

To electricity transmission companies, distribution companies, generators, suppliers, offshore transmission companies, independent network operators, customer groups and other interested parties

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17 December 2013

Dear Colleagues,

Consultation on changes to National Grid Electricity Transmission plc's electricity transmission licence to publish the Electricity Ten Year Statement (ETYS)

Background and purpose of this letter

National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET)¹ is the transmission owner (TO) for the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, and is the system operator (SO) for the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) across Great Britain (GB) which comprises the onshore and offshore electricity transmission networks. NGET, as the SO, is obliged to provide industry participants and other interested parties with information about the NETS. This includes two specific documents that provide information for existing and future network users: the Seven Year Statement (SYS) for the onshore transmission network and the Offshore Development Information Statement (ODIS) for the offshore networks.

These documents are not entirely aligned with each other, given that they are published at different times under differing requirements. In order to address these inconsistencies, NGET consulted its stakeholders in spring 2012 on the creation of a new Electricity Ten Year Statement (ETYS) covering GB to replace the SYS and the ODIS. Stakeholders have welcomed the ETYS as an improvement on the SYS and the ODIS, and we recognise the merits of this more holistic reporting approach. A further driver for change has been the European Commission's "Third Package" of legislative proposals for electricity and gas markets which requires TOs to contribute² to the drawing-up of a non-binding Community-wide ten-year network development plan (TYNDP)³. In light of these developments, we issued directions which temporarily relieved NGET of its licence obligation to publish the ODIS for 2012 and 2013⁴. We also stated that we do not currently propose to take action in respect of any non-compliance with the requirement to prepare the SYS. This allowed NGET to focus on the production of a new document, the ETYS, which was aimed to better

¹ In this letter, references to "National Grid" encompass both NGET and National Grid Gas plc (NGG).

² as per Article 12,1. of the <u>Regulation (EC) No 714/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council;</u> http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:211:0015:0035:EN:PDF

³ <u>ENTSOE – The Ten-Year Network Development Plan;</u> https://www.entsoe.eu/major-projects/ten-year-network-development-plan/

⁴ Ofgem's Direction to NGET, March 2013; https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications-and-updates/direction-nget-under-special-condition-c4-and-standard-licence-condition-c11

serve the combined purposes of the SYS and the ODIS. The first ETYS was published on 30 November 2012⁵ and the second on 29 November 2013⁶.

We note that NGET has consulted on the approach to the ETYS and that NGET considers that replacing the SYS and the ODIS with the ETYS would better meet stakeholder requirements. We share this view and therefore consider that it is appropriate to amend NGET's licence obligations to reflect this development in a permanent manner. This letter seeks views about the proposed changes to the licence to facilitate the replacement of the SYS and the ODIS with the ETYS. We welcome responses to this consultation by 21 January 2014.

Existing requirements relating to the SYS and the ODIS

NGET is required to prepare and publish the SYS under standard condition C11 of its licence⁷. The purpose of the SYS is to provide information about the onshore transmission network and to assist existing and prospective new users in assessing opportunities available to them for making new or additional use of the NETS. The SYS is based on demand forecasts and generation forecasts that use the contracted background (ie all applications for new generation capacity). NGET is obliged to prepare the SYS, in a form approved by the Authority, by 31 May each year. NGET is also obliged to publish an update at least once every three months.

NGET is required to publish the ODIS under special condition 2F of its licence⁸. The main purpose of the ODIS is to provide information about the offshore transmission network and to facilitate the achievement of the coordinated development of the onshore and offshore electricity transmission networks. Special condition 2F includes a requirement for NGET to prepare and use future energy scenarios in its analysis. NGET is obliged to prepare and publish the ODIS, in a form approved by the Authority, by 30 September each year.

NGET performs its duties in relation to the SYS and the ODIS by using information from the TOs and network users. The industry codes include provisions to facilitate this transfer of information.

Since 2011, NGET has provided the quarterly SYS updates as part of its Transmission Networks Quarterly Connections Update (TNQCU)⁹.

