

Dear Albert & Sarah

Further to my response to Consultation on Electricity Connection Policy to N. Ireland electricity distribution System.

From further investigation and understanding of your document I wish to make an amendment to section 6 so please disregard my previous answer.

Section 6) Connection of micro-generation

Possible solutions

Given the subsidy available to renewable micro-generators in GB for connections, the Utility Regulator believes that subsidies could be considered for NI. However this should be assessed in the context of the differing characteristics of the electricity systems in GB and NI.

Views sought

Do you consider it appropriate for micro-generation connections to be subsidised by the use of system tariffs in NI, given the demand profile and generation portfolio expected over the coming decade and the target of 40% of electricity supplied in NI to come from renewable sources by 2020.

What level of subsidy of the cost of connection do you think should be considered by the Utility Regulator?

Amendment:

We would suggest that all single stand alone micro and small scale generations up to 1MW including hydro and AD plants should be subsidised to at approx 50% to promote the up take of small scale renewables in N.Ireland.

This should apply to all existing installations and outstanding quotations from NIE that falls inside the Renewables Obligation period.

As a sales company we are constantly reviewing our costs and are very conscious of reducing prices to grow volume sales in a market which is now target driven. With that in mind the same should apply to grid connection cost reductions. Lets not forget that most other European countries are up to 50% less for similar grid connections.

I must apologies for this late amendment but feel it is important.

Yours sincerely

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