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20th January, 2010

Dear Sir / Madam,

Re: Utility Regulator Forward Work Plan (April 2010 – March 2011)

BWEA welcomes the opportunity to provide comments on the Utility Regulator Forward Work Plan (April 2010 – March 2011) and provides this submission in support of the submission sent by the Irish Wind Energy Association, and on behalf of the UK wind energy industry.

BWEA was established in 1978 and is the representative body for companies active in the UK wind, wave and tidal energy market. Its membership has grown rapidly over recent years and now stands at over 500 companies. In representing the wind industry, BWEA is in a unique position to comment on the circumstances which affect the future growth and development of the sector.

We believe that the work plan recognises the importance of environmental sustainability by promoting sustainability and security through working with utility companies to take account of environmental impact of the services they provide and assessing options for optimising the existing energy infrastructure. By addressing issues such as interconnection and market integration there is more capacity for wind generation on the electricity system. This in turn leads to increased security of supply.

We also welcome the actions to work with DETI to review support mechanisms for renewable generation and to progress the implementation of the Renewables Directive. We believe that it is vital that the utility regulators are involved in these processes and that their objectives are aligned with government policy.

BWEA would be happy to discuss any of these issues further and we look forward to further engagement with NIAUR.

Best wishes

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