Developments leading up to the ETYS

NGET held consultations about the ODIS and also conducted stakeholder engagement for its RIIO-T1 business plan development. Through each of these processes, NGET identified that stakeholders supported a new streamlined version of the SYS and ODIS. Reasons for that support included that the ETYS could ensure consistency and could provide strategic direction to help to reduce the risks faced by developers when seeking consents. Also, they considered that there was merit in the ETYS covering a ten year period (as opposed to seven years for the SYS), in line with the corresponding Gas Ten Year Statement (GTYS) and the TYNDP.

⁵ NGET ETYS 2012, http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/ten-year-statement/

⁶ NGET ETYS 2013, http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Industry-information/Future-of-Energy/Electricity-ten-year-statement/Current-statement/

⁷ See Standard condition C11, <u>Transmission Licence Standard Conditions</u>; https://epr.ofgem.gov.uk//Content/Documents/Electricity%20transmission%20full%20set%20of%20consolidated %20standard%20licence%20conditions%20-%20Current%20Version.pdf.

 ⁸ See NGET's Electricity Licence Special Conditions. Special condition 2F was renumbered on 1 April 2013; it was previously numbered special condition C4.

https://epr.ofgem.gov.uk//Content/Documents/National%20Grid%20Electricity%20Transmission%20Plc%20-%20Special%20Conditions%20-%20Current%20Version.pdf

⁹ Transmission Networks Quarterly Connections Update,

http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Services/Electricityw20connections/Industryw20products/transmissionw20networksw20quarterlyw20connectionsw20updates/

Our consultation on potential measures to support efficient offshore network coordination¹⁰ also identified ways in which the ODIS could be developed to assist offshore developers make more informed investment decisions. This included proposals that network planning documents should allow for a more holistic view of long term network planning across onshore and offshore needs, as well as improving the coverage of cross-border developments.

On 28 March 2012, NGET wrote to advise us of its review of the SYS and ODIS. Based on this review and comments received from the industry and Ofgem, NGET proposed to amalgamate the SYS and the ODIS into a single electricity network document, the ETYS. We welcomed NGET's proactive approach to the development of a more holistic planning document and its consultation with industry.

NGET published the first ETYS on 30 November 2012. The ETYS:

- described the current NETS;
- described the onshore and offshore development of the NETS under a range of energy scenarios;
- described current and planned interconnection;
- captured uncertainty and opportunities for the next ten years;
- provided information on the potential future development of the NETS by the identifying potential works to allow stakeholders to identify opportunities to connect to and use the NETS, and, in doing so, allow them to plan their business; and
- retained the technical detail required by stakeholders for their projects and analysis.

The details of various documents linked to the ETYS are outlined in Appendix 1.

On 21 March 2013, NGET published a consultation¹¹ asking for views on how the ETYS and the Network Development Policy (NDP)¹² could evolve. That consultation included commitments to review the treatment of interconnectors in the ETYS, and to ensure that the content of the ETYS aligns with the high level European view presented in the TYNDP. The consultation closed on 16 May 2013, and a summary of stakeholder feedback was published by NGET on 16 September 2013¹³. On 18 July 2013, NGET published the 2013 Future Energy Scenarios (FES)¹⁴ for use in the next ETYS. NGET published the 2013 ETYS on 29 November 2013⁶.

Our proposals for an ETYS licence condition

Subject to stakeholder views, we envisage an annual process leading towards the publication of the ETYS. This will include the steps and requirements summarised below and set out in more detail in Appendix 2. Our proposed arrangements are similar to those in place for the SYS and the ODIS, with some additions. In summary:

- NGET will draw up the ETYS in consultation with stakeholders.
- The ETYS will provide all information that is required for the current SYS and ODIS, including information to help identify and evaluate the opportunities for connection and additional usage of the NETS onshore and offshore.

http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Gas/OperationalInfo/TBE/Future+Energy+Scenarios/

The FES is a specific document that National Grid has decided to produce, to serve various purposes across its gas and electricity businesses.

