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Mr Stephen Costello MBE

Deputy Chairman Mr Bill Osborne Chief Executive Mrs Eleanor Gill

Elizabeth House 116 Holywood Road Belfast BT4 1NY 30 June 2006

> Mr Kenny Dane Ofreg Queens House 14 Queen Street Belfast BT1 6ER



Dear Kenny

Re: NIE – transmission and distribution price control 2007-2012: further consultation paper

The Consumer Council responded to Ofreg's consultation issued in December 2005 on proposals for NIE's Transmission and Distribution Price Control for 2007-2012. The Council then wrote to Ofreg in March 2006 setting out a number of concerns and queries regarding NIE's proposed £1m Vulnerable Customer Fund. These matters have yet to be addressed and as such the Council is not in a position to give its full support to the proposals on NIE's T and D price control 2007-2012.

We are seeking an urgent meeting with Ofreg to discuss our concerns regarding the proposed Vulnerable Customer Fund. After this has taken place the Council will reach a position on this proposal and advise Ofreg accordingly.

We are however satisfied with the proposals contained within the current consultation specifically on the Capital Expenditure proposals, the Capex efficiency mechanism and the proposed Smart Programme for RP4. We particularly welcome the sharing of efficiency savings with customers.

Yours sincerely

JOANNE GAMBLE Head of Energy

