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Dear David

**Independent Distribution Network Operators – licence applications from affiliates of existing licensees**

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this consultation. We will not make detailed comments but would like to state that we share the competition concerns raised in the consultation letter.

We also agree there is a risk that if DNOs are permitted to have affiliated IDNO's competing in their home region then this could undermine existing incentives, such as ICE, for the DNOs to engage with customers. We want to ensure that DNOs are fully focused on meeting the needs of customers connecting to their network. We believe that at a minimum, an affiliate IDNO should be prohibited from operating within the affiliated DNO's Distribution Service Area (DSA).

If you would like to discuss further, please contact me on 07979 567785 or [helen.stack@centrica.com](mailto:helen.stack@centrica.com)

Yours sincerely

Helen Stack  
Regulatory Manager