

## **Response to consultation on the draft 'Renewables Obligation (RO): the enabling financial decisions grace period' guidance document**

On 30 June 2014 Ofgem published a draft of the guidance document titled: 'RO: the enabling financial decisions grace period' for consultation. The purpose of publishing the guidance for consultation was to seek views from stakeholders on our proposed administration of the enabling financial decisions grace period. The consultation period closed on 28 July 2014. We have reviewed all responses and, where appropriate, have updated the guidance document accordingly. The final version of the guidance document was published on 15 September 2014.

### **The consultation period**

We would like to thank all stakeholders who provided consultation responses on the draft guidance document. Overall the feedback we received was positive as to how we intend to administer the grace period. We received a number of responses relating to the policy intent behind the grace period. The Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) is responsible for setting the policy behind the grace period and so Ofgem, as the administrators of the scheme, cannot provide feedback on policy queries. We have forwarded these responses to DECC for their information. The remainder of the responses received focussed on specific areas recommending that further information or clarification be provided. Where this feedback has led to changes to the guidance document, this has been listed below along with the section number.

#### *Guidance for Generators*

All references to the Renewables Obligation Closure Order (RO Closure Order) have been updated to take into account the date that the Order came into force.

2.5 and 2.14 – The date by which the operator of a dedicated biomass with CHP station must have applied for accreditation has been corrected to 30 September 2018.

2.11 (1), 12.12 (1) and 12.13(1) - further information has been provided and minor updates made to provide clarity on the evidence that must be submitted, ie that the grid works offer should at a minimum cover the non-contestable aspect of the grid works and the document from the network operator should be a separate document written by or on behalf of the network operator.

2.11 (2), 20.12 (2) and 20.13(2) - minor updates have been made to specify that, in the first instance, only evidence of the final planning decision should be submitted.

3.4 – 3.6: minor updates have been made to clarify that where queries are raised by Ofgem, applicants should respond promptly where they wish Ofgem to endeavour to process their application within 10 working days.