

Annex 1 – Consultation on getting an electricity connection responses and questions

- 1.1. We would like to hear the views of interested parties in relation to any of the issues set out in our consultation.
- 1.2. We would especially welcome responses to the specific questions which we have set out in our consultation and are replicated below.
- 1.3. If you have any questions on this document please contact:

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0207 901 1861
Connections@Ofgem.gov.uk

- 1.4. **Responses should be sent, preferably by e-mail by 29 April 2016 to the address above.**
- 1.5. Unless marked confidential, all responses will be published by placing them in Ofgem's library and on its website www.ofgem.gov.uk. Respondents may request that their response is kept confidential. Ofgem shall respect this request, subject to any obligations to disclose information, for example, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.
- 1.6. Respondents who wish to have their responses kept confidential should clearly mark the document/s to that effect and include the reasons for confidentiality. Respondents are asked to put any confidential material in the appendices to their responses.
- 1.7. Next steps: We will consider the responses to this consultation and these will be used alongside other evidence for our assessment of the ICE plans.
- 1.8. *Each of the questions asked by this consultation is set out in the template below.*
Note that an editable version of this response template is available on our website as an associated document to this consultation.
- 1.9. *Please ensure that you indicate the DNO to which your experiences relate.*
- 1.10. *When considering your responses to these questions, please consider your experiences, the actions that the DNO has undertaken or committed to undertake, and the actions that you consider it could reasonably undertake.*

