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Thursday 19th July 2007

Consultation Response to Ofgem’s Consultation on Connecting the Islands of Scotland

Dear Robert,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the consultation on connecting the Islands of Scotland. I write on behalf of E.ON UK plc to support Ofgem’s initial view that allowing other companies to signal their willingness to construct these connections could introduce further competition and provide, in principle, for greater benefits to customers through cost savings, as opposed to obliging SHETL to do so under its existing Transmission Licence.

Introducing competition for the design, construction and ownership of these assets could be achieved through a tender process similar to the design that is being considered for the offshore transmission arrangements. Alongside the commitment from the generator, commitments from bidding companies would help protect against any potential stranding risk and give rise to a successful realised development from committed companies.

A significant difference to the offshore transmission regime with connection of islands is the need to protect and maintain supplies to existing demand customers. This could be achieved by ensuring that the technical standards achieve an appropriate balance between the cost and the likelihood of the loss of supply and through conditions in the successfully appointed company’s Transmission Licence.



We hope that you find our response helpful. We look forward to seeing Ofgem's decision and the next steps for the development of the connections to the Scottish Islands.

Yours sincerely

Guy Phillips
Senior Project Developer