James.

Further to your letter of 21st January 2014 (and National Grid's letter of 5th November 2013) West Coast Energy fully supports the proposed trial to not apply the Stage One part of the Statement of Works process and the provision by OFGEM of a letter of comfort to this effect.

However we would like to point out that the 28day periods for Stage One and 90 days for Stage 2 are in our experience mythical and have little basis in reality given the need to raise purchase orders , issue invoices, pay invoices etc. through multiple bodies including the generator, DNO, National Grid, TO etc. This is an area requiring urgent attention perhaps for example by allowing generators to pay National Grid/TO direct.

Regards David

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