

Response to Welsh Affairs Committee inquiry on grid capacity in Wales

Key Points

- bp welcomes this inquiry and the questions being considered by the Welsh Affairs committee.
- bp has a range of direct and indirect interests in electrification in Wales, from the bp Pulse network of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure to the joint venture projects with EnBW for offshore wind and Lightsourcebp for solar development.
- Long distance EV travel, EV consumers without access to off street charging and commercial EV fleets generally require access to public charging and high-speed charging hubs.
- In bp's view, a key requirement is a forward-facing holistic network design for the grid, with the appropriate level of anticipatory investment in transmission and storage to match the projected growth in renewable energy generation, and industrial and consumer demand for electrical power.
- bp believes that clarity around holistic network design can play a key role in unlocking private sector investment, particularly around renewable energy generation and storage, including hydrogen.
- bp believes safety is a key issue that should be at the core of all strategic planning and policy and would like to see this explicitly referenced.