

I can appreciate that the underlying issues are complex, important, and far reaching but it is paramount that existing windfarms are not financially disadvantaged by any decision the SEM Committee makes in relation to the future design of the SEM. In addition to this it is clear to me that Gate 1 and Gate 2 projects need compensation where constraint levels (both quantum and tenure) as set out in the original Eirgrid/ ESB Networks constraint reports are exceeded, at their PPA price. Gate 3 projects will need to assess their constraint reports and make investment decision based on these as indeed Gate 1 and Gate 2 had to do.

Finally, Whilst I can accept there are strains on the current SEM design which will inevitably arise from the prospect of accommodating a major escalation in renewable – and largely intermittent – generation it should be noted Eirgrid has done extensive work on Firm Access dates for all Gate 3 projects for 2010-2023 and therefore the principle of firm access as well as prior Access Rights must be respected.

Yours sincerely,


Inge Buckley