

Ian Craig
Network Connections Major Projects
Northern Ireland Electricity Networks Limited
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BELFAST
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REF: CNO/E/TH/346

30 April 2018

Dear Ian,

RE: Submission in respect of pre-construction works at Kells Cluster

Thank you for your letter and paper regarding the above, received on 05 April 2018, providing background context to funding requirements for pre-construction activities associated with unique works for the Kells Cluster.

Within your paper you note that you intend to carry out the pre-construction activities and submit planning applications associated with the establishment of the 110/33Kv cluster at Kells. The paper sought for approval for capital expenditure (CAPEX) of £653,139 associated with the pre-construction work needed to establish the renewable generation cluster at Kells Main substation.

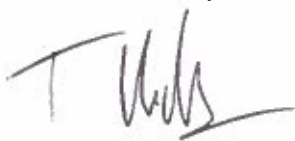
It has been suggested that the most efficient overall solution is to provide an 110kV cable connection directly from Kells Main 110kV mesh to a proposed cluster located adjacent to, and within the land Kells Main substation. Establishing this cluster will require a connection to a spare 110kV circuit bay in the Kells Main 110kV mesh and the pre-construction activity will investigate this further.

You have stated that following pre-construction activities and planning approval for the infrastructure the estimation of an accurate total cost and approval for construction will then be submitted to the UR. We also note your comments that SONI have prepared supporting documentation which considers a number of options and concludes that establishing a cluster at Kells Main to be best solution in both environmental and economic terms.

We have considered this request in line with Section 7 and Annex 2 of the Statement of Charges (SOC) for connection to the Northern Ireland Distribution System¹. The Utility Regulator is content with the information you have detailed. Having considered your submission I can confirm that approval is hereby given to proceed with pre-construction activities on the development of the Kells cluster.

As has been previously commented, it is important that clusters are connected as quickly as possible, if the exposure to Northern Ireland customers develops (beyond the £0.653m) during the pre-construction period you are to notify us immediately and we ask to be kept informed of progress. Please note that this approval will be published on our website.

Yours sincerely



Tanya Hedley
Director of Compliance and Network Operations

E-copies: Jody O'Boyle, John Mills, Colin Walker and Carl Hashim

¹ <http://www.nienetworks.co.uk/documents/connections/statement-of-charges> - Effective from 28th March 2018 V1.5