

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

Response received by email dated 23 July 2015

Dear Sirs

my own experience of connections with SSE is twofold. I have been long-term involved with Viking Energy, large scale windfarm in Shetland, where I currently represent Shetland Charitable Trust, as a 50% partner with SSE. This will only come to maturity in 2019-20, so the needs case for the sub sea inter connector is not yet laid. I am happy to say that I have found working with SSE to be a positive experience. My other experience is personal, a 200kw connection for my company, Hillhead Wind Ltd. This was undertaken last year, and again, I found the process of working with SSE a positive one, with competent, professional and accessible staff throughout to completion. I did think that the cost of connection, c. £80k was rather high given a single new pole, and a 100 metre cable run and connection, though that is not perhaps particularly relevant to this consultation. I requested a breakdown of costs on completion, but have not received one.

I will now answer the questions, where I can

Q:

Are you satisfied that the licensee has a comprehensive and robust strategy for engaging with connection stakeholders and facilitating joint discussions where appropriate?

A: Yes, I believe so

Q: Do you agree that the

licensee has a comprehensive work plan of activities (with associated delivery dates) that will meet the requirements of its connection stakeholders?

A: Yes

Q: If not, has

the licensee provided reasonable and well-justified reasons?

A: NA

Q: What other activities should the DNOs do?

A: A review should be carried out with the client on completion

Q: Do you consider that the licensee has set relevant outputs that it will deliver during the regulatory year (eg key performance indicators, targets, etc)?

A: Yes, I consider that its document detailing outputs and methodologies excellent

Q: Would you agree that the licensee's proposed strategy, activities and outputs have been informed and endorsed by a broad and inclusive range of

connection stakeholders? If they have not been endorsed, has the licensee provided robust evidence that it has pursued this?

A: I would endorse the first part of the statement, therefore part 2 is not applicable

Yours Sincerely

Drew Ratter  
Director, Hillhead Wind  
Chair of Investments, Shetland Charitable Trust