

Department for the Economy Response to Electricity Generation Licence Condition 5 Consultation

Response below was received via email to the UR

Good afternoon

Thank you for notifying the Department for the Economy (the Department) of proposed modifications to all electricity generation licences in relation to fuel security, as required under Article 14 of The Electricity (Northern Ireland) Order 1992.

The Department welcomes this consultation that proposes modifications to Condition 5 “*Security arrangements*” for inclusion in all electricity generation licences in order to standardise content to thermal generators which (will) have the ability to run on more than one fuel.

The Department strongly supports the introduction of measures that contribute towards minimising the risk to security of supply. It therefore welcomes the Regulators modification proposals to include a requirement for a specified quantity of secondary fuel. As set out by the Regulator, a specified quantity of secondary fuel will support situations when there may be a risk to security of supply, and will help to mitigate the risk of a fuel security event. This is therefore a positive development.

The Department also advocates the proposed requirement for monthly secondary fuel reporting to SONI as the Transmission System Operator. This will provide SONI with essential oversight of fuel stocks, which is both practical and reasonable to allow it to better manage the operation of the electricity network in Northern Ireland.

Furthermore, both the proposal for a specified quantity of secondary fuel and a monthly reporting mechanism will provide additional security of supply assurances for both domestic and commercial electricity users in Northern Ireland.

Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

On behalf of Department of Economy