

My Ref: ICE Consultation
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Nottingham
City Council

Energy Projects

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James Veaney
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Ofgem,
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Friday 21st July 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

ICE Consultation Response; Nottingham Energy Project Alignment Group

Many thanks for the opportunity to provide the views of the Nottingham Energy Project Alignment Group on the service provision of our DNO; Western Power Distribution (WPD).

The Nottingham Energy Project Alignment Group acts as a hub for all large scale energy project activity across Nottingham and incorporates both Universities, Nottingham Energy Partnership (NEP), Nottingham City Homes, Nottingham Ice Arena, Blueprint Regeneration and a variety of community groups and SMEs. The partnership is led and coordinated by Nottingham City Council with an aspiration of 20% of the City's own energy demand generated from renewable or low carbon sources by 2020.

A number of the group have attended recent consultation sessions coordinated by WPD following prohibitively high connection costs being quoted for the connection of new generation across the City. As our aspirations grow it is critical the distribution network is robust enough to allow us to fulfil our long term aims and objectives, keeping Nottingham at the forefront of the Smart City agenda.

Two specific projects we can comment on are as follows:

1. Electric bus fleet comments:

- Very satisfied with the level of service provided
- Indications around lead times could be more specific as these can vary by a considerable margin

2. EV charge point network:

(Note – the installation of the network has not yet begun so this feedback relates only to the advance preparatory work undertaken)

- WPD have provided basic site surveys for charge point location, supported by useful technical intelligence on the most appropriate and cost effective positioning within proposed sites;
- The site survey reports have been of a good quality;
- For the charge point installer procurement process undertaken by NCC, WPD provided valuable assistance around the development of questions to ask the bidders;

- WPD have provided information and have responded to multiple site survey requests, however locally it appears that staff resourcing may be an issue in relation to such surveys in a timely manner;
- WPD have generally been supportive during the charge point procurement process , and have followed our requests for cooperation in relation to bidders making direct enquiries to them;

Additionally it has been noted that UK Power Networks have recently produced a short, focused document entitled "Getting Electric Vehicles Moving. *All you need to know about installing on-street charge points – A guide for local authorities*". The document outlines a very valuable and convenient estimate of the costs, timelines, processes relating to the connection of supply to EV charge points. We feel that in order to help local authorities understand the factors involved in installing charge points in their area and to aid the expected growth in EV uptake that all DNOs should produce a similar guide for their regions:

[http://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/internet/en/our-services/electric-vehicle-charging/Electric charging.pdf](http://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/internet/en/our-services/electric-vehicle-charging/Electric%20charging.pdf)

We'd happily continue to liaise as a group and look forward to any feedback from the consultation.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'W. Bexton', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Michael Wayne Bexton
Head of Energy Projects

Vice Chair Nottingham Energy Project Alignment Group