¹⁰Offshore Transmission – Consultation on potential measures to support efficient network coordination; http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Networks/offtrans/pdc/cdr/2012/Documents1/Coordination%20Consultation%2020120 301.pdf

¹¹ Evolution of NGET's ETYS and NDP; http://www.nationalgrid.com/NR/rdonlyres/6E97A5FF-07B5-48A6-BEC2-78CAFBF9AF3B/59598/ETYS NDP Consultation 2014.pdf

¹² See Special condition 6J; NGET's Electricity Licence Special Conditions,

¹³ ETYS Stakeholder Consultation Feedback; http://www.nationalgrid.com/NR/rdonlyres/4867B77B-6E02-4873-8E8C-426A4DC23BEB/62391/ETYSFeedback.pdf

¹⁴ NGET: Future Energy Scenarios;

- The ETYS will provide information on current and planned interconnection, information to help identify opportunities for new interconnection and the potential impact of new interconnection projects on the wider network.
- The ETYS will cover a period of ten years.
- The ETYS will be in a form approved by the Authority.
- NGET will produce and publish an ETYS by 30 November each year.
- The ETYS will use scenarios¹⁵ that NGET will review and consult with stakeholders on annually. The scenarios should be reasonable and reflect uncertainties. They should, as far as practicable, be consistent with scenarios that NGET uses in other areas of work.
- NGET must submit to the Authority by 1 June the scenarios that it proposes to include in that year's ETYS, together with a summary of stakeholder consultation responses and an explanation of how these responses were taken into account.
- The Authority may, within 30 working days of receipt, request NGET to undertake further development of the scenarios, in consultation with stakeholders.
- The ETYS must include a commentary on how it compares with the GB input to the current version of the TYNDP, drawing particular attention to any differences in the key outputs. NGET shall produce quarterly updates to the ETYS which reflect changes to the contracted background.

Our proposed approach to changes to licence conditions

NGET is still subject to the licence conditions for the SYS and ODIS. On 10 May 2012, we issued a direction extending the publication date for the ODIS to 30 November 2012¹⁶. We also stated that we do not currently propose to take action in respect of any noncompliance with the requirement to prepare the SYS by 31 May 2012, subject to any other relevant information or change of circumstances that may come to light. In March of this year, we provided NGET with a similar letter which gave consent for NGET to delay the 2013 publication of both the SYS and ODIS⁴.

Given the recent developments outlined above, we consider it appropriate that we remove the obligations on NGET to prepare the SYS and the ODIS and instead oblige NGET to produce an ETYS that better meets the objectives for the SYS and the ODIS. To this end, we propose to amend standard condition C11 (replacing the obligation to produce the SYS with one to produce the ETYS) and to amend special condition 2F (removing the obligation to produce the ODIS). The existing licence conditions are available at the links noted earlier in this letter.

We would welcome any views stakeholders may have on the proposed changes to the licence, and specifically any views on the questions raised below. Where your views differ from our proposals, please provide evidence to support your position.

Question 1: Do you agree that amending Standard Condition C11 (replacing the obligation to produce the SYS with one to produce the ETYS) and amending Special Condition 2F (removing the obligation to produce the ODIS) in line with the proposals above is appropriate?

Question 2: Do you think that setting the reporting period to ten years is appropriate?

Question 3: Do you agree that the ETYS should be published annually, and that updates should be published quarterly? Alternatively, do you consider half-yearly updates to be sufficient?

S%20request%20from%20NGET.pdf

¹⁵ We consider that the ETYS licence condition should not specify the use of the FES for the ETYS. Such stipulations could limit future innovation by NGET in the development of the FES; and the FES is relevant to work in other of National Grid's projects, including some under other licences (e.g. NGG's licence).

¹⁶ http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Licensing/Work/Notices/Decisions/Documents1/Reply%20to%20SYS%20and%20ODI

Question 4: Do you have any comments on our proposed timings for stages in the ETYS, in particular whether 30 November is an appropriate publication date?

Question 5: Do you have any comments on the type of information provided in the ETYS?

Question 6: Do you agree with our proposals on how interconnection should be covered in the ETYS (see Appendix 2, table 2)?

Question 7: Do you have any comments relating to the submission of the future scenarios to the Authority each year (including the timing), and the right for the Authority to request further development of the future scenarios?

Question 8: Do you have any comments about the interaction between the ETYS and the TYNDP, eg in their content or the frequency of publication (the TYNDP being published every two years)?

Question 9: Do you have any general comments or suggestions on the form or contents of the ETYS?

