

**Peoples Energy Charter submission - Review of Connection and Grid Access Policy: Initial Thinking & Proposed Transitional Arrangements**

To whom it concerns

We welcome this review of the connection and grid access policy. Unfortunately we were unaware of it until recently despite having contributed to the White Paper on Energy amongst other energy policy consultations. Perhaps contact lists of people who have participated in energy policy previously could be notified of new consultations in future? While they may be notified of updates on their original submissions they could also be alerted to new consultations.

In the short time we have had to discuss this document we are agreed that it will take more than time to prepare informed input. This is not a document that we can merely comment on. We need to engage with the content and learn some more about it. We will also need somebody available to explain the document and some of the terms and references it uses.

It is quite apparent that this consultation was written before the White Paper was published. This has the affect of making swathes of it obsolete really. For CER to state ... *given that no new or revised targets for member states for post 2020 have been outlined to date, connecting a large number of renewables to the system to achieve the RES-E 40% target may no longer be as significant a driver of policy. Therefore, the CER proposes that connection policy will have to consider a wider range of economic and policy drivers and there is not likely to be one single driver which dictates the direction that the policy should take.* indicates that there probably needs to be a whole rethink on this policy. Grid access and connection is extremely important to Irelands Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future.

We would also like more in-depth discussion with CER around the transitional arrangements. Given that the proposed transitional arrangements are neither past nor future policy and are being included at the tail end of a policy review consultation we have concerns about their transparency.

There have been a lot of issues around the grid in the past decade. It is quite apparent that public participation has been lacking at the planning stage. With this in mind PEC would like to see a more robust consultation on this review especially given that there are proposed transitional arrangements that were devised without the consultation usually afforded policy and with no end date.

Kind regards

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Seeking Comprehensive Public Participation in Irelands National Energy Transition Plans

