

LOUGHDERRYDUFF WINDFARM

NORTH WEST WIND LTD.

7 Main Street, Howth, Co. Dublin
Tel./Fax no 01-8322636 email scanenergy@eircom.net

Jean Pierre Miura,
Utility Regulator
Queens House
14 Queen Street
Belfast
BT1 6ED

Philip Newsome,
Commission for Energy Regulation,
The Exchange,
Belgard Square North,
Tallaght,
Dublin 24.

25th July 2014

By email to: jeanpierre.miura@uregni.gov.uk and pnewsome@cer.ie.

Re: Response to the "Integrated Single Electricity Market (I-SEM) High Level Design for Ireland and Northern Ireland from 2016 Draft Decision Paper", SEM-14-045

North West Wind Ltd. owns and operates a 7.65MW windfarm, which went into operation in 2008 under the REFIT 1 support program. The owners are a small group of private individuals. North West Wind Ltd. (NWW) has – as all REFIT supported windfarms – a 15 year Power Purchase Contract with a Supply company. NWW is concerned, when the Draft Decision paper states that no long term physical contracts for buying and selling of power will be allowed; yet app. 40% of the electricity market will be in physical long terms contracts under the REFIT program by 2020. NWW is also concerned, if capacity payments are removed, the PSO levy will increase accordingly and the size of the PSO levy could become a threat to the REFIT program and thereby stall further wind development. Finally NWW is concerned, whether there will be a viable market for it to operate in, when its REFIT contract expired in 2023 and it will be out of support. The turbines should have a lifespan of at around 25 years; so to have to remove them prematurely, will be an awful waste of resources.

North West Wind supports the IWEA response to this consultation. We note that this is the most important consultation for the industry in recent times and will have a significant impact on the future of the electricity system in Ireland. As an industry we are in the process of an energy transition, which is set to continue into the future, to an energy system with increased levels of renewable generation. **It is essential that the market design is fit for purpose for a market which will have 40% of electricity produced from renewables**

Registered Office: 7 Main Street, Howth Co. Dublin
Registration number: 367413

Company Directors: John Gillespie, Inge Buckley, Conal Shovlin, Peter McArdle

LOUGHDERRYDUFF WINDFARM

NORTH WEST WIND LTD.

7 Main Street, Howth, Co. Dublin
Tel./Fax no 01-8322636 email scanenergy@eircom.net

(primarily wind) in 2020, and that the suitability of the market for the trading of electricity from wind energy is given appropriate consideration from day one. A long-term stable market which encourages investment and appropriately reflects costs is needed.

The IWEA response to this proposed decision highlights the areas of the proposed decision of which the wind industry are supportive as well as highlighting where changes are required to ensure an appropriate market framework for wind energy into the future.

IWEA have restated their preference for a long term price based capacity remuneration mechanism, and highlighted concerns around the proposed reliability options, noting that any design principle of a CRM needs to ensure that wind generation receives fair payment for its capacity credit contribution to system security.

On the basis of legal advice, IWEA is of the view that if the Proposed CRM were to be adopted, there is a potential for it be challenged legally on grounds that participants in the wind sector have a legitimate expectation of receiving remuneration payments under the Current CRM. We would further argue that the Proposed CRM discriminates against participants in the wind sector in contravention of overarching European policy aims of preventing discrimination against renewables in the I-SEM, on the basis of a lack of cost-reflectiveness and that there could also be disproportionate interference with property rights contrary to Article 1.

IWEA has also presented a number of further considerations for the SEM Committee with reference to the renewable energy targets, the requirements under the RES Directive, and the need for a market that is accessible, transparent and fair for all generators.

It is essential that a detailed project plan is provided by the SEM Committee which gives information in relation to the different workstreams which need to be brought forward and the timeframes associated with them. This should be published without delay.

In conclusion we would like to thank the SEM Committee for the opportunity to engage on this issue and to highlight the particular importance of this consultation given the significant implications it has for the viability of the wind sector.

Yours sincerely

**sent by email, requires no signature*

Inge Buckley