Next steps

We will consider responses to this consultation and will prepare a draft licence condition, seeking input from NGET where appropriate. We will publish this for a four week informal consultation in early 2014. Once the drafting has been finalised, we will issue a 28 day statutory consultation. Subject to any further representations, we will then direct changes to the licence, which will take effect 56 days after publication of our direction. The licence changes that we plan would be in place for future years, starting from summer 2014.

The changes to the licence will not fundamentally change the nature of the work that NGET does. Therefore, we consider the proposed licence change does not require an impact assessment under Section 5A of the Utilities Act 2000¹⁷ or otherwise, and hence we do not intend to publish an impact assessment for this policy area.

Once NGET's licence has been modified to reflect the changes from the ODIS and the SYS to the ETYS, NGET should bring forward proposals to modify the industry codes, as appropriate, accordingly.

Consultation responses

We welcome responses to this consultation by 21 January 2014. Responses should be submitted, preferably be e-mail, to Angelita Bradney (angelita.bradney@ofgem.gov.uk). Postal submissions will also be accepted, and should be sent to:

Angelita Bradney Senior Manager Electricity Transmission Policy Ofgem 9 Millbank London SW1P 3GE

If you would like to discuss this consultation, please contact Angelita Bradney by e-mail or on 020 3263 9675.

¹⁷ Section 5A of the Utilities Act 2000, inserted via the Sustainable Energy Act 2003 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/30/pdfs/ukpga_20030030_en.pdf

Yours sincerely,

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Geoff Randall

Head of Networks Policy, Electricity Transmission

Appendices

- 1. National Grid's publications related to the ETYS
- 2. Our proposals for the ETYS licence condition

Appendix 1: National Grid's publications related to the ETYS

The *Electricity Ten Year Statement (ETYS)*⁵ provides information about opportunities for existing and future network users, and potential options that could be used to develop the transmission network. The ETYS draws upon the NDP process (and hence the future energy scenarios), and is produced with the assistance of the two other onshore TOs.

The ETYS should be considered in the context of the following:

- Future Energy Scenarios (FES)¹⁴: a set of scenarios developed by NGET in consultation with its stakeholders that show possible futures for energy supply and demand in GB and offshore. The FES are updated each year. The most recent set was published on 18 July 2013 and included two core scenarios and four case studies to provide further sensitivities. The FES form a key input into the other documents, including the ODIS (and ETYS). Special Condition 2F includes reference to NGET's obligation to prepare future scenarios in relation to the ODIS. There is no such requirement in the licence condition relating to the SYS.
- Network Development Policy (NDP)¹¹: a document that explains the decision making processes that NGET (as Transmission Owner (TO) in England and Wales) uses to determine which (if any) options for network development to pursue; the NDP draws upon the FES.
- Ten Year Network Development Plan (TYNDP)³: a document published by the European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity (ENTSO-E) every two years, to which National Grid contributes; it has a similar purpose to the ETYS. The first TYNDP was published in June 2010; the 2012 TYNDP was published in July 2012.
- Other uses of the FES: NGET uses scenarios in its modelling of capacity margins and for its forecasts of constraints costs (eg for its quarterly "Connect and Manage" reports¹⁸). NGET also publishes the Transmission Networks Quarterly Connections Update (TNQCU)⁹, and "Timely Connections" reports¹⁹ every six months.
- Gas Ten Year Statement (GTYS)²⁰: National Grid Gas produces the GTYS, an equivalent document to the ETYS, for the gas transmission network.

 $\underline{\text{http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Industry\%20information/Future\%20of\%20Energy/Gas\%20Ten\%20Year\%20Statement/}\\$

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http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Services/Electricity-connections/Industry-products/connect-and-manage/ http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Services/Electricity-connections/Industry-products/timely-connections-report/

