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21 December 2015

Dear Amy

Notice under Part B of Standard Licence Condition (SLC) 47 (Environment Reporting) to issue the Environment Report Guidance Document

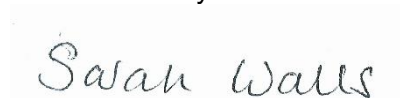
In regard to the above notice issued on 23 November 2015, Electricity North West Limited has major concerns over the proposed Environment Report Guidance Document paragraph 1.7. This paragraph effectively introduces a requirement on DNOs to set targets, prescribe routes for involvement and engagement of stakeholders and reduce environmental impacts to a level as low as is reasonably practicable.

We respectfully assert that the requirements set out in paragraph 1.7 go well beyond the scope of the licence condition, despite the fact that the body of the guidance is in scope. In particular, we are concerned over the requirement to demonstrate what steps have been taken to reduce environmental impacts to a level as low as is reasonably practicable. The legal test of reasonable practicability is extremely complex. To introduce such a requirement as part of a licence condition is, in our opinion, disproportionate and fraught with risk in terms of legal interpretation.

We would propose a redrafting of paragraph 1.7 as follows:

1.7 DNOs' Reports must be clear and well structured, and summarise the activities undertaken in relation to environmental matters. DNOs should use the Report to demonstrate to stakeholders what steps they have taken to manage their environmental impacts.

Yours sincerely



Sarah Walls
Head of Economic Regulation