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to customers*

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Dear Stephen

### **Competition in Electricity Metering Services - Industry Guidance v1.1**

Thank you for your response to Ofgem's document 'Competition in Electricity Metering Services – Industry Guidance v1.1'. As you may be aware, Ofgem has recently published an updated version of the document, which can be found on Ofgem's website.<sup>1</sup> In updating the document, we have considered all responses and clarification has been provided in the document where necessary. The following is intended as a response to the points you made in your letter. A copy of this letter has been placed on Ofgem's website.

You suggested that Ofgem ask suppliers to contract with independent meter operators in advance of gaining a customer or soon after. Whilst your concerns are understood, it would be inappropriate for Ofgem to suggest that the incoming supplier should sign up with the incumbent meter provider. As the guidance states, Schedule 7 of the Electricity Act 1989 requires an authorised supplier to ensure that a meter is installed to record the energy used from a customer's premises. However, there is no requirement on the supplier to obtain this meter from a particular place. Furthermore, Ofgem considers that the commercial environment will drive the supplier/meter operator relationship.

In your letter you also mentioned the metering issues that will be considered within the Distribution Price Control Review. As you will be aware, Ofgem have recently published an initial consultation on the form a price control on metering could take and whether in fact metering should be price controlled. We look forward to reviewing your response to this document.

If you have any further questions or comments on the new draft, please contact me on the above number or my colleague Claire Tyler on 020 7901 7331.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.ofgem.gov.uk/ofgem/work/index.jsp?section=/areasofwork/meteringstrategy](http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/ofgem/work/index.jsp?section=/areasofwork/meteringstrategy)

Yours sincerely

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