

10th March 2017

Stathis Mokkas
Electricity System Frameworks
Ofgem
9 Millbank
London
SW1P 3GE

Energy Networks Association Consultation Response to “Future arrangements for the electricity system operator: its role and structure”

Dear Stathis,

Energy Networks Association (ENA) represents the “wires and pipes” transmission and distribution network operators for gas and electricity in the UK and Ireland. Our members control and maintain the critical national infrastructure that delivers these vital services into customers’ homes and businesses.

ENA welcomes the opportunity to respond to this consultation and the principle set out in the consultation paper that the System Operator should be working with industry and Network Operators to deliver on proposed changes as soon as it can.

To co-ordinate the development and implementation of new network operator roles and responsibilities, ENA members have established a new TSO-DSO Project within ENA to work in a structured way through 2017 and beyond. This will build on early work carried out by ENA’s Transmission and Distribution Interface (TDI) Group and will broaden the scope of this work, increase the pace of work through 2017 and ensure that T-D work and resources are effectively deployed to progress priority areas, including system operator roles and responsibilities.

ENA’s TSO-DSO Project has the commitment of the Business Leaders of all ENA members. National Grid are involved in all elements of the TSO DSO Project separately representing their roles as Transmission Operator and System Operator, together with all GB Distribution Network Operators (DNOs), NIE and an Independent Distribution Network Operator (iDNO). Both Ofgem & BEIS are involved in various project governance and development groups. The TSO DSO Project is set up for collaborative development across all of these parties, together with external stakeholder input through project advisory groups.

ENA's TSO DSO project will deliver change on this collaborative basis in the short term this year as well as in the medium term to ED2 & T2 and beyond into the long term.

We hope that ENA's TSO DSO project will be referenced within the consultation response as a key way that the System Operator will be working in partnership and proactively with DNOs, industry and other stakeholders to define roles across the T-D interface in the short, medium and long term.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further questions on ENA's TSO DSO Project or any other ENA initiatives associated with this consultation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line under the name.

David Smith
Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Andy Burgess, Jon Parker, Min Zhu; Ofgem