

## **To: National Grid Electricity Transmission plc**

### **Direction issued by the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority under Part C of Special Condition 6G (Mitigating the impact of Pre-existing Transmission Infrastructure on the visual amenity of Designated Areas) to modify the electricity transmission licence of National Grid Electricity Transmissions plc**

#### **Whereas**

1. National Grid Electricity Transmission plc ('the Licensee') is the holder of an electricity transmission licence ('the Licence') granted or treated as granted under section 6(1)(b) of the Electricity Act 1989 ('the Act').
2. Special Condition (SC) 6G (Mitigating the impact of Pre-existing Transmission Infrastructure on the visual amenity of Designated Areas) of the Licence establishes the circumstances in which the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the 'Authority')<sup>1</sup>, by way of direction, can make changes to the Licensee's Enhancing Pre-existing Infrastructure (EPI) Outputs and associated Allowed Expenditure (EPIE values<sup>2</sup>) specified in that same condition.
3. Part B of Special Condition (SC) 6G also sets out the basis of the determination process the Authority will follow in considering a request from the Licensee for an adjustment to the EPIE values in its price control to deliver an EPI Output.
4. The reason why the Authority is making these modifications is explained in its determination letter dated 18 December 2017<sup>3</sup>. In summary, the purpose of the modifications is to specify seven EPI Outputs that the Licensee is required to deliver and to specify the associated EPIE values.
5. The effect of the proposed modifications is also set out in the Authority's December determination letter. In summary, the effect of these licence modifications is to increase the Licensee's Allowed Expenditure under the electricity transmission price control by £964,179 (2009/10 prices) and to make the Licensee accountable for the delivery of the EPI Outputs by the timescales specified.
6. In accordance with the requirements set out in SC 6G, on 18 December 2017, the Authority gave notice of the proposed modifications to Table 1 and Table 2 of SC 6G and specified that any representations concerning the proposed modifications should be made by 18 January 2018.
7. The Authority received nine non-confidential responses which it has considered and which all support the Authority's determination and its proposed modification to SC 6G. All of the consultation responses are available on our website. The Authority notes some stakeholders commented on aspects of the licensee's Landscape Enhancement Initiative (LEI) scheme, which are beyond the scope of the licence modification.
8. The Authority has made one amendment to the draft licence text set out in Schedule 1 of the notice dated 18 December 2017. The change relates to the Mitigation Activity and Volumes for the EPI Output of the Traditional Boundaries project. The information published in the notice were incorrect. The Authority has amended these with the correct information and the changes are highlighted yellow in Schedule 1 of this direction.

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<sup>1</sup> The "Authority", "Ofgem", "we" and "our" are used interchangeably in this document. The Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (Ofgem) supports GEMA in its day to day work.

<sup>2</sup> This is the specific licence term used in SC 6G for Allowed Expenditure associated with EPI Outputs.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications-and-updates/determination-new-outputs-national-grid-s-electricity-transmission-price-control-0>

**Now** the Authority pursuant to the provisions of SC 6G, **hereby directs** that the EPI Outputs and EPIE values for the Licensee referred to in paragraph 4 are to be modified as shown in track changes in Schedule 1 to this Direction.

This document is notice of the reasons for the decision to modify the Licence as required by section 49A(2) of the Act.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steven McMahon', written in a cursive style.

**Steven McMahon**  
**Associate Partner, RIIO Networks, Electricity**  
Duly authorised on behalf of the  
Gas and Electricity Markets Authority

13 February 2018

## Schedule 1: Modifications to Special Condition 6G of National Grid Electricity Transmission plc's electricity transmission licence

### Part B: Assessment of Allowed Expenditure for EPI Outputs

**Table 1: EPI Outputs**

EPI Output description			Designated Area		Delivery date																								
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<sup>4</sup> The combined impact scores are from the 2014 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment report on pre-existing transmission lines. Line sections with a measure of 25 or greater denote very high impact, 20 to 24 is assessed as high impact, 10 to 19 as moderate impact and lines with a score of 10 or less have a lower impact.

