

Alan Kennedy  
SONI LTD  
Castlereagh House  
12 Manse Road  
Belfast  
BT6 9RT

22 October 2019

Our Ref – NET/E/TH/155

Dear Alan,

**RE: SONI Limited - Derogation request under Metering Code Sub-Code No. 2.1, section 3.3.5 of the Grid Code in respect of Unit GT21 at Ballylumford Power Station**

**Whereas:**

- (A) SONI Limited (“**SONI**”) (“**the licensee**”) holds an electricity transmission licence (the “**Licence**”) granted to it on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2007.
  - (B) The licensee is authorised to participate in the transmission of electricity for the purpose of giving a supply to any premises or enabling a supply to be so given.
  - (C) The Grid Code is required to be prepared by SONI Limited, approved by the Utility Regulator (the “**UR**”) and applied by SONI Limited to permit the development, maintenance and operation of an efficient, co-ordinated and economical Transmission System.
  - (D) Paragraph 1 of Condition 16 of the Licence requires the licensee to comply with the provisions of the Grid Code insofar as applicable to it. Paragraph 6 of Condition 16 specifies the content of the Grid Code including: connection conditions; operating code; planning code; a set of scheduling and dispatch codes and a metering code.
  - (E) Paragraph 12 of Condition 16 of the licence provides that the UR may issue directions (after consultation with the licensee), relieving the licensee of its obligations to implement or comply with, or to enforce against any other person any provision of, the Grid Code in respect of such parts of the Transmission system to such extent as may be specified in the directions.
1. On 18<sup>th</sup> September 2019, the Utility Regulated received a document dated 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019 from EP Ballylumford Limited (formerly AES Ballylumford Limited) (“**EPB**”) (“**the licensee**”) requesting a further one year derogation from the following requirements of the SONI Grid Code:-

Section 3.3.5 (a) of the Metering Code Sub-Code No 2.1 requires:

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*"Two sets of CTs to BS7626/HD553S1 and ERS3/1 with a minimum standard of accuracy class 0.2S shall be provided per circuit and shall also meet (to the extent applicable) any meter certification regulations in force at the time".*

Section 3.3.5 (e) of the Metering Code Sub-Code No 2.1 requires:

*"Main and check meters must be connected to different CTs"*

2. The UR has taken into account SONI's support of the derogation from Sections 3.3.5 (a) and 3.3.5 (e) of Metering Code Sub-Code No 2.1 of the SONI Grid Code based on the following factors set out in SONI's letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2019:-
  - In general SONI were supportive of EPB's request for a temporary derogation and recommended that the Utility Regulator grants the derogation.
  - This temporary metering configuration will remove SONI's facility to observe variations in current transformer (CT) accuracy by comparing readings derived from a duplicate arrangement. In order to mitigate this SONI propose to check the metering from Unit B21 via their SCADA archives on a monthly basis.

**The Utility Regulator now gives the following Direction:**

**Direction**

1. Pursuant to its power under paragraph 12 of Condition 16 of the licence, the UR directs that the Licensee is relieved of its obligations under Condition 16 of the Licence Document to implement, comply with and enforce, in relation to unit GT21 Ballylumford Power Station, Sections 3.3.5 (a) and 3.3.5 (e) of Metering Code Sub-Code No 2.1 of the SONI Grid Code.
2. This direction applies until 15th November 2020 however once the replacement CT has been installed and Grid Code compliant this direction will cease to apply.
3. This direction relates solely to the GT21 unit at Ballylumford Power Station and does not set a precedent for future derogations.

Signed .....  


**Name: Tanya Hedley**

**Date: 22/10/2019**

**Authorised by and on behalf of the Northern Ireland Authority for Utility Regulation**

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