








## Gate 3 Liaison Group




|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| <b>Title</b> | <b>Liaison Group Status Report – Gate 3 Offer Project</b> |
| <b>Date</b>  | <b>17 February 2010</b>                                   |
| <b>From</b>  | <b>EirGrid, ESB Networks, CER</b>                         |
| <b>To</b>    | <b>Liaison Group</b>                                      |

### Summary Status

|   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <b>Overall Status</b>   | <b>Schedule</b>  | <b>Issues</b>   | <b>Risks</b>  |
|  |  |  |  |

### Work-streams

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <b>EirGrid</b>  | <b>DSO</b>  | <b>CER</b>  |
|  |  |  |

| <b>Status Summary</b>   |  |
|---|--|
|  | Project is continuing within agreed schedule and deliverable requirements with no major schedule or deliverable impact expected.       |
|  | Project schedule or a work stream deliverable is at risk of not meeting requirements. Monitor and apply corrective action as required. |
|  | Project schedule or a work stream deliverable is not meeting requirements. Corrective action is required immediately.                  |

## Project Update

Overall the Gate 3 offer programme is on schedule. The ITC phase of the project was completed on schedule with Firm Access Quantities (FAQ) for all applicants within the gate published by EirGrid and CER on January 29th. Work is on-going on schedule for the issuance of the next set of offers (Ennis Region) in March/April. Customer meetings for both renewable and conventional applicants within the gate are also progressing according to plan. Constraint studies are completing on schedule with the first studies for area K (Waterford area) due on 19<sup>th</sup> March.

The following is a list of the progress on key tasks relating to the CER's Gate 3 inter-related work-streams since the last scheduled Gate 3 Liaison Group meeting which was held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010:

**1. All-Island dispatch and Scheduling:**

The Regulatory Authorities (CER and NIAUR) consulted on this workstream in 2009 ([SEM-09-073](#)). The timeline for completion of this workstream is being reviewed by the Regulatory Authorities.

**2. Joint Pricing Principles**

Following a review of the comments to the consultation ([CER/09/137](#)) the rebating principles are being revisited by the System Operators. A proposed decision paper is scheduled for completion in February 2010.

**3. Losses Policy**

The Commission published on 19th January 2010 a decision paper ([CER/10/010](#)) on the losses policy for distribution connected generators.

**4. Contracts Process**

In December 2009 the CER approved and published the DSO's standard connection agreement ([CER-09-198](#)). Following the initial consultation on the high level process for implementation of the "fixed date with payments" approach it was decided that further detailed consultation was necessary. This consultation is scheduled for Q1, 2010 in conjunction with consultation on levels of incentives, payments, margins, etc. & other rules.

**5. Contestability for Distribution & Transmission Level Connections**

Following consultation ([CER/09/127](#)) in September 2009 the Commission published a proposed decision ([CER/09/193](#)) in December 2009 entitled "Contestability for Distribution & Transmission Level Connections to the Electricity System". The DSO and the Commission are currently reviewing the responses. The Commission plans to publish the final decision in March 2010.

**6. Locational Signals Options, (includes all-island TUoS & TLAFs).**

The System Operators and the Regulatory Authorities are reviewing the responses to the consultation ([SEM-09-107a](#)) on the preferred option(s) on TUoS and TLAFs. The timeline for the decision paper is under review by the System Operators and the Regulatory Authorities.

**System Operators Deliverables/Milestones**

| DELIVERABLE/MILESTONE                       | DUE DATE                                     | REQUESTED NEW DATE       | STATUS                        | EXPLANATION OF VARIANCE   |
|---|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| <b>ITC Run</b>                              |  |                          |                               |   |
| ITC Program Execution                       | 06/07/2009 to 26/01/2010                     |                          | Complete                      |   |
| <b>Firm Access Date Review</b>              |  |                          |                               |   |
| Third Party Technical Review                | 06/07/2009 to 18/01/2010                     | 06/07/2009 to 26/01/2010 | Complete                      |   |
| FAQ Publication                             |  |                          |                               |   |
| 2010-2017                                   | 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2009                    |                          | Complete                      |   |
| 2018-2021                                   | 20 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2010                    |                          | Published on 29 <sup>th</sup> |   |
| 2022-2025                                   | 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2010                    |                          | Complete                      |   |
| CER Review and Sign off                     | 06/07/2009 to 29/01/2010                     |                          | Complete                      |   |
| <b>Offer Process</b>                        |  |                          |                               |   |
| TSO/DSO Connection Method Meetings          | 01/05/2009 – 02/07/2010                      |                          | In Progress                   |   |
| TSO Connection Method Introductory Meetings | 01/05/2009 – 21/09/2009                      |                          | Complete                      |   |
| Application Fees (balance)                  | Publication of offer lead times - 07/01/2011 |                          | In Progress                   | Slight change to 2010 Fees - end of Jan rather than early Jan – change request to be raised |
| DSO Shallow Connection Reports              | 31/07/2009- 10/09/2010                       |                          | In Progress                   |   |