Appendix 2: Our proposals for the ETYS licence condition

Table 1: Proposed processes for the ETYS

Topic	SYS requirement	ODIS requirement	Proposal for ETYS
Frequency	Annual	Annual	Annual
Licensee's submission deadline for changes to the form of the report (if proposed)	Authority approval required (no date given)	1 March	1 March
Ofgem request for further development of form of the report (if proposed)	Not specified	Authority may give direction within 28 days of receipt that further development of the form is required	Authority may give direction within 28 days of receipt that further development of the form is required
Timescale for form revision by NGET	Not specified	Set by Ofgem	Set by Ofgem
Licensee's submission deadline for scenarios	N/A	1 June	1 June
Ofgem request for further development of scenarios	N/A	Within 28 days of receipt	Within 42 days of receipt
Timescale for scenario revision by NGET	N/A	Set by Ofgem	Set by Ofgem
Publication date	31 May	30 September	30 November
Within-year updates	Quarterly	N/A	Quarterly, based on changes to the contracted background

Table 2: Proposed content of the ETYS

In order to facilitate side-by-side comparison of current and proposed reporting requirements, differences in the respective requirements have been marked. We propose that existing requirements marked in *italics* (column 3) are to be amended as marked in **bold** (column 4).

Topic	SYS requirement	ODIS requirement	Proposal for ETYS
Duration	7 years	10 years	10 years
Basis of analysis	Contracted background	A reasonable number of future scenarios;	A reasonable number of future scenarios, with a minimum of two;
		annually reviewed and consulted on (for at least 56 days)	annually reviewed and consulted on (for at least 56 days)
Development and content of scenarios	N/A	The licensee shall, in consultation with interested parties, prepare a reasonable number of future scenarios that it proposes to include within the enduring offshore development statement.	The licensee shall, in consultation with interested parties, prepare a reasonable number of future scenarios that it proposes to include within the ETYS. The scenarios shall be reasonable and reflect uncertainties. We suggest that they shall, as far as practicable, be consistent with scenarios that NGET uses in other areas of work.
		Each future scenario shall include a description of the key assumptions made by the licensee in developing it, including, but not limited to: (a) the capacity, location and timing of the connection of generating stations to be developed in offshore waters, having regard to information generally available in the public domain as well as such information, if any, made available to the licensee for use in the enduring offshore development information statement by interested parties	Each future scenario shall include a description of the key assumptions made by the licensee in developing it, including, but not limited to: (a) the capacity, location and timing of the connection of generating stations and interconnectors, having regard to information generally available in the public domain as well as such information, if any, made available to the licensee for use in the ETYS by interested parties with respect to generating stations and

Topic SYS requirement	ODIS requirement	Proposal for ETYS
	with respect to generating stations planned to be developed in offshore waters; (b) the wider development of the National Electricity Transmission System, having regard to the licensee's investment plans and investment plan information provided by other authorised electricity operators; (c) the plant and equipment that the licensee considers would reasonably be available to offshore transmission owners; and (d) the data used by the licensee to model each of the future scenarios. The licensee's consultation shall: (a) describe and justify each of the future scenarios, including describing the approach it has taken to model the future scenarios; (b) describe any additional information from interested parties that the licensee considers may assist it in the preparation of the future scenarios; and (c) allow a period of not less than 56 days for responses. The licensee shall finalise the future scenarios that it proposes to use in the preparation of the enduring offshore development information statement it prepares, taking account of the views expressed by interested parties in response to the consultation undertaken by the licensee.	interconnectors planned to be developed; (b) the wider development of the National Electricity Transmission System, having regard to the licensee's investment plans and investment plan information provided by other authorised electricity operators; (c) the plant and equipment that the licensee considers would reasonably be available to transmission owners and interconnectors; and (d) the data used by the licensee to model each of the future scenarios. The licensee's consultation shall: (a) describe and justify each of the future scenarios, including describing the approach it has taken to model the future scenarios; (b) describe any additional information from interested parties that the licensee considers may assist it in the preparation of the future scenarios; and (c) allow a period of not less than 56 days for responses. The licensee shall finalise the future scenarios that it proposes to use in the preparation of the ETYS it prepares, taking account of the views expressed by interested parties in response to the consultation undertaken by the licensee.

