

OFFSHORE TRANSMISSION EXPERTS GROUP
5th Meeting, 29 September 2006,
DTI Conference Centre, 1 Victoria Street, London

OTEG structure & short-term work plan

Issue

OTEG, in its current form has been extremely useful in helping DTI and Ofgem to develop the options that will be consulted on in the forthcoming consultation document namely the issues of geographic scope and allocation of transmission licences and the SQSS work.

Following on from this, there is a wider question over what OTEG can usefully do whilst the consultation process is under way and before a decision on the regulatory framework is made early in the New Year. Further work on issues such as grid codes, price control and licence conditions can only meaningfully be started once the decision on this framework has been made. It is clear that the sub-groups set up so far have been a great success in producing their findings at such short notice and we are keen that this structure should continue in the next phase of the work. In the context of this there are a number of issues that we would like to discuss.

- Do OTEG members feel that the current membership is correct for the next stage of the work plan? Would the group benefit from minor expansion to include those whom the next stage of the work is liable to impact on to a greater extent than previously i.e. onshore parties, DNOs, other potential TOs.
- Do OTEG members feel that meetings between now and January/February will be the best use of their time? Or can issues be discussed via email?
- Whilst we are not keen on OTEG becoming simply a 'talking shop' in the interim, are there any other issues that OTEG feel can be usefully discussed whilst the consultation is underway?
- DTI and Ofgem values the discussion that OTEG enables. Do members feel that OTEG is a useful forum in which to discuss issues with DTI and Ofgem as opposed to other less structured channels such as bi-lateral meetings?
- Do members feel that the sub-group structure adopted so far is working and should be continued?

DTI and Ofgem would like to stress that in raising these issues what we are trying to do is to ensure that we are making the most of your time and the resources that we have at our disposal.