

## Response – Incentive on Connections Engagement – SPEN

About you and your work	
What is the name of your company?	Scottish Renewables
Is your response confidential? Please explain which parts and why.  For a fair process, we prefer the DNOs to be able to respond to any	No

comments made, particularly if they are negative. Please consider carefully before marking any part of your response confidential.				
Which DNO's ICE submission is your response related to?  If you wish to provide a response to the ICE submission of more than one DNO group, <b>please use a separate template for each group.</b>	SPEN  (We have submitted a separate response for SSEN)			
What type of connection do you generally require?  For each type of connection, how many applications have you made in the past year, and what is the total MVA (Mega Volt Ampere)?	<b>Type of connection</b>		<b>Total number of connections</b>	<b>Total MVA of connections</b>
	<b>Metered Demand Connections</b>	Low Voltage (LV) Work		
		High Voltage (HV) Work		
		HV and Extra High Voltage (EHV) Work		
		EHV work and above		
	<b>Metered Distributed Generation (DG)</b>	LV work		
		HV and EHV work		
	<b>Unmetered Connections</b>	Local Authority (LA) work		
		Private finance initiatives		

		(PFI) Work		
		Other work		

Section 1: Looking Back report 2019/20								
<i>We want your views on how well the DNOs have engaged with connections stakeholders over the last regulatory year</i>								
10. How many of the DNO's stakeholder engagement events have you been invited to this year? (This can include engagement outside official events.) Please tick a box.	none	1	2	3	4	5	6	>6
								X
11. How many DNO Stakeholder events have you been to? This can also include meetings outside of official engagement events. Please tick a box.	none	1	2	3	4	5	6	>6
								X
12. Tell us about how the DNO engaged with you: <b>d)</b> What did the DNO do? <b>e)</b> How did the DNO do it? <b>f)</b> Did the DNO have a robust engagement strategy?	<p>a) SPEN has clearly worked to form a strong relationship with Scottish Renewables, allowing us and our industry membership to engage readily. SPEN has a strong events programme, which is key to enabling us and our members to engage, learn and discuss key issues. We have been pleased to see SPEN engage directly with us as well as taking up speaking slots at the Scottish Renewables Transport Conference.</p> <p>b) Direct B2B relationships have been part of this, with staff building a strong working relationship. Additionally, we and our members were in receipt of emails and newsletters. Publications and consultation responses were well advertised, with good opportunity for industry feed-in.</p> <p>c) Yes, we believe SPEN to have operated a robust engagement strategy.</p>							

The DNO's work plan				
13. <i>Objectives:</i> Have you seen the DNOs work plans and the objectives they outline? <b>c)</b> Does it take into consideration your needs? If so, how? <b>d)</b> If it doesn't please explain why.	Yes			
14. <i>Actions:</i> Do you think the DNO has delivered its work plan? <b>c)</b> How has the DNO done this? <b>d)</b> If you do not think the DNO has delivered its work plan, please explain why.	Yes. It is clear that along with a robust events programme SPEN has delivered on its commitments, taking into account stakeholder feedback in doing so.			
15. <i>Outputs:</i> Were the outputs (KPIs, targets etc) in the DNO's work plan appropriate? Did the DNO meet these outputs? Please explain why.	Yes.  We believe that appropriate outputs were identified (and received considerable stakeholder engagement as they were drawn up). In our view these outputs have been met			
Your feedback on the DNOs stakeholder engagement performance				
16.Do you think the DNO's strategy, activities and outputs have taken into account ongoing feedback from a broad and inclusive range of connections stakeholders?	Yes.			
17.How satisfied are you with the DNO's overall engagement performance? Please tick one box.	very unsatisfied	not satisfied	satisfied	very satisfied
				X

18. General feedback – please provide any further feedback on the DNO's 2019/20 engagement performance not covered in your responses above.	<p>Scottish Renewables continues to question whether ICE is the most appropriate mechanism for driving good performance from DNOs around connections.</p> <p>It is evident that a considerable amount of resource is put into a very robust engagement programme, and while this is welcome, it needs to be noted that industry (particularly small businesses) have limited capacity to engage.</p>
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<b>Section 2: Looking Forward plans 2020/21</b>	
<b>We want your views on what the DNO aims to achieve in the coming year</b>	
10. Are you satisfied that the DNO has a comprehensive and robust strategy for engaging with connection stakeholders and facilitating joint discussions where appropriate?	Yes
11. Do you agree that the DNO has a comprehensive work plan of activities (with associated delivery dates) that will meet the requirements of its connection stakeholders? If not, has the DNO provided reasonable and well-justified reasons? What other activities should the DNO do?	<p>Yes, the work plans are robust, and easily digestible.</p> <p>Scottish Renewables believes that work plans across the DNOs must look to enable our transition to a net-zero network. We are therefore pleased to see several commitments from SPEN look to aid the connection of renewable generators and other low carbon technologies, such as EVs and heat pumps.</p> <p>We are particularly pleased to see commitments around engaging with stakeholders on Flexibility Tender Auctions and promoting the benefits of flexibility.</p> <p>SPEN have been proactive in considering the impact of EVs on their network so we are pleased to see Project Charge included in their commitments.</p>
12. Do you consider that the DNO has set relevant outputs that it will deliver during the regulatory year (eg key performance indicators, targets, etc.)?	Yes, we believe these to be robust.