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<p><b><u>Dyffryn Ffestiniog East Woodland Restoration and Landscape Improvement project</u></b></p> <p><u>Project addresses the visual and landscape impacts of overhead lines by restoring hedgerows and native woodland and managing invasive species.</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="209 577 874 1258"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="209 577 437 674"><u>EPI output</u></th> <th data-bbox="437 577 665 674"><u>Mitigation activity</u></th> <th data-bbox="665 577 874 674"><u>Volume</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="209 674 437 1258" rowspan="6"><u>Landscape enhancement and reduced visual impact</u></td> <td data-bbox="437 674 665 770"><u>New tree planting</u></td> <td data-bbox="665 674 874 770"><u>Approx. 8,500 trees</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="437 770 665 866"><u>Spot felling of canopy</u></td> <td data-bbox="665 770 874 866"><u>Approx. 30% of 12 ha</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="437 866 665 963"><u>Rhododendron control</u></td> <td data-bbox="665 866 874 963"><u>700ha</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="437 963 665 1059"><u>Dry stone walling</u></td> <td data-bbox="665 963 874 1059"><u>Approx. 400m<sup>2</sup></u></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="437 1059 665 1155"><u>Restoring hedgerows</u></td> <td data-bbox="665 1059 874 1155"><u>Approx. 1,000m</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="437 1155 665 1258"><u>Clear-fell of conifer</u></td> <td data-bbox="665 1155 874 1258"><u>Approx. 14 ha</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>EPI output</u>	<u>Mitigation activity</u>	<u>Volume</u>	<u>Landscape enhancement and reduced visual impact</u>	<u>New tree planting</u>	<u>Approx. 8,500 trees</u>	<u>Spot felling of canopy</u>	<u>Approx. 30% of 12 ha</u>	<u>Rhododendron control</u>	<u>700ha</u>	<u>Dry stone walling</u>	<u>Approx. 400m<sup>2</sup></u>	<u>Restoring hedgerows</u>	<u>Approx. 1,000m</u>	<u>Clear-fell of conifer</u>	<u>Approx. 14 ha</u>	<p><b><u>Snowdonia National Park</u></b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="930 416 1219 891"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="930 416 1219 584"><b><u>Combined visual and landscape impact of existing lines</u></b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="930 584 1066 663"><u>4ZC.1</u></td> <td data-bbox="1066 584 1219 663"><u>26</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="930 663 1066 741"><u>4ZC.2</u></td> <td data-bbox="1066 663 1219 741"><u>14</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="930 741 1066 819"><u>XO.1</u></td> <td data-bbox="1066 741 1219 819"><u>16</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="930 819 1066 891"><u>ZK.1</u></td> <td data-bbox="1066 819 1219 891"><u>22</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b><u>Combined visual and landscape impact of existing lines</u></b>		<u>4ZC.1</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>4ZC.2</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>XO.1</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>ZK.1</u>	<u>22</u>	<p><b><u>2021</u></b></p>
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<p><b><u>Woodland Restoration and Landscape Improvement project</u></b></p> <p><u>Project addresses visual and landscape impact of six sections of existing line by restoring native woodland and hedgerows, removing invasive non-native species to improve patchwork views of landscape from afar and screen lines from close quarters.</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="209 645 874 1104"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>EPI output</u></th> <th><u>Mitigation activity</u></th> <th><u>Volume</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="4"><u>Landscape enhancement and reduced visual impact</u></td> <td><u>Rhododendron control</u></td> <td><u>1,300ha</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Restoring hedgerows</u></td> <td><u>2,500m</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Dry stone walling</u></td> <td><u>30m</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>Re-stocking woodlands and thinning conifers</u></td> <td><u>8.21ha</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>EPI output</u>	<u>Mitigation activity</u>	<u>Volume</u>	<u>Landscape enhancement and reduced visual impact</u>	<u>Rhododendron control</u>	<u>1,300ha</u>	<u>Restoring hedgerows</u>	<u>2,500m</u>	<u>Dry stone walling</u>	<u>30m</u>	<u>Re-stocking woodlands and thinning conifers</u>	<u>8.21ha</u>	<p><b><u>Snowdonia National