

Sarah Friedel
SONI Limited
Castlereagh House
12 Manse Road
Belfast
BT6 9RT

18 July 2018

Ref: CNO/E/TH/402

Dear Sarah

North-South Interconnector Land Access- Easements –TNPP approval.

Thank you for SONI's Transmission Network Pre-Construction Projects (TNPP) submission paper on 2nd February 2018 regarding the North-South Interconnector. We are still considering the full TNPP approval request which will be brought to our Board for their consideration shortly.

Within this submission you requested additional approval for the costs associated with easements \ landowner compensation payments for this specific project.

We are aware that SONI are keen to re-commence the engagement process with firm offers of easement payments, in keeping with their commitments to landowners.

We acknowledge that easements was used within the Gas to the West infrastructure project and given the significance importance of the North South interconnector infrastructure project we are content for the SONI to progress with easements engagement with landowners in regards to landowner compensation payments for this specific project.

Having given consideration to the information presented, the Utility Regulator approves the expenditure for easements / landowner compensation payments up to a maximum of £3.4m (2014 prices) based on expenditure estimates as described by SONI and broken down into payments for the Easement Corridor, Right of Way, Residential Farm Payments and Capitalised Tower Payments.

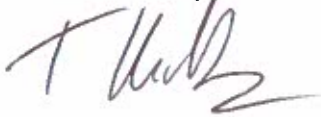
Please note that this approved amount is a maximum amount, and only actual costs up to this amount that are efficiently and properly incurred should be recoverable. Finalised payment of

monies to the SONI in respect of Transmission Network Pre-Construction Project Costs will be reviewed and approved by the Authority.

In approving the above the Utility Regulator requests that update reports are provided within the bi-monthly SONI/ Utility Regulator meetings for these additional costs. An auditable completion report may also be required; this requirement is supplementary to any previous reporting conditions that the Utility Regulator has stated.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Tanya Hedley
Director of Compliance and Network Operations