Promoting choice and value for all gas and electricity customers



GB Offshore Transmission Briefing

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What is an OFTO?



Aims of offshore tender regime

Transmission

- Enable new participants to compete and bring innovation to this market
- Realise value for money for consumers
- Ensure fit for purpose assets are delivered
- Provide regulatory certainty
 - Tender process that is rigorous, and maintains competitive tension
 - Use or replicate existing licencing and industry governance wherever possible to maintain certainty for investors and consumers

Generation

- Enable offshore wind developments through a regime that:
 - Meets generator's requirements for timely grid connections
 - Provides flexibility for future offshore generation needs
 - Reduces generator overall transmission cost and capital need per MW

Recap – GB Offshore Transmission to date

- **2004** Energy Act provided for new regulatory arrangements for offshore transmission to be put in place, including competition
- **2005 to 8** DECC and Ofgem consulted on regulatory regime. Key decisions:
 - Regulated transmission defined at 132kV and above, not merchant
 - Individual assets regulated rather than zonal allocation to TO's
 - For developer build assets, Ofgem determines transfer value
 - Asset owners/revenues determined by Ofgem using competitive tenders
 - National Grid appointed as offshore SO

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- Transitional arrangements established for Tender Rounds 1 and 2
- **2009/10** first tender round (TR1) launched for 9 projects (£1.1bn), with 13 bidders
- **2011** first OFTO licences granted; tenders phased for TR2 to match construction process; co-ordination project initiated with DECC and industry group
- **2012** further TR1 licences granted; preferred bidders selected for TR2

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Recap – current OFTO regulatory framework

Revenue Stream

- 20 year revenue stream
- availability based target 98% with performance incentives/penalties
- no automatic periodic regulatory review
- no construction, energy or stranding risk, low counterparty risk – no generator exposure
- well defined regulatory regime extending proven onshore precedent
- assets depreciated over 20 years

Revenue Adjustments

- availability incentives and penalties capped at 10% of revenue
- post-bid revenue adjustments to reflect final transfer value
- revenue fully indexed to RPI
- cost pass through and pre-defined adjustments for rates, Ofgem costs etc
- incremental capex up to cumulative 20%
- possible decommission, extension or retender at the end of the revenue stream

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Recap – investment structure



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Current and future investment

Tender Round 1 (9 projects)

- Investment appetite: £4 billion for
 £1.1 billion of assets in TR1
- Investment to date: c.£470 million (including Walney 2 – September 2012)

Tender Round 2 (4 projects)

o **£1.4billion** of assets being tendered

Future tenders

- Up to 23 potential projects
- Potential investment of up to £15billion*
- Incorporates Crown Estate Round 3 projects
- Next round of tenders expected mid to late 2013
- Multiple OFTO opportunities for many wind farm projects.



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OFTO's - Key factors for investors

Attractive investment sector

Robust new regulatory regime

Transparent competitive process

Long term opportunity

- Clearly defined offshore transmission regulatory regime
- Rare opportunity for new transmission entrants
- Relatively low risk asset class (BBB/BBB+), ADSCR = c1.2
- Low counterparty risk; National Grid pays revenues
- 20 year revenue stream with limited regulatory intervention
- Defined performance incentives (98% target) & pass through of certain key costs
- Performance deductions capped at 10% of annual revenue
- OFTO protected from wind farm operating risk and risk of stranding
- Upside potential: OPEX, non-regulated services, increased capacity
- Well-defined, and proven, tender process
- Structured to ensure level playing field and transparency
- 2 qualification stages followed by ITT stage with M&A data rooms
- A number of phases over several years: potentially £15bn+ of assets
- Early participation provides valuable experience
- Enduring regime offers design and construction opportunities

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What's the process?

At Pre-Qualification stage......

- Ownership and organisational structure
- Experience of infrastructure ownership, operation and financing – not just in transmission
- An ability to fund a multi-million pound infrastructure investment
- Corporate credibility and legal standing

And beyond for QTT and ITT......

- Sound methodologies for managing and operating transmission systems
- Sound ownership structure
- Understanding of the regulatory framework
- Understanding of the assets to transfer
- Ability to secure funding when required
- Pricing



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Offshore Transmission: regime design

- The Offshore Transmission Regime is well established
- We are looking at evolutionary changes to the regime learning from past experiences
 - meeting future challenges
- The regime will continue to:
 - provide value for money for consumers
 - be attractive to investors





Offshore Transmission: competitive regime design



Coordinated network development

- Consultation on a framework for coordinated network development – late 2012
- Focusing on:
 - possible changes to user commitment rules to support oversizing
 - introducing a new gateway process for anticipatory investment
 - anticipatory investment would apply to potential offshore assets that would provide wider network benefit





Offshore transmission - summary

- Clearly defined offshore transmission regulatory regime, comprising 20 year revenue stream with limited regulatory intervention
- Well-defined, and proven, tender process with a number of phases over several years: potentially £15bn+ of assets
- Competition expected to deliver savings of c£350m for TR1 and increased savings expected for TR2
- Enduring regime offers design and construction opportunities
- Opportunity for new UK transmission entrants





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Any Questions?



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