

[REDACTED]

20 December 2012

Mr David Hunt
Retail Markets
Ofgem

Dear Mr Hunt

I am a domestic gas and electricity customer and I welcome the opportunity to respond to the above consultation. My views are as set out below:-

- 1) Ofgem's general approach is welcome. I hope any regulatory changes you make will result in a clearer and more competitive market to the benefit of retail customers.
- 2) It is important that any changes don't stifle innovation for example tariffs and metering which would deliver overall system efficiencies and thus reduced costs and lower prices for customers.
- 3) Suppliers should be allowed and encouraged to offer tariffs without standing charge elements as this would disadvantage customers with low usage. Otherwise these customers would likely be paying a disproportionately high charge.
- 4) Suppliers should be allowed and encouraged to offer time of use tariffs for example "economy 7". Here customers have been encouraged to invest capital (e.g. for night storage heaters) against the expectation of a long term benefit in the way of lower off peak electricity energy unit rates. If these rates ceased some customers would be disadvantaged.
- 5) With respect to 3) and 4) above I should be happy for such tariffs to be for a fixed term. In general I prefer fixed term contracts.

I hope you find these comments helpful.

Yours sincerely

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