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23<sup>rd</sup> 09<sup>th</sup> August~~August 2005~~2

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Dear Brian,~~Sir~~

~~At this time of important change in the Northern Ireland energy sector, we~~ welcome  
~~this~~ opportunity to input ~~on~~into incorporation of the South North Pipeline into the  
Northern Ireland gas transmission regime~~the draft Energy Bill~~. The drive to  
~~include new legislation~~ mplement a best practice regime and the commitment to  
consultation should help to ensure that restructuring of the ~~energy sector~~gas industry  
is a success for Northern Ireland.

~~ESB International is supportive of the timely introduction of this Bill.~~ Please find  
attached our response to the consultation. In the event that there are any queries in  
relation to this, please feel at liberty to contact me by e-mail  
(john.fitzgerald~~michael.aherne~~@esbi.ie) or otherwise. We shall be available for any  
discussions or further comments as requested.

Yours Sincerely,

John Fitzgerald~~Michael Aherne~~

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Commercial Manager~~Manager, Northern Ireland~~  
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