

OFCOM COMPLAINT - The Saturday Five on GB News - 24 August 2024

Programme details

Programme title: The Saturday Five

Date of broadcast: 24 August 2024

Time of broadcast (24 hour clock): 18:27

Channel / station*: GB News

Your complaint

Subject: A GB News guest called the Government's energy policies a "crazy rush to Net Zero" and claimed that "this Net Zero monster is a cult" which "Labour are completely embedded in". These claims were not challenged and are a violation of Ofcom impartiality rules.

Description: On 24 August, GB News guest Dr Renee Hoenderkamp said, in response to news that energy bills are due to increase, that this was caused by "this crazy rush to Net Zero at breakneck speed". She then falsely claimed that Net Zero policies have "completely de-industrialised Germany", and that "this Net Zero monster is a cult and Labour are completely embedded in it and they don't care about us". None of this was directly challenged in the segment, with the host Darren Grimes even expressing support for the claims, saying that Energy Secretary Ed Miliband "will make Britain moribund".

This segment lacked any meaningful balance and served to discredit green energy policies without any opposition. These claims, including from a GB News host, violated Ofcom rules 5.5 and 5.7, which require that segments have "due impartiality", including specifically on "matters relating to current public policy", and that "views must also be presented with due weight".