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Avonbank Feeder Road Bristol BS2 0TB

Email nrichardson@westernpower.co.uk

Sophia McGuigan, Enforcement Manager Ofgem 10 South Colonnade Canary Wharf London E14 4PU

Your ref

Our ref

Date 5 March 2021

Dear Sophia

Consultation to review the Energy Industry Voluntary Redress Scheme

I am writing on behalf of Western Power Distribution (South Wales) plc, Western Power Distribution (South West) plc, Western Power Distribution (East Midlands) plc and Western Power Distribution (West Midlands) plc in relation to the above consultation.

Please see attached responses.

If you have any queries please contact Natasha Richardson at nrichardson@westernpower.co.uk

Yours sincerely

PAUL BRANSTON Regulatory & Government Affairs Manager

Western Power Distribution (South Wales) plc, Registered in England and Wales No. 2366985 Western Power Distribution (South West) plc, Registered in England and Wales No. 2366924 Western Power Distribution (East Midlands) plc, Registered in England and Wales No. 2366923 Western Power Distribution (West Midlands) plc, Registered in England and Wales No. 3600574 Registered Office: Avonbank, Feeder Road, Bristol BS2 0TB



1. The types of projects

Question 1. Do you consider the funding split between the Main Fund, Innovation Fund and Decarbonisation Fund to be appropriate?

Question 2. Do you consider the proportionate funding split between vulnerable consumers and all energy consumers to be appropriate? i.e. 70% to vulnerable consumers and a total of 30% to all energy consumers.

Answer: We would support a rebalance towards Innovation and Decarbonisation i.e. 50% vulnerable, 25% Innovation and 25% Decarbonisation.

Question 3. Should a fuel voucher fund remain a permanent feature of the overall Energy Redress Scheme, so that it can react quickly to specific crises? Question 4. If a fuel voucher fund is set up, what type of consumer should be eligible to apply for these vouchers? e.g. vulnerable consumers, pre-payment meter consumers.

No comments.

2. Widening the eligibility scope to other organisations

Question 5. What are your views on expanding the applicant scope beyond charities and organisations that partner with charities? If you think the scope should be expanded, do you have any suggestions for how eligibility should be defined? (e.g. what legal structures/status should qualify? Should there be other qualifying criteria?)

Answer: We would support the expansion of eligibility to Local Authorities who can deliver similar projections to charities.