



Energy for
generations

Generation & Wholesale Markets

18th February 2015

Dear Breige,

ESB GWM welcome the publication of the *Utility Regulator's Draft Forward Work Programme 2015-16*. Publication of this workplan allows market participants to gain a more thorough understanding of the UR's key objectives and prioritised work streams for the coming year.

The Work Programme discusses the URs restricted budget and resource issues. Given the significant medium term changes occurring in the SEM, for example iSEM, European Network Code requirements and the DS3 programme, we would hope that adequate resourcing is not a barrier to facilitate the appropriate levels of consultation with industry and subsequently efficient implementation of projects. We acknowledge the URs determination to deliver their objectives within budget and using current resources.

We agree that achievement of full energy market integration is an important European programme of work and believe that DS3 is integral to iSEM and the delivering NI Executive's Strategic Energy Framework target of 40% electricity consumption from renewables by 2020. We also believe that a sustainable design of the iSEM offers an opportunity to deliver security of supply to NI.

We regret our delay in submitting a response to the Draft Forward Work Programme but hope that this response provides some value to the UR given that the final work plan will not be published until the 31st March 2015.

Kind regards,

Karol O'Kane