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Dyddiad / Date: 29<sup>th</sup> January 2009

Mr. Andrew MacFaul  
Consultation Co-ordinator  
Ofgem  
9 Millbank  
London  
SW1P 3GE.

Dear Mr. MacFaul,

**Transmission Access Review -  
Initial Consultation on Enhanced Transmission Incentives  
Consultation Response**

The Isle of Anglesey County Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the OFGEM Consultation Document outlined above. With the presence of the Wylfa nuclear power station on the Island, which is continuing to generate electricity, and the County Council's aim of securing nuclear new build development at Wylfa, the future of transmission investment is clearly of great importance.

The County Council has clear aspirations to develop Anglesey into the 'Energy Island'. This will involve a number of low carbon energy generation developments. A key enabler towards ensuring the 'Energy Island' aspirations become reality will be transmission capacity – and the need for adequate upgrading which is synergised (in terms of delivery timescales) with energy generating developments.

We believe that the current regulations (and related transmission upgrade processes) are not suitable. The anticipated future growth in connections/ transmission requirements, to meet the demand created by new strategic energy developments across the UK, requires a new strategic approach to transmission upgrades. The regulations need to enable the regulator, together with the National Grid, and relevant stakeholders to take a strategic long term view of anticipated future requirements before identifying and delivering strategic solutions (within suitable time periods).

The increased benefits of a strategic approach (to future capacity improvements and investment) aggregate when large scale transmission requirements are amalgamated. This cannot happen if the current arrangements continue (i.e. dealing with individual developments separately). A new strategic approach is required. This will involve greater levels of investment, integration, and risk. We believe that the correct steps are being taken to create new arrangements that would encourage a strategic approach and create viable strategic alternative. We also agree that all future investment decisions should be based on anticipated demands.

From a regional North West Wales perspective, there is a need to upgrade the 400kv link from Pentir, to Trawsfynydd, and across to Legacy. This transmission enhancement would support and enable low carbon developments in the region (together with a possible inter-connector to Ireland). However, further work is required to identify the strategic options, costs and constraints directly associated with ensuring that energy generated from a potential new development at Wylfa can be transferred to the end user.

To this end, informal discussions have already commenced between relevant stakeholders in both Anglesey and West Cumbria to identify transmission enhancement options that would enable the 'Energy Island' and 'Energy Coast' aspirations to become reality. However, these aspirations cannot become reality if the relevant enabling regulations and systems are 'fit for purpose'. We are eager to see the National Grid, UK Government, and relevant private sector utilities investing further to identify the most strategically suitable and economically viable options, without delay.

We agree and encourage OFGEM to adopt suitable regulations/ arrangements that would enable a strategic 'anticipatory' approach to be undertaken to ensure our National transmission capacity meets the needs of current (and future energy generators) and all end users. The identified implementation/ completion timescales of spring 2009 should be complied with to ensure future energy investments are not delayed.

Yours sincerely,

**Sasha W. Davies**

Head of Service - Economic Development

c.c.

Cllr. Phil Fowlie	Leader of Ynys Mon County, IACC
Cllr. Bryan Owen	Economic Portfolio, IACC
Mr Albert Owen	MP
Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones	AM
Mr. Arthur Owen	Director of Planning, IACC
Mr Greg Evans	Site Director, Wylfa Site
Mr Glenn Vaughan	NDA Wylfa Site Programme Manager