



T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Duncan Massey MSP
Convener
Economy, Tourism and Energy Committee
Scottish Parliament
By email: economy.committee@parliament.scot

22 June 2026

Dear Convener,

Steel Industry (Nationalisation) Bill

I would like to offer my congratulations on becoming the Convener of the Economy, Tourism and Energy Committee. I look forward to our future constructive engagement with you and the Committee's members.

I am writing to update you on changes to the Scottish Government's position on the Steel Industry (Nationalisation) Bill. The Legislative Consent Memorandum lodged by the Scottish Government on 15 June 2026 stated that we would not recommend consent to the Bill. Following a period of productive engagement with UK Government Ministers and Officials, our position has now changed. Given a political commitment by UK Government has been made to consult with Scottish Ministers, should the Bill's powers extend into Scotland, the Scottish Government will therefore now be recommending consent to the Bill.

I wish to acknowledge that the lack of usual scrutiny of this Bill by the Parliament, including via your Committee, is unfortunate. However, this has been necessary due to the expedited nature of the Bill by UK Government not aligning with the timetable of our Parliament finishing for Summer Recess.

The new motion which will be laid in the Chamber tomorrow (23 June) is: 'That the Parliament, noting that the Steel Industry (Nationalisation) Bill, introduced in the House of Commons on 14 May 2026, makes provision that falls within the legislative competence of the Parliament, agrees to give consent to such provision as is made by clauses 1-7, 9-23, 25-43, 45-59 and 61-64.' I look forward to discussing the Bill with all Members during the Motion on Legislative Consent.

We will be very happy to provide the Committee with any evidence and information necessary on this matter moving forward.

Yours sincerely,

TOM ARTHUR

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

