

NZW Samizdat: Miliband's epic failure

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Net Zero Watch press release



06 March 2026

Miliband's Epic Failure

The headlines

UK

- Miliband risks energy bills crisis
- Octopus Energy: reopen the North Sea
- Bank of England: we cannot protect UK from price shock
- Starmer's EU deal on Net Zero will damage British business

International

Beijing fumes as Trump's Iran strike threatens oil

Watch

- NZW: UK energy policy has left us badly exposed
- NZW: we need domestic oil and gas because warfare has not been decarbonised.
- Andy Mayer: Rachel Reeves should cut taxes and subsidies to reduce energy bills

Etcetera

Media, opinion

Events

Edinburgh event coming soon

From the blog

Ed Miliband's North Sea policy will be seen as a sign of weakness by Putin and Xi





UK

Miliband risks energy bills crisis

Ed Miliband has [rejected](#) calls to “open up the North Sea” as war rages in Iran, claiming that the biggest “long-term threat multiplier” to UK security is the climate crisis.

Earlier this week, President Trump urged the UK Government to exploit North Sea resources, with oil and gas prices spiking because of the Middle East war. MPs and industry bosses have also called for more exploration.

[READ OUR STATEMENT ON MILIBAND’S RESPONSE TO THE IRAN CRISIS HERE](#)

[READ: THE SPECTATOR’S LEADING ARTICLE CALLS FOR MILIBAND TO BE SACKED.](#)

[READ: CLAIRE COUTINHO CALLS MILIBAND A “DANGEROUS FANTASIST”](#)

[WATCH: PRESIDENT TRUMPS URGES THE UK GOVERNMENT TO EXPAND NORTH PRODUCTION](#)

Octopus Energy: reopen the North Sea

The boss of Britain’s biggest gas and electricity supplier has [called](#) on Ed Miliband to reopen the North Sea to strengthen the country’s energy supplies. “There’s no point shipping gas from the other side of the world when we have it here,” he says.

Bank of England: we cannot protect UK from price shock

The Bank of England cannot protect the country from energy price shocks, a senior official has [warned](#).

Starmer’s EU deal on Net Zero will damage British business

Sir Keir Starmer has been [warned](#) not to hand Brussels a “blank cheque” over net zero rules which threaten to “undermine” British business. The Prime Minister is being urged to put the brakes on negotiations with the EU, with MPs warning energy intensive British firms will be placed at a “significant disadvantage” if they are forced to pay additional costs on goods sold abroad, which their international competitors are not subjected to.



International

Beijing fumes as Trump's Iran strike threatens Chinese oil

The US shale revolution of the 2010s has allowed America to turn itself an energy fortress, but the same can't be said for China who [believe](#) Trump's Iran strike threatens their oil suppliers.

Watch



[WATCH OUR CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR TELL GB NEWS THAT UK ENERGY POLICY HAS LEFT US BADLY EXPOSED TO GLOBAL SHOCKS](#)



MILIBAND: IRAN WAR SHOWS WE NEED NET ZERO

Energy Secretary says conflict backs case for 'clean homegrown power'

[WATCH OUR CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR TELL GB NEWS VIEWERS THAT "WARFARE HAS NOT BEEN DECARBONISED."](#)



CHANCELLOR TO DITCH FUEL DUTY HIKE?

Rachel Reeves under pressure because of the conflict in the Middle East



Coalville
7°/15°

to see the relationship between UK and US 'is not what it used to be' |

[WATCH THE IEA'S ANDY MAYER OUTLINE WHAT RACHEL REEVES COULD DO TO REDUCE ENERGY COSTS](#)

Etcetera...

Read: Maurice Cousins [writes](#) for the Daily Telegraph that Miliband's energy policies are undermining Britain's ability to deter Putin.

Read: Matt Ridley [writes](#) how the US-Israel-Iran War will expose Britain's catastrophic energy misjudgement

Edinburgh event coming

Net Zero Watch is going to be hosting a private event in Edinburgh ahead of the Scottish elections. NZW donors in the Central Belt should look out for an invitation next week. Please let us know if you don't receive one. If you are in Edinburgh and would like to come along, do drop us a message too, but we can't promise anything at the moment.

From the blog



Thu, Mar 5

[Russia and China will read Miliband's energy policy as weakness](#)

Commenting on today's (05 March 2026) statement on energy markets to Parliament by Energy Secretary Ed Miliband, Maurice Cousins, Campaign Director at Net Zero Watch, said:

The Government's response to

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