

Aoife Doyle
The Commission for Energy Regulation
The Exchange., Belgrad Square North
Tallaght,
Co. Dublin

14th Jan 2011

Second Consultation on Possible National Rollout Scenarios for the Smart Metering Cost Benefit Analysis

Dear Aoife,

The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) welcomes the opportunity to respond to the second consultation document.

SEAI broadly agrees with all of the objectives as set out in the consultation document and our detailed comments are recorded in the Appendix A document that accompanies this letter.

SEAI concurs with the commission's proposed strategic objectives for the national smart meter programme. In particular, because smart meters will facilitate peak load management, support and facilitate the uptake renewable and micro-generation and will improve network services, we believe that smart meters and a responsive and reliable communications infrastructure will be integral to the functionality of a Smart Grid. Consequently, we suggest that the Cost Benefit Analysis should take cognisance of this fact (i.e. that smart meters are a key requirement in the establishment of a smart grid), and that part of the cost for a national smart meter rollout be offset against this accordingly.

We would like to thank the CER for the work delivered to date and trust that you will find this submission constructive. We look forward to hearing back from you in due course.

Yours sincerely,



Joe Durkan

Programme Manager – Smart Metering / Smart Grids

Copies: B Motherway, K Polaski, K O'Rourke, D Meally