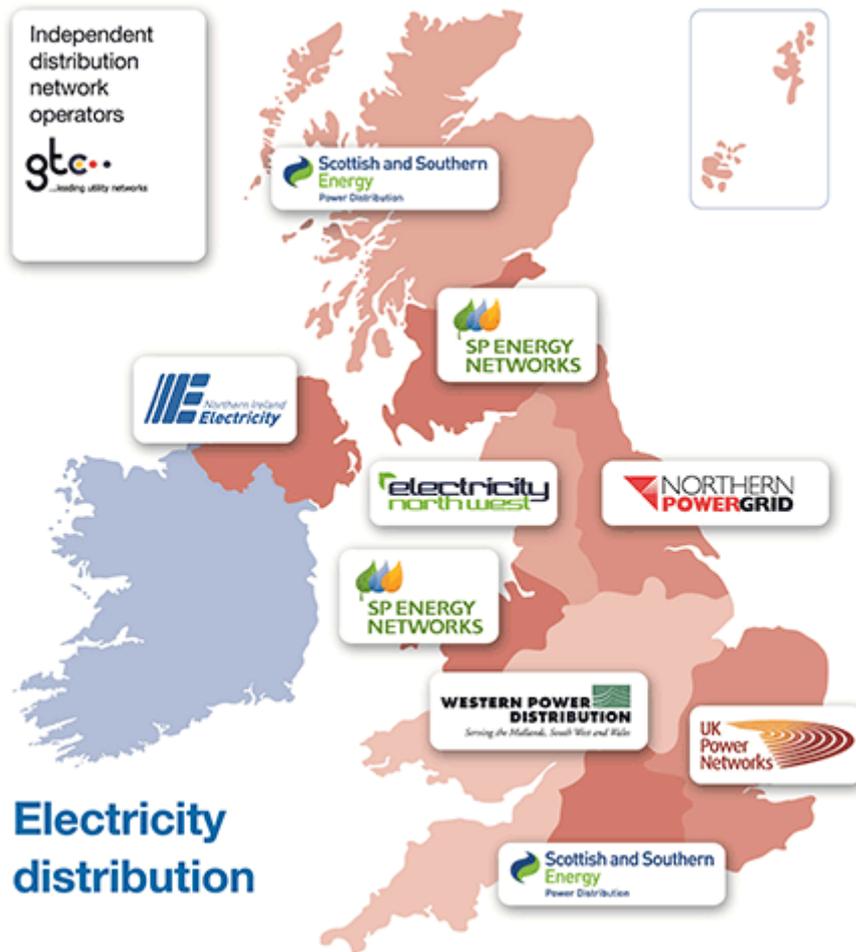
Response template

Question	Response																								
About you and your work																									
1. What is the name of your company?	Theleme Hydro (micro hydro consultants)																								
2. In which DNO's region do you generally operate (see Annex 2 for DNO map)? If you operate in more than one DNO's region please indicate which DNO your responses to the following questions refer to.	<u>Scottish Power (SP)</u> and others																								
3. What type of connection do you generally require? And for each type of connection, how many connection applications, including total MVA (Mega Volt Ampere) of connections have you made in the past year?	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="790 668 1368 730">Type of connection</th> <th data-bbox="1368 668 1610 730">Total number of connections</th> <th data-bbox="1610 668 1845 730">Total MVA of connections</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="790 730 1021 922" rowspan="4">Metered Demand Connections</td> <td data-bbox="1021 730 1368 778">Low Voltage (LV) Work</td> <td data-bbox="1368 730 1610 778"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1021 778 1368 826">High Voltage (HV) Work</td> <td data-bbox="1368 778 1610 826"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1021 826 1368 890">HV and Extra High Voltage (EHV) Work</td> <td data-bbox="1368 826 1610 890"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1021 890 1368 922">EHV work and above</td> <td data-bbox="1368 890 1610 922"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="790 922 1021 1042" rowspan="2">Metered Distributed Generation (DG)</td> <td data-bbox="1021 922 1368 970">LV work</td> <td data-bbox="1368 922 1610 970">hundreds</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1021 970 1368 1042">HV and EHV work</td> <td data-bbox="1368 970 1610 1042"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="790 1042 1021 1177" rowspan="3">Unmetered Connections</td> <td data-bbox="1021 1042 1368 1082">Local Authority (LA) work</td> <td data-bbox="1368 1042 1610 1082"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1021 1082 1368 1145">Private finance initiatives (PFI) Work</td> <td data-bbox="1368 1082 1610 1145"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1021 1145 1368 1177">Other work</td> <td data-bbox="1368 1145 1610 1177"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Type of connection	Total number of connections	Total MVA of connections	Metered Demand Connections	Low Voltage (LV) Work		High Voltage (HV) Work		HV and Extra High Voltage (EHV) Work		EHV work and above		Metered Distributed Generation (DG)	LV work	hundreds	HV and EHV work		Unmetered Connections	Local Authority (LA) work		Private finance initiatives (PFI) Work		Other work	
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Consultation questions																									
1. Do you consider there are constraints on the network in this DNO's region? If there are no constraints please do not answer the following questions.	Yes																								

2. What impact have these constraints had on your ability to get connected to the network?	<p>I have sized many hundreds of hydropower schemes, mostly in Scotland and Dumfries and Galloway (D&G) in particular. Although a number of these schemes have now been connected successfully, that has often been with considerable difficulty in terms of agreeing terms and capacity.</p> <p>SP have stated that no connections other than G83 will be allowed in D&G until 2023 unless any additional power generated is diverted from the grid for use on site.</p>
3. To what extent has the DNO tried to find ways to help you get connected in constrained areas? For example:	<p>SP after meetings over several years agreed to consider establishing a trial in my local community which already has some hydropower schemes and potential for around 300kW of further connection. These meetings have now concluded.</p> <p>The comments below refer to my attempts to gain agreement to allow more schemes to be connected in the Shinnel Glen.</p>
a. To what extent has the DNO offered you more flexible and alternative connection arrangements alongside conventional firm connections? If not, then have they explained why not?	<p>The DNO suggested that schemes could be connected under G83 arrangements and with higher capacities providing that they use a type-tested export management devices. Their explanation is that the grid is saturated in dumfries & Galloway and that the National Grid has imposed the G83 constraint until 2023.</p> <p>With regard to split phase connections the DNO stated that they had set a policy of allowing no more than 35kW to be connected even where more grid capacity is available, despite having previously allowed such schemes up to 90kW.</p>
b. If the DNO does offer alternative arrangements, is the information provided sufficient to decide whether or not to go forward with the connection?	No viable alternatives offered
c. If the DNO does offer alternative arrangements, do you find the associated terms (eg. level of potential curtailment and certainty	No

around maximum curtailment levels) acceptable?	
4. What information has the DNO shared with you on its work plan of activities designed to help enable connections in these areas?	
a. How comprehensive has this information been?	Network heat maps but nothing else
b. To what extent has the DNO provided information on associated delivery dates of its work plan of activities?	None but see d) below
c. Are you aware if the DNO is forecasting future levels of growth in the type of connections you require?	No
d. Are you aware of any plans the DNO has to invest in new network capacity where the network is constrained, to enable further customer connections? Have you been consulted on these plans? Has the DNO explored with you ways in which this could be funded?	The DNO has indicated that their current constraint policies will be reviewed in 2023 but has not given any indication that this will improve the situation for the schemes in question.
5. Please give details of any other activities you would expect the DNO to be undertaking to deal with constraints on their network.	

Annex 2 - Map showing DNO licensee areas¹



¹ Image from Electricity Networks Association (ENA)