

Dear Ms Doshi

I am writing in response to the call for submissions to the Consultation on the Successful Delivery Reward Applications for Low Carbon Networks Fund projects, specifically in relation to the Customer Led Network Revolution Project (CLNR).

I am an academic – a social scientist – who does research on smart grids, previously in the UK, and now based in Australia. My comments are related in particular to the academic value of the CLNR project, and hence are relevant to one of your three consultation questions, namely:

Question 1: Do you consider that the SDRCs have been delivered to a quality expected from the Full Submission, in a timely and cost effective manner?

From an academic research perspective this is certainly the case, yes. As the CLNR submission indicates (Appendix A), there has been a wealth of important academic papers emerging from the project, across a range of different types of journal (engineering and computer sciences as well as social sciences) and thus reaching a wide audience – within the UK and internationally.

The size of the CLNR study (11000 households, 2000 businesses) makes it a particularly important contribution to the academic community, because to date most research in this field has been with much smaller samples, and often generating qualitative data only. The data collected by CLNR is an extremely valuable resource – of international importance - and should be managed accordingly, now that the project has closed.

In summary, I have no hesitation in agreeing that the quality of the CLNR project is as expected (based on the Full Submission), and would suggest it actually exceeds expectations, from an academic research perspective.

Kind regards

Assoc Prof Lovell