

Brian Moorehead
Network Connections Design Team
Northern Ireland Electricity Networks Limited

Date: 30/01/2018

Our Ref: CNO/E/TH/311

Dear Brian,

Request for Authority's consent to further defer Connection Offer Timelines to Issue a Connection Offer for Connection Application for NIE Networks reference 17/55825

Thank you for your letter of 26 January 2017 requesting consent from the Authority for NIE Networks to extend the required three month timeline to issue a connection offer to **NIE Networks reference 17/55825** Connection Application.

Having considered your letter we grant an extension to 31 August 2018 for this connection application as you request. We also wish to remind NIE Networks that we remain of the view that granting of extensions should be the exception rather than the norm, and so NIE Networks should be mindful of this if considering further extensions in the future.

NIE Network's request for further connection offer extension

NIE Network's asks for a further extension for these connection offers from 31 January 2018 to 31 August 2018 under Condition 30 of the NIE Networks Distribution licence. This is to provide time for the re-assessment by the Hybrid Working Group that might allow this proposed connection to proceed. NIE Networks has also considered alternative solutions for connection but which have been rebuffed by the applicant in question.

The Authority's decision

The relevant section of the distribution licence is within Condition 30. This requires a connection offer to be made not later than 3 months unless consent to a longer period has been approved by the Authority.

We note that we have received this request after the period set out in our minimum requirements, as set out in our 31 May 2017 connections review decision paper.¹ We ask that going forward any extension requests are provided for in the appropriate timescales.

¹ <https://www.uregni.gov.uk/sites/uregni/files/media-files/Electricity%20Connections%20Decision%20FINAL.pdf>

Having considered your request and reviewed the response from the connection applicant in question, the Authority is able to agree to the extension period requested (i.e. until 31 August 2018).

We note that this extension letter will be published on our website. We will also keep a record of the information and decision on the Public Electricity Register as required by the Electricity (Northern Ireland) Order 1992.

We ask to be kept informed of progress.

Yours sincerely,



Tanya Hedley
Director of Compliance and Network Operations