

Reference
SEI Guidance

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Cadent Gas Limited
Brick Kiln Street, Hinckley
Leicestershire LE10 0NA
cadentgas.com

Steven McMahon
Deputy Director, Electricity Distribution and Cross Sector Policy
Systems and Networks
Ofgem
Email: Steven.McMahon@ofgem.gov.uk



Dear Steven,

Cadent response to consultation on revised changes to the Stakeholder Engagement Incentive (SEI) Scheme Guidance.

We have reviewed the proposed changes to the SEI guidance for Gas Distribution Network operators (GDNs) and welcome the opportunity to respond. In general we are supportive of the changes and agree that applying the changes to the Guidance Documents from April 2019 in time for the 2018-19 assessment will deliver better outcomes for our customers and stakeholders.

We would however like to seek further clarification on the points below in Ofgem's final decision:

It is detailed that an Internal Team will assess each network company's Part 1 Submission to identify evidence that the network company meets the Minimum Requirements. We believe it is important that an assessment criteria is used and published as it introduces greater transparency and legitimacy for customers and stakeholders, and this should be set out clearly in the guidance or published nearer the time as a separate paper.

In relation to introduction of the 10 minute presentation as part of the Panel Session, we note that the consultation does not articulate the format and whether there is a maximum length as detailed for the submissions. This should be clarified in the final Ofgem decision to provide a standard approach as this will allow Companies to focus on what is most important to their stakeholders.

It is proposed that the Panel will publish a Panel Report after the Panel assessment has taken place by the 30 November, the year following the Regulatory Year in question. This would push the feedback out by 4 months compared to the current process which would be a step backwards as it gives less time for networks to build any feedback into their ongoing customer and stakeholder engagement activities.

Our response can be published; however in the meantime if you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Gemma Norton
Stakeholder Engagement Manager



Email: Gemma.Norton@Cadentgas.com