

Dear Sir,

Review of Competition in Gas & Electricity Connections Proposals Document

I refer to the above and would wish to make the following observations in relation to street lighting.

Un-Metered Supplies

The Distribution Network Operators (DNO) have already considerable experience in servicing the needs of "street lighting authorities" based over many many years and I am at a loss to understand your reluctance to "licence" this aspect of the document. We within local authorities are required year on year improve our level of service in response to lighting failures which is all too often compromised by the poor performance of the DNO and I feel that a service level agreement based on what amounts to "good will" will do nothing to assist my Council in its goal to improve its street lighting service, I therefore strongly recommend that you reconsider your decision.

Response Times

It would appear that you are suggesting that the response times to be used within the new SLA are to be based on response somewhat longer than the "best performing" DNO's, surely this is a backwards step and the response times used should be based on the best performing DNO (a target poor DNO's to strive for and a betterment for the users).

Triangular Agreement (Live working)

Where an approved contractor be licensed to work should be based on his "accreditation" and not a simple 1 metre from the mains cable.

I would not wish that this amendment to the "triangular agreement" in anyway to increase the time span necessary in rolling out this alternative method of live connections.

Howard Thomas I Eng. MILE
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received via email dated 20 March 2007