

<u>Environment Directorate</u>

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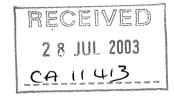
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Cemil Altin
The Office of Gas and Electricity Markets
9 Millbank
LONDON SW1P 3GE

Your ref Our Ref Date:

B.6 ASB/GE/AJS 22 July 2003



Dear Sir/Madam

ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION PRICE CONTROL REVIEW – INITIAL CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Thank you for your letter dated 16 July 2003 and the opportunity to respond to the consultation document "Electricity Distribution Price Control Review Initial consultation 68/03". Having read the consultation document I am disappointed by the lack of reference to landscape/environmental considerations perhaps best encapsulated by the lack of consideration being given to incentives or economic drivers for distribution network operators to place overhead power lines underground within designated areas such as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks. I would have thought such considerations would be part of your work especially as you detail, on your website, that OFGEM's work focuses on "meeting its increased social and environmental responsibilities".

Yours faithfully

D McKay

Principal Planning Officer

