
MGroupServices

4th September 2020

Ofgem
10 South Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London
E14 4PU

To whom it may concern,

Having reviewed the Ofgem RII0-2 Draft Determination relating to the electricity transmission sector and National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) in particular, we wish to register our concerns regarding this draft determination and the long-term effect that it will have on the environment, our business, our people and the UK's economy.

As the leading infrastructure services provider in the UK, MGroup Services directly employs over 9,000 people and delivers services across all the utilities, (Gas, Water and Electricity), and the Telecoms and Transport sectors.

As a business we clearly undertake business planning, which takes into account the government commitment to supporting the country's infrastructure. This guides our choice of which sectors to invest our resources.

Our work is classed as essential, with our workers being key workers, as we actively support our clients to maintain their essential services. The investment necessary (in time and money) to establish a workforce that can safely deliver these services is not insignificant. There is a concern that by reducing the spend through the determination there is the potential that the supply chain will not take the necessary steps early enough to ensure there is a trained and experienced workforce available to support our clients and meet the needs of the UK infrastructure.

We are a leading contributor to the utility industry graduate placements and apprenticeships, particularly in the more technical electricity sector and the lack of certainty on future spend may have a negative effect on our young person development programmes. We support the government aspiration that as a country we create more highly skilled, well paid jobs. In an industry with an aging demographic, coupled with people leaving the industry due to there being no certainty around workload, there is a potential negative impact on the number of resources available for future infrastructure build and emergency response programmes.

NGET have, along with a number of our other clients, a stated intention to support the development of a green economy and we support them in these aspirations. In particular, the UK's transmission and distribution networks will need to be significantly augmented to allow for the extra demand that a major increase in EV charging will inevitably bring, along with the challenges associated with increased embedded generation within the networks.

In summary we would urge you to reconsider your draft determination and take in to account the need to ensure the supply chain can invest in confidence in the areas which will support the infrastructure of the UK and help ensure that our electricity networks are fit and resilient for the future.

Yours faithfully
for MGroup Services



Jim Arnold
Chief Executive