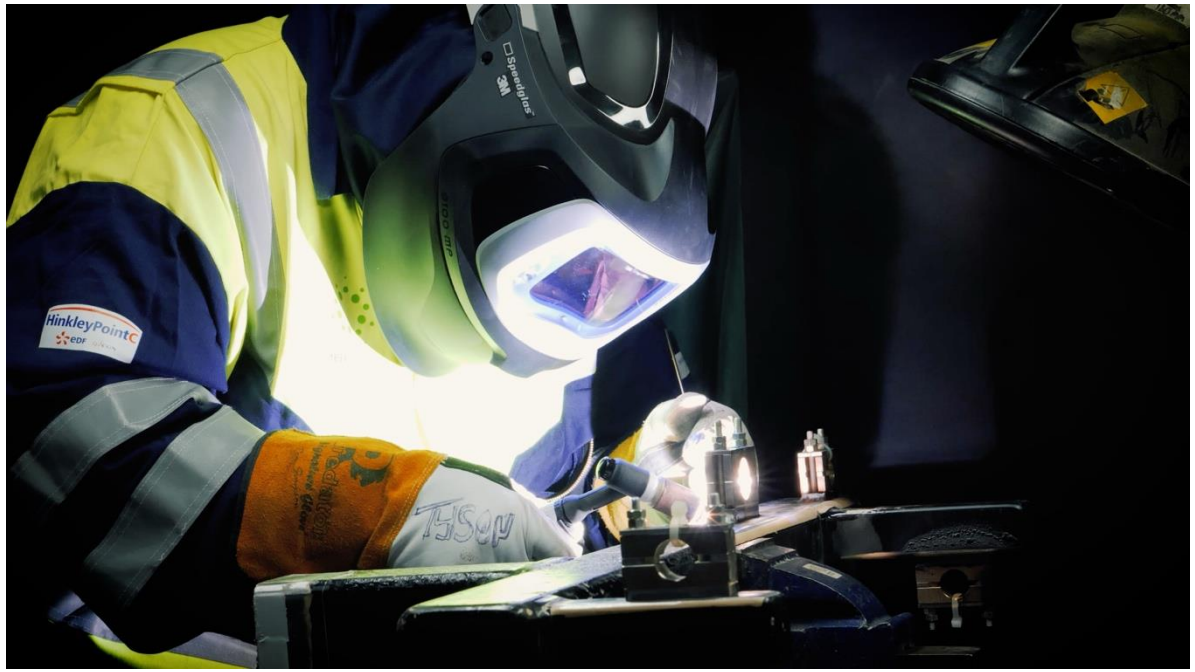
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DELIVERING THE UK'S CLEAN ENERGY AMBITIONS WILL REQUIRE A SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION OF THE SKILLED WORKFORCE

An extra **40,000** engineering construction workers required by 2030

Estimated shortfall of **35,000** welders by 2030, with a 47% increase in demand

Annual shortage of **~124,000** electrical engineers



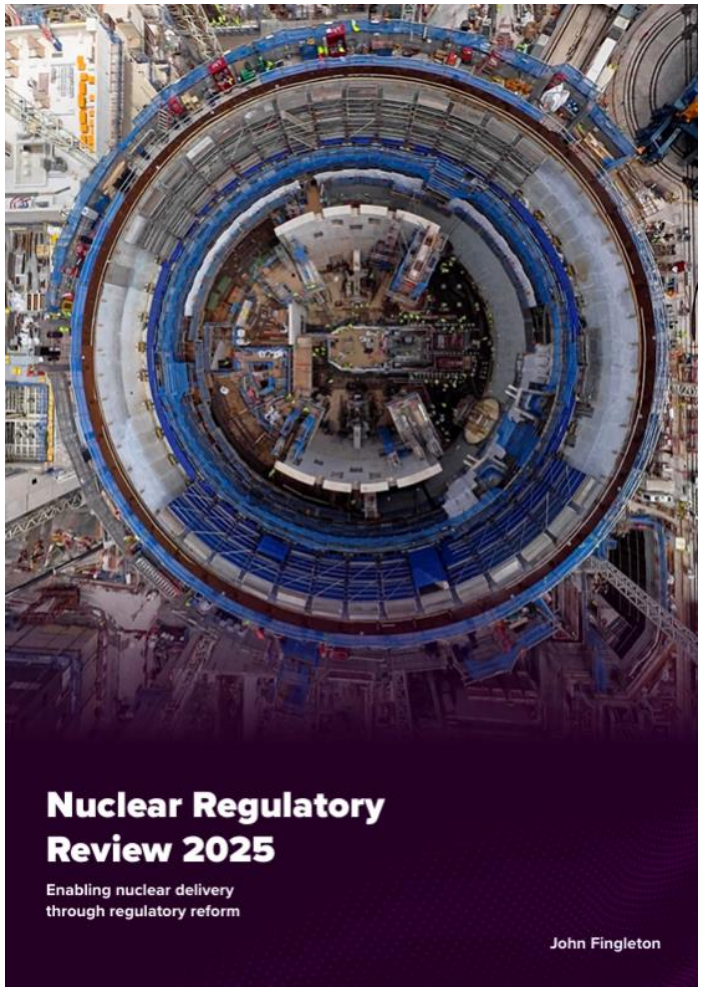
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INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS CAN FACE COMPLEX REGULATORY PROCESSES

Regulation needs to be timely, predictable, and proportionate

Overlapping responsibilities and processes across multiple regulators create inconsistency and delay

Uneven balance between environmental protection and progress



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HOW DO WE ADDRESS THESE CHALLENGES?



Affordability

Short-term measures in the Budget are welcome.

But a long-term solution is needed to address the affordability crisis including action on debt and a social tariff.



Electricity demand

Boosting electrification is vital.

Technologies such as EV charging and data centres can spread fixed systems costs across a larger demand base.



Grid connections

A clear plan for future grid development based on the upcoming SSEP.

Strong incentives for grid operators.

Clear definitions of roles in the energy system.



Skilled workforce

Welcome positive steps from Govt (e.g., Skills England) & support further reform including Apprenticeship Levy.

Address critical skills shortages, including welding.

Maintain a pipeline of nuclear projects to support long-term skills investment.



Regulation

Deliver the outcomes of the Nuclear Regulatory Taskforce.

Create a better balance between different objectives.

Implement policy enablers to support nuclear.

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THANK YOU