

FAO Peter Tuhumwire  
Offshore Cost Assessment Team  
R1IOElectricitytransmission@ofgem.gov.uk

National Grid ESO  
Faraday House  
Gallows Hill  
Warwick  
CV34 6DA

Paul Wakeley@nationalgrideso.com  
nationalgrideso.com

08 March 2023

## **ESO Response to Ofgem's Consultation on NGET's Dinorwig-Pentir – Project Assessment**

Dear Peter,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your consultation on the Dinorwig-Pentir – Project Assessment.

As the Electricity System Operator (ESO) of GB's electricity system, our position in the electricity industry gives us a unique insight, particularly with our economic assessments, on electricity transmission questions such as the Dinorwig – Pentir transmission proposals.

These proposals involve replacing the existing Dinorwig – Pentir 400kV cables and installing a third Dinorwig – Pentir 400kV cable, associated substation works at both ends as well as a replacement substation at Dinorwig and additional reactive compensation at Wylfa. Your consultation document lists these in paragraph 1.10.

### **Our key points**

The ESO undertook independent analysis in January 2022 on behalf of NGET for their needs case. It was found that there is economic benefit for consumers from the construction of the third circuit connecting Dinorwig to the wider transmission network, in addition to the substation replacement work. We continue to believe that the project based on this combination of works is the best option. The third cable also means that the sooner that work is completed, the sooner the benefits of the cable in controlling constraint costs are realised.

We note and support paragraph 3.2 that says NGET has confirmed that the programme of works has been sequenced to ensure that two circuits remain in service during the construction period. This is because we can consider the third circuit in its construction phase as the first outage and as long as there are two circuits in service, there is no constraint. The longer the third circuit takes to complete, the higher the chances of one of the remaining circuits being unavailable. Therefore, provided the Transmission Owner delivers on time, it is unlikely there will be any immediate constraint risk.

We look forward to engaging with you further. Should you require further information on any of the points raised in our response please contact Griffin John, Technical Economic Assessment Manager on [griffin.john@nationalgrideso.com](mailto:griffin.john@nationalgrideso.com). Our response is not confidential.

Yours sincerely

Paul Wakeley  
Head of Strategic Network Development