Park</u></b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="930 416 1201 1111"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"><b><u>Combined visual and landscape impact of existing line sections</u></b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><u>4ZC.1</u></td> <td><u>26</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>4ZC.2</u></td> <td><u>14</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>XO.1</u></td> <td><u>16</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>ZK.1</u></td> <td><u>22</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>ZK.2</u></td> <td><u>13</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>ZK.3</u></td> <td><u>13</u></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b><u>Combined visual and landscape impact of existing line sections</u></b>		<u>4ZC.1</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>4ZC.2</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>XO.1</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>ZK.1</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>ZK.2</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>ZK.3</u>	<u>13</u>	<p><b><u>2021</u></b></p>
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<p><b><u>Traditional Boundaries project</u></b></p> <p>Project addresses visual and landscape impact of seven sections of existing line. Addresses impacts on publicly accessible viewpoints and enhances landscape through restoration and creation of characteristic boundary features.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="209 562 895 1323"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="209 562 512 658">Proposed EPI output</th> <th data-bbox="512 562 740 658">Mitigation activity</th> <th data-bbox="740 562 895 658">Volume</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="209 658 512 837">Landscape enhancement and reduced visual impact</td> <td data-bbox="512 658 740 837">Rhododendron control Hedgerow works</td> <td data-bbox="740 658 895 837">1,300ha 3,600m</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="209 837 512 1077">Landscape enhancement and reduced visual impact Landscape enhancement</td> <td data-bbox="512 837 740 1077">Restoring hedgerows Slate pillar fencing</td> <td data-bbox="740 837 895 1077">2,500m 500m</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="209 1077 512 1323">Landscape enhancement Landscape enhancement and reduced visual impact</td> <td data-bbox="512 1077 740 1323">Dry stone walling</td> <td data-bbox="740 1077 895 1323">30m 440m</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Proposed EPI output	Mitigation activity	Volume	Landscape enhancement and reduced visual impact	Rhododendron control Hedgerow works	1,300ha 3,600m	Landscape enhancement and reduced visual impact Landscape enhancement	Restoring hedgerows Slate pillar fencing	2,500m 500m	Landscape enhancement Landscape enhancement and reduced visual impact	Dry stone walling	30m 440m	<p><b><u>Snowdonia National Park</u></b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="930 416 1219 1155"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" data-bbox="930 416 1219 618"><b><u>Combined visual and landscape impact of existing line sections</u></b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="930 618 1086 696">4ZC.1</td> <td data-bbox="1086 618 1219 696">26</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="930 696 1086 775">4ZC.2</td> <td data-bbox="1086 696 1219 775">14</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="930 775 1086 853">4ZB.1</td> <td data-bbox="1086 775 1219 853">19</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="930 853 1086 931">4ZB.2</td> <td data-bbox="1086 853 1219 931">15</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="930 931 1086 1010">ZK.1</td> <td data-bbox="1086 931 1219 1010">22</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="930 1010 1086 1088">ZK.2</td> <td data-bbox="1086 1010 1219 1088">13</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="930 1088 1086 1155">ZK.3</td> <td data-bbox="1086 1088 1219 1155">13</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b><u>Combined visual and landscape impact of existing line sections</u></b>		4ZC.1	26	4ZC.2	14	4ZB.1	19	4ZB.2	15	ZK.1	22	ZK.2	13	ZK.3	13	<p><b><u>2020</u></b></p>
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**Part D: Determination of revisions to EPIE values by the Authority**

**Table 2: EPIE values after modifications in Part C of this condition**

£m (2009/10 prices)	Relevant Year t							
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
	0.0	0.0	0.82	0.87	0.209	0.040	0.140	0.0
				<u>0.171</u>	<u>0.562</u>	<u>0.322</u>	<u>0.226</u>	<u>0.033</u>