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Friday, 26th February 2021

Ref: Islandmagee Underground Gas Storage facility – SONI Draft Transmission Development Plan for Northern Ireland 2020-2029 - Consultation

Dear sir,

InfraStrata plc (AIM: INFA) is a London Stock Exchange-listed firm focused on the development, commercialisation and operation of advanced high-value strategic infrastructure facilities across the globe. A wholly owned subsidiary of Infrastrata plc is Islandmagee Energy Limited (IMEL). In 2012 planning permission was granted for the construction of a new underground gas storage facility at Islandmagee, County Antrim. The facility comprises of 4 geographical areas. The principal two areas are located adjacent to Larne Lough, in the vicinity of existing high voltage pylons, power lines and infrastructure. The new gas storage facility will be classified under the 2015 Control of Major Accidents and Hazards (Comah) regulations. It is currently envisaged that engineering construction activities will commence on the new facility in H2 2021.

IMEL, as a prudent operator, has commenced consultation with both SONI and NIEN, and are aware of several infrastructure upgrade projects which are to also occur in a similar geographical location. Therefore, any simultaneous operations and wider implications will require to be assessed together by all parties to ensure sufficient consideration and appropriate mitigation for both projects, and the wider environmental and societal impacts. To our latest knowledge, albeit a potentially non-comprehensive list, of known HV infrastructure works are outlined in appendix A.

To further assist clarification related to the gas storage facility and existing SONI infrastructure please refer to the associated documentation transmitted:-

- IGSF Timeline IMEL
- 7048-0330-019-30-2001-001-A2 – Gas Plant Plot Plan (North)
- 7048-0330-019-30-2002-001-A2 – Gas Plant Plot Plan (South)
- 7048-0330-019-30-0999-001-A2 – Overall Plot Plan



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Islandmagee Energy Ltd look forward to working in conjunction with SONI as our development and construction progress in 2021.

Yours faithfully,



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Appendix A: Potential Upgrade & Infrastructure Works

The below examples are a non-exhaustive, example list of potential works which may occur in the vicinity of the gas storage facility.

Northern Ireland Stations Where the Rating Has Been Exceeded

i. Ballylumford 110 kV

Short circuit current levels at the Ballylumford 110 kV node exceed the existing substation ratings. This occurs under maximum generation conditions when both of the 275/110 kV interbus transformers are in service.

The existing substation is programmed to be replaced with a substation incorporating a new 110 kV GIS switchboard. This work is planned to be completed by 2021. In the interim, we manage this risk by operating with one interbus transformer out of service. This reduces the short circuit current level below the equipment rating.

Ballylumford Switchgear Replacement

The existing 110 kV switchgear at Ballylumford is to be replaced with a new 110 kV GIS double busbar and the 110 kV circuits diverted accordingly. The need for this project arises from the age, condition and obsolescence of the existing equipment as well as the need for a higher short circuit rating.

Completion date: Winter 2023.

Ballylumford Switchgear Replacement (T501)

The existing 110 kV switchgear at Ballylumford is to be replaced with a new 110 kV GIS double busbar and the 110 kV circuits diverted accordingly. The need for this project arises from the age, condition and obsolescence of the existing equipment as well as the need for a higher short circuit rating. **Completion date: Winter 2023.**