**Status Report Gate 3**

| <b>DELIVERABLE/MILESTONE</b>                          | <b>DUE DATE</b>         | <b>REQUESTED NEW DATE</b> | <b>STATUS</b> | <b>EXPLANATION OF VARIANCE</b> |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| TSO Connection Offers to DSO                          | 26/11/2009 – 31/05/2011 |                           | In Progress – |                                |
| Issue Transmission and Distribution Connection Offers | 17/12/2009 - 30/06/2011 |                           | In Progress – |                                |
| Publish Constraints Info                              | 19/03/2010- 29/06/2011  |                           | In Progress – |                                |

**Key Issues**

The following issues are flagged for attention

| <b>No.</b> | <b>Issue and Action Needed</b>  | <b>Date Raised</b> | <b>Priority (H-M-L)</b> | <b>Responsibility</b> | <b>Status (New, Open, Closed)</b> | <b>Date Closed</b> |
|------------|---|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1          | Applicant query on queue order raised: System Operator response provided to CER provided – review underway  | Sep                | H                       | CER/SO's              | Closed                            | Dec 09             |
| 2          | Improved streamlined approach to transmission works and connection offers to be outlined to Industry. Benefits of approach to be provided to the Liaison Group 20 <sup>th</sup> October | Oct                | H                       | SO's                  | Closed                            | Oct 09             |
| 3          | Reschedule of some customer meetings within Area B  | Nov                | H                       | SO's                  | Closed                            | Dec 09             |
| 4          | Extension to offer acceptance period requested until All-Island dispatch and Scheduling direction finalised   | Dec                | H                       | CER/SO's              | Closed                            | Dec 09             |

## Key Risks

The following risks are flagged for attention

| No. | Risk Description   | Risk Probability | Level of Impact | Trend | Mitigation Approach   | Contingency Approach                               |
|-----|--|------------------|-----------------|-------|---|--|
| 1   | ITC results do not meet policy objectives  | Low-Medium       | High            | ↓     | Refer to CER.   | Re-run ITC and reschedule Project Plan             |
| 2   | Policy decisions delayed / content of decisions impacts on project schedule examples include – distribution contestability And the SEM wind consultation                         | Medium-High      | High            | ↔     | On-going communication of impact with CER and Industry                                      | Re-run ITC and reschedule Project Plan             |
| 3   | Resources become unavailable   | Low-Medium       | High            | ↓     | On-going resource planning, detailed resource assessments and project governance structures | Address resource shortfall Reschedule Project Plan |
| 4   | Scope Creep: Project scope extends beyond processing offers resulting in delays to the issuing of connection offers  | Low              | High            | ↔     | Ensure scope of project is documented and communicated effectively                          | Reschedule Project Plan                            |
| 5   | Current assumptions for constraint reports may change pending the publication of the final direction on dispatch and scheduling resulting in a delay to the constraints schedule | Medium           | High            | ↔     | On-going industry consultation and co-ordination with CER                                   | Reschedule Project Plan                            |

**CER Gate 3 Inter-related Projects**

| Ref. | CER Workstream  | Workstream Description  | Consultation Paper |                  |   | Decision from CER |                  |   |
|------|---|---|--------------------|------------------|---|-------------------|------------------|---|
|      |   |   | Due Date           | Revised Due Date | Status  | Due Date          | Revised Due-Date | Status  |
| 1.   | All-Island dispatch and scheduling                                      | Confirmation by CER of dispatch and scheduling rules              | April '09          | July '09         | <b>Completed</b><br><a href="#">Consultation (SEM-09-073) published 8<sup>th</sup> July '09</a><br><a href="#">Workshop held 28<sup>th</sup> August '09</a> | Late July '09     | Under Review     |   |
| 2.   | Treatment of Renewable, Small and Low Carbon Generators outside the GPA | Decision by CER on which non-GPA plants receive connection offers | March '09          | -                | <b>Completed</b><br><a href="#">Consultation published March '09</a>  | End May '09       | July '09         | <b>Completed</b><br><a href="#">Decision published 24<sup>th</sup> July '09</a> |
| 3.   | Standard Costs and Timelines  | 3.a) Confirmation by CER of standard costs and leadtimes.         | October '08        | -                | <b>Completed</b><br><a href="#">published October '08</a>   | April '09         |                  | <b>Completed</b><br><a href="#">Decision published 1<sup>st</sup> May '09</a>   |
|      |   | 3.b) Open Book  |                    |                  |   |                   |                  |   |

