

Response template – Incentive on Connections Engagement

- 1.1. We would like to hear the views of interested parties in relation to any of the issues set out in our open consultation letter.
- 1.2. The questions we have asked are directly linked to the minimum criteria set out in the ICE guidance document. You can find this on our website [here](#).
- 1.3. If you have any questions on this document, please contact connections@Ofgem.gov.uk.
- 1.4. **Responses should be sent by e-mail by 28 August 2020 to the address above.**
- 1.5. Unless marked confidential, all responses will be published by placing them in Ofgem's library and on our website www.ofgem.gov.uk. Respondents may request that their response is kept confidential. Ofgem shall respect this request, subject to any obligations to disclose information, for example, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.
- 1.6. Respondents who wish to have their responses kept confidential should clearly mark the document/s to that effect and include clear reasons for confidentiality. We ask you to consider this carefully as sharing the comments with the relevant DNO may help improve their performance and ensure a transparent and effective ICE process. Respondents are asked to put any confidential material in the appendices to their responses.
- 1.7. We will consider the responses to this consultation and these will be used alongside other evidence for our assessment of the ICE plans.
- 1.8. Each of the questions asked by this consultation is set out in the template below.
- 1.9. **Please ensure that you indicate the DNO or specific licence area** to which your experiences relate. Each DNO is group and individual DNO is listed on our [here](#). Please note that Northern Ireland is not subject to this consultation.

1.10. When considering your responses to these questions, please consider your experiences, the actions that the DNO has undertaken or committed to undertake, and the actions that you consider it could reasonably undertake.

1.11. **Please make sure you highlight which year a specific event happened in. The regulatory year runs from 1 April to 31 March.**

Annex: response template

About you and your work				
What is the name of your company?	Oxfordshire County Council			
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 comments made, particularly if they are negative. Please consider carefully before marking any part of your response confidential.	Not confidential, DNO are welcome to raise comments			
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, please use a separate template for each group.	Scottish and Southern Energy			
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)?	Type of connection		Total number of connections	Total MVA of connections
	Metered Demand Connections	Low Voltage (LV) Work	8	
		High Voltage (HV) Work	0	0
		HV and Extra High Voltage (EHV) Work	0	0
		EHV work and above	0	0
	Metered Distributed Generation (DG)	LV work	2	
		HV and EHV work	0	
	Unmetered Connections	Local Authority (LA) work	10	
		Private finance	0	

		initiatives (PFI) Work		
		Other work		

Section 1: Looking Back report 2019/20

We want your views on how well the DNOs have engaged with connections stakeholders over the last regulatory year

1. 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		
2. 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					
3. Tell us about how the DNO engaged with you: a) What did the DNO do? b) How did the DNO do it? c) Did the DNO have a robust engagement strategy?	<p>a)n engagement on ev charging, new connections and unmetered connections. One was to local authorities and one was to all stakeholders.</p> <p>B) large meeting space/conference hall, great interaction aswell as digital feedback, also interaction with other attendees to gather different reponses / ideas / feedback to take on board. Included attendees of all backgrounds be it hydro,solar, developers and local authorities</p> <p>C) Very robust which has resulted in our query of mounting assets to lighting columns and energy costings being added to the website for an easier set up with local authorities/developers</p>							

The DNO's work plan

4. <i>Objectives:</i> Have you seen the DNOs work plans and the objectives they outline? a) Does it take into consideration your needs? If so, how? b) If it doesn't please explain why.	<p>A) With a large focus on EV charging and also unmetered connections we have a hige focus and interest in SSEs objectives going forward.</p> <p>B) N/A</p>
5. <i>Actions:</i> Do you think the DNO has delivered its work plan? a) How has the DNO done this?	<p>A) We have direct contacts with SSE and ensure we engage with SSE where new developments request EV or if we have assets being altered with unmetered connections. We also haver a large number of overhead lines and pole bracket</p>

<p>b) If you do not think the DNO has delivered its work plan, please explain why.</p>	<p>lanterns. These require agreement from the DNO to house these on the pole so with engagement at these meetings , we now have contact and local seminars to iron out issues where these have been changed or plans to change these in schemes going forward.</p>			
<p>6. <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.</p>	<p>For OCC the only targets we have are when there are cable faults in the region. We have great communication with our colleagues at the outages team Oxford SSE and any issues where faults have gone over target are quickly resolved or explained. At present we would feel SSE are providing a good service and meeting targets they have set with us for service restoration.</p>			
<p>Your feedback on the DNOs stakeholder engagement performance</p>				
<p>7. 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?</p>	<p>We had huge queries raised regarding mounting assets to lighting columns , with raising this SSE have made a video and links on their website to ensure this is carried out in the correct manner. This query was also raised due to the EV charging units combined in columns. SSE have ensured this is covered in the new document.</p> <p>As part of the engagement we have also attended connections surgeries to outline issues we have connection problems with overhead lines, we now have direct contacts for our local area, so very impressed with how this has ran.</p> <p>SSE have also attended with our city council surgeries regarding EV as we are one of the front running cities where this is being installed.</p>			
<p>8. How satisfied are you with the DNO's overall engagement performance? Please tick one box.</p>	<p>very unsatisfied</p>	<p>not satisfied</p>	<p>satisfied</p>	<p>very satisfied</p>
				<p>x</p>

9. General feedback – please provide any further feedback on the DNO's 2019/20 engagement performance not covered in your responses above.	Impressed with the way this has worked, has resulted in gathering local contacts and has also assisted with areas we needed further information on.
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Section 2: Looking Forward plans 2020/21	
We want your views on what the DNO aims to achieve in the coming year	
10. Are you satisfied that the DNO has a comprehensive and robust strategy for engaging with connection stakeholders and facilitating joint discussions where appropriate?	It looks like there is a huge emphasis going forward with EV charging and there needs to be with the governments plans. The discussions are largely based on this and with so many grey areas from the government its good to see sse acting early on it.
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?	Things for us at the council greatly since weve attended these meetings and its resulted in issues weve precviously had resolved, so I cant see any problem with their requirements going forward.
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.)?	I would consider SSE are on track going forward especially with the pandemic they have delivered as required for OCC so have to say from our experience all will be delivered
13. Would you agree that the DNO's proposed strategy, activities and outputs have been informed and endorsed by a broad and inclusive range of connection stakeholders? If not, has the DNO provided robust evidence that it has pursued this engagement?	Each stakeholder event be it conference , webinar or connections workshop have gone in to great depths outlining the strategies proposed by SSE. SSE also planned to carry out less conference meetings but with the ones planned deliver more of the info requested and can confirm this has proved influential from local authority perspective, one of the events was solely focused with local authorities with ideas bouncing from each organisation

