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James Norman
OFGEM
9 Millbank
London
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Our Ref: TRANS01-000755

20 March 2018

Dear James,

Re: RES Response to the HSB Minded to Consultation on Delivery Model

RES is one of the world's leading independent renewable energy companies working across the globe to develop projects that contribute to our goal of a secure, low carbon and affordable energy future. We develop, construct, finance and operate onshore wind, solar PV, transmission network and energy storage assets. In over three decades of operation, we have developed 10% of the UK's onshore wind capacity and 12GW of wind globally, developed 1.3GW of solar PV globally, built over 1,600km of transmission network outside the UK and become a world leader in energy storage.

RES welcomes the Ofgem "*Hinkley-Seabank project: minded-to consultation on delivery model*" of 23 January 2018 ("the Consultation"). In light of Ofgem's minded-to position, we have chosen not to respond to each of the individual questions set out in the Consultation but would make the following comments.

- We welcome Ofgem's statement in the Consultation that it continues "*to consider that there are significant benefits to consumers in introducing competition into the delivery of new, separable and high value onshore electricity transmission projects.*" We very much agree and look forward to contributing to the establishment of the necessary arrangements in the timeliest manner practicable.
- We are disappointed that competition cannot be introduced into the Hinkley-Seabank delivery process but accept that currently contracted timescales effectively preclude it on this occasion. We continue to encourage Ofgem to remain flexible on this question in light of possible further slippage of delivery of Hinkley Point C.

- We agree that competition proxy represents a better value outcome for consumers relative to Status Quo.

We await news on progression of the full CATO regime with interest and would welcome the opportunity to provide further input to the detail of proposals when the time is right.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Smart', with a horizontal line underneath.

Energy Networks Director

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