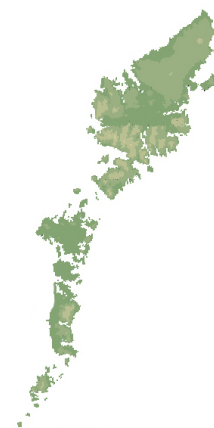




The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

ALASDAIR ALLAN

MSP for the Western Isles - BPA airson nan Eilean Siar



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RIIO Team
Office of Gas and Electricity Markets
9 Millbank
London
SW1P 3GE

Our Ref: AA8566

6 September 2022

Dear RIIO Team,

Consultation on accelerating onshore electricity transmission investment

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this consultation.

A number of constituents have raised concerns with me regarding the 500kV YfUhb [cbg\cfY`Y`YVWf]VimhfUbgga]gg]cb`]bj Ygha Ybh proposals.

The primary concern that has been raised is that the 1.8GW HVDC interconnector link between Arnish and Beaulieu has not been included in the list of projects within the accelerated delivery framework.

Given that the 1.8GW link was included in the Pathway to 2030 Holistic Network Design and caused the previous plans for a 600MW interconnector to be dropped it is imperative that this project is included in the list of projects.

I should also note that the 1.8GW link clearly meets the criteria you set out in paragraph 3.5 of the consultation document and thus should be included in the accelerated delivery framework.

The Western Isles currently has three consented onshore projects with CfD awards that are awaiting an interconnector. Any further delay could impact these projects.

I therefore ask that Ofgem include the 1.8GW link in the accelerated delivery framework as it both meets the criteria you have set out for accelerated delivery and is of vital importance to the Western Isles.

I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

20 Kenneth Street, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, HS1 2DR
20 Sràid Choinnich, Steòrnabhagh, Eilean Leòdhais, HS1 2DR

Phone /Fòn 01851 700357

Email/post-d: alasdair.allan.msp@parliament.scot

website/làrach-lìn: www.alasdairallan.scot

Alasdair Allan MSP