

Long Term Development Statements (LTDS)

Usability Questionnaire

May 2005

Introduction

In this questionnaire, Ofgem sets out technical and general questions covering accessibility, format/structure, cost, content and level of detail of the LTDSs.

Objectives

The information obtained in response to this questionnaire will be used to determine whether LTDSs are meeting the objectives of electricity distribution Standard Licence Condition 25, which are:

- To enable anyone interested in connecting generation or demand to the distribution network to identify opportunities by referring to the LTDS; and
- To ensure the general availability of such information in the public domain.

Next Steps

It would be helpful if comments and views could be grouped as 'general' or 'technical'. A number of generic issues are set out here to assist respondents but it is not intended that comments and views should in any way be limited by them.

General (Accessibility, format/structure, cost) Questions

1. Were you, before reading this consultation, aware of the LTDSs and could you locate them on the DNOs' websites? If you have had difficulty locating a DNO's statement please let us know.
2. Have you accessed Part 1 of a DNO's LTDS and did you find it useful? Did it lead to you accessing the full LTDS?
3. How many LTDS Part 1s have you accessed and how many full statements have you requested?
4. Does the free introductory section provide sufficient information to enable you determine if the full statement will be useful?
5. Do you have any comments or views on the consistency of data presentation between the DNOs?

6. What purposes have you used LTDS data for? Have you used an LTDS for more than one purpose?
7. Would you prefer to use an internet-based service to plan your embedded generation connections?
8. Is it a straightforward process navigating between relevant data i.e. geographic information and tabular data?
9. Are the charges for the full LTDS reasonable?
10. Did you consider the contents of the LTDSs aligned with your needs at the planning stage of your project?
11. Please offer any general comments on how useful you believe the LTDSs are enabling anyone interested in connecting generation or demand to identify and evaluate opportunities.

Technical Questions

12. What do you use the LTDS's technical information for?
13. Is the LTDS's technical data presented in a useful format? If not, how could this be improved?
13. How could data about distributed generation best be presented in the LTDSs? Are there existing examples of good practice in this area?
14. Can you identify areas where more or less technical data might be appropriate? If so, please offer suggestions.
15. Can you suggest changes to the FoS?

Responding to this questionnaire

Ofgem would like to hear the views of all those with an interest in the issues raised in this questionnaire.

Responses to this questionnaire should be received by 24 June.

They should be sent to:

Ronke Adenuga
Technical Directorate
Ofgem
9 Millbank
SW1P 3GE
Email ronke.adenuga@OFGEM.gov.uk

Fax 020 7901 7075

Tel 020 7901 7461

Unless marked as confidential all responses will be published by placing them in Ofgem's library or on our website. It would be helpful if responses could be submitted both electronically and in writing. Any questions about this document should be directed to Ronke Adenuga (Ronke.Adenuga@OFGEM.gov.uk) at Ofgem.