

OFCOM COMPLAINT - Patrick Christys Tonight on GB News - 02 October 2024

Programme details

Programme title: Patrick Christys Tonight

Date of broadcast: 02 October 2024

Time of broadcast (24 hour clock): 21:00

Channel / station*: GB News

Your complaint

Subject: GB News broadcast a highly unbalanced segment criticising Net Zero where the Energy Secretary was described as an “eco loon”, “a lunatic” and an “eco-fanatic”. The segment violated Ofcom rules 5.5 and 7.1.

Description: On 2nd October 2024, Patrick Christys hosted an unbalanced segment discussing measures from Energy Secretary Ed Miliband to stabilise the electricity grid. The segment featured one dissenting voice, while the host and two guests were in agreement in criticising Net Zero and Miliband.

Christys referred to Miliband as “eco loon Red Ed”, “the eco-fanatic energy minister, Red Ed Miliband” pursuing “his lunatic Net Zero agenda”, and alleged that he “has basically admitted that his Net Zero fantasy is going to make us poorer, colder and leave us shivering in the dark”. While hosts are able to share opinions under the Ofcom broadcasting code, this unfair treatment surpasses what is acceptable.

In agreement with Christys was guest Mark Littlewood, who criticised “this lunatic approach to energy, which is an absolutely pointless act of colossal self-harm”. Guest Adam Brooks also agreed, alleging that “Labour are incompetent, and I think he [Ed Miliband] is a lunatic”. Littlewood also told dissenting guest Nina Myskow that he does “not especially” believe that we should transition to renewables at all.

This segment failed to deliver “due impartiality” on a matter of public policy under rule 5.5, with the panel discussion skewed towards three critics making highly controversial comments about Net Zero and the Energy Secretary. Comments like labelling Miliband a

“lunatic” violated Ofcom rule 7.1, requiring the avoidance of “unjust or unfair treatment of individuals”.