

Electricity Suppliers, Prospective Feed-in Tariff Scheme Generators and other interested parties

Promoting choice and value for all gas and electricity customers

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Date: 11 March 2010

Dear Suppliers and Generators

## **Delivery Timetable for Ofgem Feed-in Tariff Administrative Systems**

The Feed-in Tariffs (Specified Maximum Capacity and Functions) Order 2010 ("the FIT Order") was laid before Parliament by DECC on 9 March 2010. This and the FIT Licence Modification should become effective on 1 April 2010. We would therefore like to let you know what Ofgem will be doing in the coming weeks as we prepare to go live with our administrative functions on 1 April.

#### Supplier Guidance

Now that the Order has been laid we will be able to finalise our draft supplier guidance document. We believe it is important to consult on this draft guidance prior to publishing a final version, and further to our recent well attended workshop with suppliers, we intend to commence a formal consultation process within the next two weeks. This means that the final version of the guidance will not be in place when the FIT scheme goes live on 1 April. However, we intend to issue a further open letter to suppliers prior to 1 April to clarify the key obligations that will apply to them from 1 April, to give some guidance for the interim period until our final supplier guidance is published.

w/c 22 March	Draft guidance issued for consultation Open letter to suppliers issued
w/c 19 April	Deadline for consultation responses (4 weeks)
w/c 10 May	Final guidance issued
w/c 24 May	(the formal consultation response document, summarising responses received and our reaction to them, may need to be issued separately, which we would aim to do by w/c 24 May)

Our proposed timetable going forwards is as follows:

# *Communication with sub-5MW Generators already accredited under the Renewables Obligation (RO)*

We will also be contacting FIT-eligible sub-5MW generators that currently have or are seeking accreditation under the RO, either directly or via their RO agents. We expect to write to these generators/agents by 19 March to bring to their attention the relevant changes to the RO and the action they need to take if they wish to receive support under the FIT scheme.

### **Generator Guidance**

We will also be updating our existing RO generator guidance documents to help explain who is eligible for ROO-FIT accreditation and how to apply for it. We expect to publish this updated generator guidance in the final week of March.

## Administrative Functions

Our core administrative functions and IT systems, including accrediting stations via the "ROO-FIT Accreditation" process and establishing and maintaining the Central FITs Register, will be ready for operation on 1 April 2010. We also intend to introduce additional functionality for the Central FITs Register on 1 July. We have established a FITs Systems Working Group to engage with suppliers on this additional functionality and to help with the smooth introduction of the Central FITs Register on 1 April.

## **Contact Details for Customer Enquiries**

We are already receiving queries from customers who would like to talk to suppliers about accessing the Feed-in Tariff scheme. We think it will be helpful to provide a list of contact details of suppliers who would like to hear from these customers before the scheme goes live on 1 April. If you wish to be on this list please send us your contact details. Please note that this is not a request to make a formal notification as to whether you will be a FIT Licensee from 1 April. We will provide information on the formal notification process in our open letter to be published in the week commencing 22 March, and once the scheme goes live on 1 April we will be keeping a formal list of FITs Licensees on our website.

I look forward to commencing the operation of the scheme on 1 April. If you have any queries in relation to this letter please contact Louisa Mallon by email on Louisa.mallon@ofgem.gov.uk.

Yours Faithfully,

Matthew Harnack Head of New Scheme Development