

Siobhán O'Shea
SONI Ltd
Castlereagh House,
12 Manse Road,
Belfast,
BT6 9RT

06 December 2019

Dear Siobhán

Request for Authority's consent to extend the Connection Offer Timelines for Connection Application for Aught Wind Farm

Thank you for your letter of 18 November 2019 requesting consent from the Authority for SONI to defer the required 3 month timeline to issue a connection offer to the **Aught Wind Farm** Connection Application and follow-up emails.

The relevant section of the SONI licence is within Condition 25, Requirement to Offer Terms – Users and Connectees, paragraph 5 and 7. These clauses require a connection offer to be made not later than 3 months unless consent to a longer period has been approved by the Authority.

In your correspondence you indicated that the submission of the Construction Application to the TO has been delayed as SONI required more time to assess the connection options and technical complexities of this cross jurisdictional connection project which needs to be considered as part of the connection offer process.

This resulted in the identification of the Least Cost Technically Acceptable (“LCTA”) connection methodology being particularly challenging. In addition, SONI also had to seek additional technical and environmental assessments and bespoke prices from Suppliers to assess an option for a direct connection into Coolkeeragh via directional drilling under the River Foyle, which has now been identified as the LCTA option.

Subsequently you now request a 3 month extension of the limit as provided for in Condition 25 (7) from 03 December 2019 to the 03 March 2020 for the offer of terms for connection to the All-Island Transmission Networks.

We understand that SONI has engaged with the applicant and with NIE Networks.

Having considered your request the Authority is able to agree to the extension period requested at this time. This does not preclude any future decisions or determinations.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,



Tanya Hedley
Director of Networks