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25 November 2013

Deirdre Bell,
Commission for Energy Regulation,
The Exchange,
Belgard Square North,
Tallaght,
Dublin 24.

Dear Ms. Bell,

EirGrid welcomes the opportunity to respond to the ESB Networks Proposed Electric Vehicle Pilot Consultation Paper (25 October 2013).

Increased numbers of Electric Vehicles will be a positive development for Ireland. Aside from further decarbonisation of the transport sector, considered integration will also support the management of renewable generation and, through increased competitive pressures arising from greater demand side liquidity, will have a downward pressure on wholesale energy prices. These are positive long term benefits for the electricity consumer and society at large. In this regard EirGrid supports the ESB Networks pilot.

Given the substantial scale of the pilot and the ultimate cost to the end consumer, EirGrid believes the proposal should also take account of the wider power system. This is particularly pertinent in light of Ireland's ambitious 2020 renewable targets. For example, flexible electric charging on an aggregate basis has the potential to complement the variability of wind generation. Key to this is a deep understanding of the power system with large scale deployment of variable renewable generation – EirGrid can provide this expertise. In addition, EirGrid's involvement is essential to fully quantify the benefits for consumers of Electric Vehicles on the system. This includes consideration of factors including demand side management, curtailment optimisation and identification of possible system reinforcements.

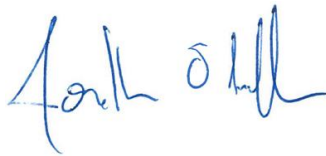


Chief Executive: Fintan Slye. Directors: Doireann Barry, Dr Gary Healy, Martina Moloney, Regina Moran, Liam O'Halloran,
Bnde Rosney, Dr Joan Smyth, Richard Sterling

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In summary, EirGrid supports the Electric Vehicle pilot and recommends that our required expertise is formally recognised in the governance and programme scope. Should you have any questions on any part of the EirGrid response, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,



Jonathan O'Sullivan

Manager, Sustainable Power Systems



Directors: Bernie Gray, Chairperson, Fintan Slye, Chief Executive, Doireann Barry, Dr Gary Healy, Martina Moloney, Regina Moran, Liam O'Halloran, Bride Rosney, Dr Joan Smyth, Richard Sterling

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