

22 January 2010

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Annual stakeholder report on electricity distribution

The Campaign for National Parks (CNP) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the above report. CNP is the national charity that campaigns to protect and promote National Parks for the benefit and quiet enjoyment of all.

We welcome Ofgem's decision to produce important information in a more customer friendly format. Our comments focus on the proposed environmental content.

Environment

The phrasing used to describe the allowance for undergrounding should be reworded. The current use of area of outstanding natural beauty is confusing as the allowance covers two types of statutory designations, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and National Parks. In future CNP would suggest that the wording be changed to incorporate both.

Contrary to your letter of 17 December, CNP considers that stakeholders would find information about how DNOs spent the undergrounding allowance very useful. Consumers place an importance on the visual impacts of the distribution network and are prepared to pay for improvements as highlighted in Ofgem's survey. It therefore does not follow that they would not be interested in knowing how the undergrounding allowance is being used. The information currently provided is very technical and a summary of activities within the annual stakeholder report would be beneficial to all stakeholders.

Yours sincerely



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