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Direct Dial: 020 7901 7194
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Date: 20 September 2013

cc: Ian Pashley, Rob Wilson

Dear Paul,

In August you contacted Ofgem regarding the proposal for a 'Joint Standing Group to Coordinate Application of European Network Codes across GB Codes'. You invited us to participate in the proposed European Code Coordination Application Forum (ECCAF) and suggested Ofgem and DECC might nominate the Chair of this group. This letter sets out Ofgem's view on the proposed terms of reference¹, the process for appointing a Chair and who the Ofgem representative on ECCAF will be.

Overall, we are supportive of the establishment of ECCAF and believe it may play a role in the effective and efficient translation of the European Network Codes into the Great Britain (GB) code framework. We welcome your proactive approach in leading this work.

We have some comments on the current proposal for ECCAF (outlined below) and would be interested to understand how you plan to address these:

- At present there is little clarity on when the different European Network Codes will emerge from comitology and in what form. Consequently, there is a danger that some of the work ECCAF embarks on in the next few months may be premature if the developing European Network codes change substantially;
- While we recognise your efforts in consulting with the various code panels on your plans for ECCAF, we are concerned that many stakeholders who will be impacted by the European Network codes are still not aware of your plans; and
- While the Forum only proposes to allocate provisions and requirements into different GB codes, in some cases this could impact stakeholder's ability to influence the subsequent modifications to GB codes. Consequently, you might need to ensure that ECCAF has taken a sounding from a broad range of stakeholders before making decisions on which provisions should be covered by which codes.
- The Forum could usefully play a role in ensuring that provisions in different codes remain in alignment during their development phase.

We are keen to work with you on your proposals to establish ECCAF. We also see the work of ECCAF as important in starting to understand the volume of work required by industry to translate the European network codes into the GB framework.

Abid Sheikh in our Industry Codes and Licensing team will, initially, represent Ofgem at these meetings. He will act in a co-ordination role with the various Ofgem policy teams who

¹ <http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/gridcode/reviewpanelinfo/>

are working on the detail of the individual EU network codes. As with our participation in other code groups, our participation will not fetter the discretion of the Authority in its consideration of subsequent code modification requests.

We consider that it would be appropriate for the members of ECCAF to elect the Chair at its first meeting. We believe this will give the Chair the required support of the various code panels. DECC have indicated to us that they are happy with this approach. Ofgem will continue to engage with National Grid and DECC through various working level contacts including the JESG and through the bi-monthly European Strategy Meeting on the significant implementation challenge ahead of us.

If you have any questions on this letter please contact abid.sheikh@ofgem.gov.uk or mark.askew@ofgem.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rachel Fletcher', is positioned above the typed name.

Rachel Fletcher
Acting Senior Partner, Markets