

Utility Regulator Consultation on Aggregated Generating Unit (AGU) and Demand Side Unit (DSU) Licensing Arrangements

Dalkia Alternative Energy (DAE) currently operates a Demand Side Unit (DSU) in ROI and has done so for the last eighteen months. We welcome the opportunity to respond to the ***Utility Regulator Consultation on Aggregated Generating Unit (AGU) and Demand Side Unit (DSU) Licensing Arrangements***, as we feel that the development of AGU/DSU can bring considerable benefits to consumers in Northern Ireland

As the regulator is aware, to date significant uncertainty in regards to the status of Demand Side Units (DSUs) in Northern Ireland (NI) has existed. Many barriers preventing the development of DSUs have stunted the growth of a vital element in the electricity generation mix. We hope that through this consultation process that some of those barriers are removed. The ultimate goal of this process should be to bring certainty to the DSU/AGU arena in NI via clarification on the issuance of DSU licences.

We do not have any substantial comments on the proposed licences as they are in keeping with standard generator licences within NI, but we would like to encourage the Utility Regulator to reach a decision on this topic as soon as possible, to avoid any further delay.

We would also encourage the Utility Regulator to ensure that SONI, SEMO and NIE engage with potential AGU/DSU operators during this consultation process. This is to avoid even further delays, as the time required to get an AGU/DSU application through the system is considerable and it is our view that SONI, SEMO and NIE must engage with AGU/DSU developers during this time.