



Interested Parties

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all gas and electricity customers*

Direct Dial: 020 7901 7388  
Email: Rebecca.Langford@ofgem.gov.uk

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Dear Interested Party

### **Withdrawal of Electricity North West Limited's 6 June 2011 Competition Notice**

Following discussions with Ofgem, on 22 July 2011 ENWL withdrew the Competition Notice it previously submitted on 6 June 2011.<sup>1</sup> Following this withdrawal ENWL immediately submitted an identical Competition Notice.<sup>2</sup> We asked ENWL to take this action as the timeframe in which the Authority has to make its determination only allows for a short consultation and this was due to fall in the holiday period.

By withdrawing and resubmitting its Notice ENWL has ensured that we are able to extend our consultation period to eight weeks, thereby allowing stakeholders a greater opportunity to provide responses. We would like to express our gratitude to ENWL for facilitating this.

#### Background to ENWL's decision

The requirement in Charge Restriction Condition 12<sup>3</sup> for the Authority to make its determination within four months, only allows a short window for consultation. This is because the Authority requires time to consider responses and make its determination after the consultation closes.

In December 2009, we published guidance<sup>4</sup> that set out our commitment to a minimum consultation period of six weeks wherever possible. We also stated that we may give more than six weeks if the policy is complex or likely to be controversial, if policy is at an early stage of development, or if a consultation takes place over a holiday period.

Given that ENWL submitted its Competition Notice in June 2011, the intended date for publication of our consultation fell in a holiday period. Because of this we asked ENWL to consider withdrawing and then resubmitting their Competition Notice to allow a longer window for consultation.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Fletcher  
Partner, Local Grids

<sup>1</sup> ENWL's Competition Notice can be found on the Ofgem website at:

<http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Pages/MoreInformation.aspx?docid=299&refer=Networks/Connectns/CompinConn>

<sup>2</sup> Available on the Ofgem website at

<http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Pages/MoreInformation.aspx?docid=299&refer=Networks/Connectns/CompinConn>

<sup>3</sup> CRC 12 of ENWL's Electricity Distribution Licence

<sup>4</sup> Guidance on Impact Assessments, Ofgem, 151/09, December 2009