Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to your draft determination under R110-ED2 and would like to stress the importance to the Islands of providing resilient cable connection for Uist and Barra.

In Lewis and Harris we had the unfortunate situation where for 10 months we were dependent on diesel generation ( from generators that were installed in1954) while the sub-sea cable was cut. It also meant that the local Community Wind Generators were unable to have their units connected to the grid.

It would be ridiculous if a similar situation were to happen in the Uist and Barra.

In terms of working towards Net Zero people are being encouraged to move to electric but the lack of resilience is likely to be a cause of hesitation and this situation is not helping.

As a suggestion would it be worth considering having a single replacement of the cable from Ardmore in Skye to Loch Carnan in South Uist with a new cable across the Sound of Harris which would enable further resilience and also the possibility of the Uists and Barra to connect into the proposed Transmission Interconnector from Stornoway to the mainland for  additional Community Generators.

Yours Sincerely,

Murdo A Murray