

Sarah Friedel
Group Regulation
SONI Limited
Castlereagh House
12 Manse Road
Belfast
BT6 9RT

Ref: NET/E/TH/369

14 May 2021

Dear Sarah,

Re: Shaping Our Electricity Future – Final Dt Approval

Thank you for the opex Dt submission of the 15 March 2021 regarding the Shaping Our Electricity Future (SOEF) consultation.

Whilst we understand the basis of the claim, we have various concerns about providing additional funding via the uncertainty mechanism. Our principle objection is that the consultation does not appear to be sufficiently different from BAU activity which is already funded via base cost allowances for staff and external affairs.

We also note that the needs case for external facilitators does not seem particularly strong given that the topic is not one of an overly sensitive or confidential nature. In addition, the external consultancy support appears to be excessive given the anticipated work and associated outputs.

As a consequence, no allowance has been provided for this project (as detailed below).

Tariff Year	SONI Request (April 2021 prices)	UR Allowance (April 2021 prices)
2020-21	£76.3k	£0k

Whilst we accept that the new price control is not yet agreed, provision of Dt funding would risk the possibility of over-recovery. No allowance is therefore deemed necessary. Should you have any comments or issues regarding this letter, feel free to contact Jody O'Boyle.

Yours sincerely,



Tanya Hedley
Director of Network Operations