

Open letter consultation on the Incentive on Connections Engagement:
Looking Forward reports 2015/16

Response received by email dated 4 August 2015 from TUSC re Western Power Distribution

Sirs

Here is our response to Western Power Distribution's submission:

Q1

WPD continues to have a comprehensive and robust strategy for engaging with connections stakeholders. Its formation of a Connections Customer Steering Group, which is extremely broadly based, was a tremendous initiative. The CCSG is led by WPD's CEO Robert Symons in a way that allows, indeed invites, full, free, and frank participation. This means that WPD's engagement with the group is as robust as can be made possible. Beyond the CCSG, the wider sphere of stakeholder interfaces that include connections surgeries, bilateral meetings, and other workshops e.g. with Parish Councils, has enabled WPD to ensure that its engagement with connection stakeholders is fully comprehensive.

Q2

Yes. In addition to its work plan of activities WPD has also set out its planned engagement activities for 2015/16. Whilst other DNOs have also done this, WPD's is by far the most comprehensive and detailed. In terms of the actual work plan and the associated delivery dates, we have no doubts that this will meet the requirements of WPD's connection stakeholders. Indeed the CCSG sign-off of the work plan incorporated with the submission provides a good head start in this direction

Q3

Yes. The outputs are relevant and we are confident that WPD will deliver.

Q4

Yes, we have touched upon this in our answer to question 2. We completely agree that WPD's strategy, activities, and outputs have been comprehensively informed and endorsed by a broad range of connections stakeholders. We also recognise and welcome WPD's intention to exceed the forthcoming Code of Practice for input services in CiC activities.

Kind regards

Steve Gist
Director

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