



**By e-mail only**

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Dear Lisa,

**Energy Affordability: helping develop Ofgem's Vulnerable Consumers' Strategy**

This letter contains RWE npower's response to the above consultation.

We have concerns that several of Ofgem's current policies raise cost and risk, especially to large suppliers, which potentially act to the detriment of all customers including the vulnerable. Such policies include those that skew the burden of obligations in favour of small suppliers, for example, the liquidity proposals; those that distort the competitive market, for example, potentially setting standing charges in a non-cost-reflective way; and those that impose costs by duplicating policy measures which already exist to support vulnerable customers, for example, a backstop tariff which duplicates elements of the Warm Home Discount.

It is therefore vital that any intervention has a sound evidence base that the benefits exceed the costs.

Yours sincerely

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