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BRITISH ENERGY PLC
Form 6-K
September 17, 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

September 17, 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 dated 17 September 2004

17 September 2004

British Energy plc

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Notification for the purposes of sections 198-203 Companies Act 1985 - 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 has been notified that as at close of business on 15 September 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 26,459,636 shares.

Of these 26,459,636 shares:

- The interest in 11,390,776 shares arose from Goldman, Sachs & Co. ("GS&Co."), a wholly-owned direct subsidiary of GS Inc, acting as custodian for its customers. These shares are, or will be, registered in the name of Goldman Sachs Securities (Nominees), Limited.
- The interest in 3,427,725 shares arose from GS&Co. acting as custodian for its customers of 45,703 American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs"). These ADRs are, or will be, held at the Depositary Trust Company of New York ("DTC").

The interest in 11,641,135 shares is a beneficial interest held by Goldman Sachs International, a wholly-owned indirect 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: September 17, 2004

BRITISH ENERGY PLC

By:____John Searles____

Name: John Searles

Title: Director - Investor Relations