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National Grid ESO response to Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission's proposed Gremista Grid Supply Point Project

Dear Jack,

We welcome the opportunity to respond to your consultation on Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission's (SHET's) proposed Gremista Grid Supply Point (GSP) project.

National Grid ESO is the electricity system operator for Great Britain. We move electricity around the country second by second to ensure that the right amount of electricity is where it's needed, when it's needed – always keeping supply and demand in perfect balance. As Great Britain transitions towards a low-carbon future, our mission is to enable the sustainable transformation of the energy system and ensure the delivery of reliable, affordable energy for all consumers.

The ESO holds a unique position at the heart of the nation's energy system. We use our unique perspective and independent position to facilitate market-based solutions which deliver value for consumers.

The proposed work will provide a GSP at Gremista on the Shetland Islands, to provide a demand connection close to the main demand centre around Lerwick. This work forms part of the works required once the Shetland Islands becomes connected to the main GB transmission system via the Shetland HVDC Link currently under construction. In 2020, we were pleased to be able to provide analysis to SHET's strategic wider works submission to Ofgem, including the Cost Benefit Analysis for the Needs Case, and analysis on the Levelised Cost of Energy (LCOE).

We support the Ofgem view of the needs case, and strongly support the development as part of the wider scheme of the infrastructure needed to connect zero-carbon generation on Shetland to the rest of the transmission system as we move at pace towards meeting our net zero targets. We also note the benefit specifically of meeting local demand on Shetland via the GSP, allowing a shift to low carbon power rather than a diesel power station, as a contribution towards the decarbonisation of our energy system.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss any of the points raised within this response. Should you require further information or clarity on any of the points outlined in this paper then please contact Dr Paul Wakeley in the first instance at Paul.Wakeley@nationalgrideso.com. Our response is not confidential.

Yours sincerely

Nick Harvey

Network Development Manager