

**From:** Donald Miller [don.j.miller@btinternet.com]

**Sent:** 07 July 2007 13:19

**To:** David Hunt

**Subject:** Beaully-Denny Inquiry

Dear Sir

The proposal to reimburse Scottish and Southern Energy their costs incurred in the above Inquiry would clearly be at odds with the primary duty of Ofgem to safeguard consumers interests.

In the first place there is an alternative route via the East Coast using mainly existing transmission lines uprated to 400KV operation which can provide the same transmission capacity to Central Scotland as would the Beaully-Denny line and at lower costs.

Secondly the existing transmission network on the West Coast including the Cruachan 275 KV line , which as been ignored by SHELTL in their precognitions, can easily cater for connecting in more than the amounts of wind power which Shelt are expecting along the route. Should you require detailed figures to substantiate these claims I will be happy to provide them.

Thirdly there can be no justification for one party to the Inquiry recovering their costs from the public purse ( we are all electricity consumers) while other parties with much smaller resoureces are required to meet their own costs as well as those of the Applicant through their electricity bills.

Fourthly where is the discipline on the Applicant to carry out his public duties at the Inquiry in an efficient manner if the whole of his costs are to be automatically reimbursed?.

Fifthly , Government have issued policy documents to the effect that they wish to encourage participation of the public in Public Inquiries. Ofgem's proposal for reimbursement is clearly at odds with Governments's objectives in that it will discourage public participation and indeed cast doubt on the real purpose behind such Inquiries.

I trust therefore that Ofgem will have proper regard in this matter to safeguarding consumers's interests and avoiding further damage to the already tarnished image of Public Inquiries .

Yours sincerely

Sir donald Miller