LCN Fund Full Submission

Supplementary Answer Form

Tick if this answer is Confidential: ☐

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Project code:	SPT2005	Question Number	3
Question date	20th August 2013	Answer date	22nd August 2013
Submission section question relates to	2. Project Description		
Topic	Technical		
Question	Anglesey is not a typical area of the UK, how does the project anticipate that the results would be applicable to other regions?		
Notes on question			
Answer	Much of the ACE project focus is on changing customer behaviour and developing a sustainable business model such that a Community Social Enterprise Organisation, such as Menter Mon, is able to positively influence customer behaviour through community interaction in a manner that enables SPEN to better manage the network constraints. In that sense, the customers on Anglesey are not untypical of the rest of the UK. We therefore anticipate that the learning associated with our community-led behaviour change activities and sustainable business model will be wholly applicable to all other regions of the UK. However, there are particular characteristics of the area that did make Anglesey stand out for us as a trial site: 1) Relatively high percentage of fuel poverty 2) Relatively high proportion of electric heating 3) Relatively high reinforcement costs **Fuel Poverty** – This group of customers have not been well served by LCNF projects to date, but this group provides a perfect focus for our "community-based" approach. We have learned from the recent uptake of PV systems that the feed-in tariff has driven more uptake in the social housing sector through the collective view of "social landlords" rather than uptake by individuals in more affluent areas. Thus, we believe the learning would be particularly applicable to other areas of the UK where fuel poverty is prevalent. But the project is not exclusively about the fuel poor - t is just one example of the many types of communities that		

	the project aims to tap into. **Electric Heating** – Mains gas is not available to some of the more remote residential communities on Anglesey. Therefore storage heaters and the Economy 7 tariff are more common on Anglesey than in many parts of the UK. We see this as an advantage for the trial because this is potentially more reflective of the future typical demand profile as heating and transport becomes increasingly electrified. **Reinforcement costs** – Anglesey is at the north-western corner of the SP Manweb licence area and has a lower than average customer density, reflective of its predominately rural nature. This does tend to make the cost of any conventional major reinforcement higher (in terms of £ per unit of capacity added), because the length of additional overhead line circuits tend to need to be longer. High reinforcement costs naturally make alternatives more attractive. However, this project method is not just applicable to rural areas. There is no reason why the method could not be applied equally successfully in urban areas where the customer density and number of customers is greater and where the cost of installing new cables is high and the availability of land for new substations is low or prohibitively expensive.
Attachments	
Verbal Clarifications (Consultants)	