

# Ensuring fair returns in RIIO-2

David Moon 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017



#### There are three main stakeholder challenges to legitimacy in RIIO-1 ...

<b>Perception</b>		<b>Reality</b>
	Excessive Returns	<ul> <li>Majority of returns have been a result of significant cost reductions and service improvements for customers</li> <li>In FPs Ofgem stated an expectation with increased T2 &amp; T3 Repex workload that the median, &amp; indeed all GDNs, would have the potential to achieve double digit RoRE</li> </ul>
Energy Consumers' Missing Billions The profits gifted to energy networks	Forecast Errors	<ul> <li>7 of 26 RIIO energy networks are overspending against Totex allowances, which evidences that there is upside and downside risk for network companies associated with ex ante Totex allowances.</li> </ul>
	Systematic Outperformance	<ul> <li>RIIO framework encourages collaboration</li> <li>Culture of sharing best practice has enabled all networks to deliver benefits for their customers resulting in lower bills</li> </ul>
	and	we can address them in RIIO-2 by

## Utilising the mechanisms available within the existing framework...

### The current framework has several ways to ensure fair returns:



#### ...and developing the framework to...

## Help customers understand the benefits they receive from their energy networks ....

### Build on the strong platform of RIIO-1 and evolve it for RIIO-2 to make the framework:

#### Simple

- Focus on the outcomes that customers want & need
- Use simple language based on what customers see and feel from the services they receive

#### Proportionate

- Rationalise the number of measures used to focus on what customers value most
- Explicit balance between value & complexity

#### Transparent

- Where complexity adds value use transparency as substitute for simplicity
- Easily understandable performance reporting
- Clear up front descriptions of how all mechanisms will work

#### Comparable

- RoRE is misleading & magnifies outperformance
- It is not comparable across sectors or with other industries

## Proposed mechanisms such as anchoring of returns would not deliver long term value for customers

Three key reasons being . . .

It would **increase uncertainty and risk** for investors, increasing financing costs which is bad for customers

It would **drive the wrong behaviors** in networks creating a we win if you lose environment ending collaboration which has delivered large benefits for customers

It would be **almost impossible to calibrate** accurately given difference in network investment strategies, timing of spend and the fact that a forecast error for one network would benefit them and penalise the others.

## We could develop sharing factors to offer customers and networks backstop protection...

Networks share floor at a set % to maintain network performance incentive.



#### In summary...

This is a critical time in the development of the energy networks and its important we build on the success of RIIO-1. We should...

Utilise, refine and develop existing mechanisms to manage areas of uncertainty and address 'windfall gains'

**Develop the framework** in RIIO-2 to make it simple, proportionate, transparent and comparable

Be **clear on the outcomes** we are trying to achieve with any fair returns mechanisms to ensure they deliver in the interests of current and future customers



### Thank you

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