Topic	SYS requirement	ODIS requirement	Proposal for ETYS
Licensee's submission of scenarios to Ofgem		The licensee shall submit the future scenarios that it proposes to include in the enduring offshore development information statement to the Authority by no later than 1 June 2010 and shall submit any revisions to the future scenarios it proposes to the Authority by no later than 1 June in each subsequent financial year (or such other date as the Authority may direct). The Authority may, within 28 days of receipt of the future scenarios issue a direction to the licensee that the future scenarios proposed by the licensee require further development if the Authority is not satisfied that the future scenarios proposed by the licensee would facilitate the achievement of the co-ordinated development objective and the offshore development information objectives.	The licensee shall submit the future scenarios that it proposes to include in the ETYS to the Authority by no later than 1 June in each financial year (or such other date as the Authority may direct). The Authority may, within 42 days of receipt of the future scenarios issue a direction to the licensee that the future scenarios proposed by the licensee require further development if the Authority is not satisfied that the future scenarios proposed by the licensee would facilitate the achievement of the co-ordinated development and information objectives.
		The Authority may subsequently, following consultation with the licensee and other interested parties, direct the areas in which the licensee shall be required to make revisions to the future scenarios and any further consultation with interested parties that the licensee shall be required to undertake together with the date by which the licensee shall be required to submit those further revisions to the future scenarios to the Authority.	The Authority may subsequently, following consultation with the licensee and other interested parties, direct the areas in which the licensee shall be required to make revisions to the future scenarios and any further consultation with interested parties that the licensee shall be required to undertake together with the date by which the licensee shall be required to submit those further revisions to the future scenarios to the Authority.

		Proposal for ETYS
N/A	N/A	1 June: summary to Ofgem of responses and explanation of how they were taken into account; 30 November: explanation in the ETYS about how the responses were taken into account.
N/A	N/A	30 November: commentary in the ETYS
information to help identify and evaluate the opportunities for connection and use of the National Electricity Transmission System	Information about opportunities to obtain connection to the National Electricity Transmission System in offshore waters;	Information to help identify and evaluate the opportunities for connection and additional usage of the transmission system onshore , offshore and for interconnection ;
commentary indicating those parts of the transmission system most suited to new connections and additional usage;		a commentary by the licensee indicating those parts of the National Electricity Transmission System most suited to new connections and additional usage;
information for interconnected system operators to ensure the secure and efficient operation, coordination, development and interoperability of the interconnected system;		information for interconnected system operators to ensure the secure and efficient operation, coordination, development and interoperability of the interconnected system;
	information to help identify and evaluate the opportunities for connection and use of the National Electricity Transmission System commentary indicating those parts of the transmission system most suited to new connections and additional usage; information for interconnected system operators to ensure the secure and efficient operation, coordination, development and interoperability of the	information to help identify and evaluate the opportunities for connection and use of the National Electricity Transmission System commentary indicating those parts of the transmission system most suited to new connections and additional usage; information for interconnected system operators to ensure the secure and efficient operation, coordination, development and interoperability of the

Topic	SYS requirement	ODIS requirement	Proposal for ETYS
		best view of the development of the National Electricity Transmission System, considering: likely development of the National Electricity Transmission System onshore; likely capacity, location and timing of the development of offshore generation; likely location of feasible connection points for new offshore transmission; possible routing options for new offshore transmission circuits;	licensee's best view under each scenario of the development of the National Electricity Transmission System, considering likely capacity, location and timing of the development of onshore and offshore generation and interconnection; likely location of feasible connection points for new offshore transmission; possible routing options for new transmission circuits that might be used to connect generation in offshore waters to the National Electricity Transmission System;
		best view of the potential reinforcements to the National Electricity Transmission System that may be required to connect offshore generation;	licensee's best view under each scenario of the potential reinforcements to the National Electricity Transmission System that may be required to connect onshore and offshore generation and interconnection;
		best estimates of the costs associated with connecting offshore generation;	licensee's best estimates under each scenario of the costs associated with connecting onshore and offshore generation and interconnection;
		other information to help planning of offshore generation; other economic and technical factors which the licensee considers to be relevant.	other information, including economic and technical factors, to help planning of onshore and offshore generation and interconnection;
	Circuit capacity, forecast power flows and loading on each part of the transmission system;		circuit capacity, forecast power flows and loading on each part of the transmission system;

Topic	SYS requirement	ODIS requirement	Proposal for ETYS
	fault levels for each transmission node;		fault levels for each transmission node.
	such other matters as directed by the Authority.		such other matters as directed by the Authority.