

Chris Brown
Head of EST Strategy and Emerging Issues
10 South Colonnade
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London
E14 4PU

Dear Mr Brown,

We welcome the consultation on the Incentive on Connections Engagement (ICE) looking at progress and forward-looking reports submitted by distribution network operators (DNOs).

Overall, we are supportive of the incentive which encourages network companies to deliver a good customer service as connecting to the electricity grid without experiencing unreasonable delays is important for new forms of generation. We would like to see distribution operators to continue to engage through the ICE in order to further enhance customer service.

We are pleased to see an improvement in the existing queue management regime with DNOs introducing a series of milestones on planning and construction for new connections. We have received feedback from members indicating inconsistent application of these milestones across different DNOs. We would encourage Ofgem to ensure that where industry guidelines are adopted they should also be applied on a consistent in order to encourage effective competition.

In our view, there should be no advancement of storage ahead of generation as part of business as usual grid offer process (outside of the existing queue management principles) if they are competing for the same network access. We continue to encourage DNOs to explore technical and commercial solutions to address system access challenges and such solutions may involve fast tracking the connection of a potential service provider that could help alleviate an access constraint to the benefit of the wider system. However, at this stage, we don't think this justifies allocating priority access to a particular technology or group of system users as part of business as usual.

Due to the volume of current consultations, unfortunately we are not able to provide a full response to this consultation, but RenewableUK and our members would like to reiterate our support for the ICE process and ensuring the DNOs properly engage with customers. However, please do not hesitate to contact me (yonna.vitanova@renewableuk.com, +44 (0)20 7901 3000) should you wish to discuss any details further.

Yours Sincerely

Yonna Vitanova
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