**Status Report Gate 3**

| Ref. | CER Workstream                             | Workstream Description   | Consultation Paper         |                             |   | Decision from CER |   |  |
|------|--|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|-------------------|---|--|
|      |  |  | Due Date                   | Revised Due Date            | Status  | Due Date          | Revised Due-Date                                | Status   |
| 4.   | Treatment of Conventional Applications     | Decision by CER on the conventional plants to receive connection offers in tandem with Gate 3. | Feb '09                    | -                           | <b>Completed</b><br><a href="#">Consultation (CER/09/114) published Feb 2009</a>        | Not applicable    | Not applicable                                  | Not applicable   |
|      |  |  | Proposed Direction May '09 | Proposed Direction July '09 | <b>Completed</b><br><a href="#">Proposed Direction published July '09</a>               | End October '09   | December '09                                    | <b>Completed</b><br>Direction<br><a href="#">(CER/09/191)</a><br>published December 2009 |
| 5.   | Joint Pricing Principles and Losses Policy | 5.a) Approval by CER of the revisions to the Joint Pricing Principles (Charging) paper         | June '09                   | Early August '09            | <b>Completed</b><br><a href="#">Consultation (CER/09/137) published 18.08.09</a>        | End October '09   | CER to issue proposed decision in February 2010 | Rebating principles and stage payments to be revisited by SOs                            |
|      |  | 5.b) Losses policy for distribution connected generators                                       |                            |                             |   |                   | January 2010                                    | <b>Completed</b><br>Direction<br><a href="#">CER/10/010</a><br>published January 2010    |
| 6.   | Networks Connection Policy                 | General Connection Policy including capacity bonds   | April '09                  | -                           | <b>Completed</b><br><a href="#">Proposed Direction (CER/09/138) published April '09</a> | June '09          | August '09                                      | <b>Completed</b><br>Decision<br><a href="#">CER/09/138</a><br>published 25.08.09         |

**Status Report Gate 3**

| Ref. | CER Workstream   | Workstream Description  | Consultation Paper |                  |   | Decision from CER |                  |   |
|------|--|---|--------------------|------------------|---|-------------------|------------------|---|
|      |  |   | Due Date           | Revised Due Date | Status  | Due Date          | Revised Due-Date | Status  |
| 7.   | Contracts Process  | 7.a) DSO Standard Connecton Agreement   | June '09           | August '09       | <b>Completed</b><br>Consultation ( <a href="#">CER/09/145</a> ) published on 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept '09         | August '09        | December '09     | <b>Completed</b><br>Direction ( <a href="#">CER-09-198</a> ) published December 2009  |
|      |  | 7. b) Process for implementation of the "fixed date with payments" approach (Initial high level consultation) | June '09           | August '09       | <b>Completed</b><br>Initial Consultation ( <a href="#">CER/09/145</a> ) published on 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept '09 | Not applicable    | Not applicable   | Further detailed consultation step (with 7c) added, as follows  |
|      |  | 7.b) Detailed Consultation  | Q1 2010            | -                | On Track  | Q2, 2010          | Q2, 2010         |   |
|      |  | 7.c) Levels of incentives, payments, margins, etc & other rules re "fixed date with payments" approach.       | Q3, 2009           | Q1, 2010         | On track for Q1, 2010   | Q3, 2009          | Q2, 2010         | Needs further detailed consultation (with 7b)   |
| 8.   | Contestability for Distribution & Transmission Level Connections to the Electricity System | Decision regarding Distribution and Transmission Contestability.  | Early August '09   | -                | <b>Completed</b><br>Consultation ( <a href="#">CER/09/127</a> ) published August '09                          | Nov '09           | Mid-March 2010   | Proposed decision paper ( <a href="#">CER/09/193</a> ) published in December 2009<br><br>February 2010: Reviewing responses |



**Status Report Gate 3**

| Ref. | CER Workstream   | Workstream Description  | Consultation Paper   |                  |  | Decision from CER |                  |  |
|------|--|---|--|------------------|--|-------------------|------------------|--|
|      |  |   | Due Date   | Revised Due Date | Status   | Due Date          | Revised Due-Date | Status   |
| 9.   | Locational Signals Options, (includes TUoS & TLAFs)      | Decision on all-island generator TUoS charges and TLAFs.            | Consult on Multiple Options<br>May '09                       | -                | <b>Completed</b><br><a href="#">Consultation published May '09</a><br><a href="#">Workshop on Options held on 17<sup>th</sup> June '09</a> | Not applicable    | Not applicable   | <a href="#">Responses published mid-August</a>                                     |
|      |  |   | Consult on Proposed Option(s) & Tariffs/Factors<br>Nov. 2009 | -                | <b>Completed</b><br>SOs' preferred options consultation published 26 <sup>th</sup> November '09<br><a href="#">SEM-09-107a</a>             | Q1 2010           | Under Review     | Consultation closed 8.01.2010<br>Timeline for decision is under review             |
| 10.  | Allocating Scheduled Firm Access in Gate 3 ITC Programme | Detail for Allocating Scheduled Firm Access in Gate 3 ITC Programme | Late October 2009  | -                | <b>Completed</b><br>Consultation published 21 October 2009<br><a href="#">(CER/09/169)</a>   | December 2009     | On Track         | <b>Completed</b><br>Direction <a href="#">(CER/09/192)</a> published December 2009 |

## Open Change Requests

|        |   |            |     |        |
|--------|---|------------|-----|--------|
| ICR025 | Change request for node change DG223 (Binbane to Cathleens Falls) | 9.11.2009  | DSO | Medium |
| ICR028 | Askeaton Change between SOs                                       | 10.11.2009 | DSO | Medium |
| ICR029 | Node change: Lettercannon   | 17.11.2009 | TSO | Medium |
| ICR030 | Subgroup Node Change: Kilgarvin                                   | 17.11.2009 | TSO | Medium |