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BRITISH ENERGY PLC
Form 6-K
July 20, 2004

FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Issuer

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

July 20, 2004

BRITISH ENERGY PLC
(Registrant's name)

3 Redwood Crescent
Peel Park
East Kilbride G74 5PR
Scotland
(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F..X.. Form 40-F.....

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No ..X..

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b):

Exhibit Index

The following document (bearing the exhibit number listed below) is furnished herewith and is made a part of this Report pursuant to the General Instructions for Form 6-K:

| Exhibit | Description |
|---------|--|
| No.1 | RNS Announcement, re: Section 198 Notice 20 July, 2004 |

British Energy plc

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UK COMPANIES ACT 1985 - SECTIONS 198 - 203 - British Energy plc (the "Company")

This notification relates to issued common stock of the Company ("shares") and is given in fulfilment of the obligations imposed by sections 198 to 203 of the Companies Act 1985 (the "Act").

The company was notified that as at close of business on 15 July 2004, the Goldman Sachs Group, Inc ("GS Inc") of 85 Broad Street, New York, NY 10004, USA, was interested, by attribution only, in a total of 24,578,577 shares.

Of these 24,578,577 shares:

- The interest in 14,965,852 shares arose from the interest held by Goldman, Sachs & Co. ("GS&Co"), a direct subsidiary of GS Inc, acting as custodian. These shares are, or will be, registered in the name of Goldman Sachs Securities (Nominees), Limited.
- The interest in 4,380,225 shares arose from the interest held by GS&Co. acting as custodian of 58,403 American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs"). These ADRs are, or will be, held at the Depositary Trust Company of New York. ("DTC").
- The interest in 7,500 shares arose from a beneficial interest by GS&Co, in 100 ADRs. These ADRs are, or will be, held at the DTC.
- The interest in 5,225,000 shares arose from a beneficial interest held by Goldman Sachs International, a direct subsidiary of GS Inc, these shares are, or will be, registered at CREST in account CREPTMP.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Date: July 20, 2004

BRITISH ENERGY PLC

By: _____Paul Heward_____

Name: Paul Heward

Title: Director - Investor Relations