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Dear Gareth

Consultation on Long Term Development Statements

The Renewable Energy Association submits its comments on the form of the long term development statements. As you are aware our members work on all types of renewable power and heat projects a large number of which are connected to distribution networks.

The main issue that we would like to address is the availability of high voltage network data (typically 11kv, 6.6kv or 20kv). With the feed in tariff providing impetus to sub 5MW schemes and particularly community scale projects of between a few hundred kw and a few MW that will typically want to connect to the hv network, the easy availability of such data should help both developers and ease the burden on DNOs of having to deal with a large number of individual requests for such data.

The key requirement is for geographical diagrams of circuit dispositions together with diagrammatic normal running arrangements of feeders including normal open points. Data on circuit ratings, impedances and minimum and maximum loads would also be extremely useful but the ready availability of just the geographic disposition of hv circuits would be an improvement on the current situation.

As regards how the long term development statements should be made available we agree with your proposal that they should be downloadable without charge. If there are security concerns then we would be happy for there to be a registration requirement providing this did not delay obtaining the data by more than a maximum of one working day. Registration could also provide a means of requesting notification of any updates to the information.

On the issue of more frequent updates than annually, whilst this would be of benefit we would not regard it as a priority if it would impose additional workload on DNOs. The main benefit of the Long Term Development Statements is in the initial screening stages of projects. As soon as a serious opportunity is identified it is good practice to contact the DNO and whilst there may be a few instances

where the network has changed within less than a year from that published, it is expected that these would only arise in a few of the many potential projects being investigated by reference to the published statement.

Here are these comments in tabular form as you requested.

Comment Number	FoS Change Proposal	Need for required LTDS Output
1	Make available data on hv networks as part of the basic Statement to comprise as a minimum the geographical disposition of such circuits	To enable initial screening of suitable locations for generation projects that may be appropriate for connection to the hv network
2	Make the Statement available on line free of charge (with a registration requirement if considered necessary)	To enable initial screening of projects of all sizes with minimum cost for both developers and DNOs
3	Keep Statements updated as expedient	Would allow more up to date information to be provided in on line statement whilst allowing a get out if unduly onerous on DNOs.

Please let me know if you would like to discuss any of these comments further.

Many thanks,

Gaynor Hartnell

Chief Executive, REA.