CAPACITY AND EXCESS PROVISION

1. It may be thought that excess capacity has no adverse impact but the history of constraint payments to wind farm generators caused by over-provision of capacity in Scotland shows this isn’t the case.

2. The table below shows constraint payments between 2013 and 2023 (as at 050123). These have increased every year except 2016 and 2021 (where unusually poor conditions for wind power generation led to a sharp fall in energy generated by renewables).

YEAR COST CAPACITY RATE  
2023 1,857,557 24,120 77  
2022 227,048,475 3,897,178 58  
2021 142,922,632 2,342,145 61  
2020 274,161,002 3,696,019 74  
2019 139,115,025 1,941,177 72  
2018 124,649,106 1,724,187 72  
2017 108,247,860 1,542,865 70  
2016 81,861,075 1,134,627 72  
2015 90,738,134 1,276,264 71  
2014 53,261,058 659,350 81  
2013 32,707,351 369,817 86

3. The figures for 2022 are the second highest recorded in spite of the fact that the rate per **MWH** reduced from £72 to £58.

4. In any sane scenario this waste of money and the extra costs falling on consumers would be considered undesirable but SG’s obsession with windfarms makes them blind to what is obvious. Further windfarms are being encouraged when they will inevitably cause constraint payments to rise.

5. The total money handed out now stands at a staggering £1,293,531,547