



**McGRATHS
CONG**

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Ms. Grainne Black,
Commission for Energy Regulation,
The Exchange,
Belgard Square North,
Tallaght
Dublin 24

26.06.2017

Re: Public Service Obligation Levy 2017/2018

Dear Grainne,

McGrath's Limestone (Cong) Ltd. welcomes the opportunity to respond to the CER Proposed Decision paper Public Service Obligation Levy 2017/2018.

The PSO levy is a substantial component of end use pricing; it has increased from €1.15/kVA in 2010-2011 to the proposed price for 2016-2017 of €3.74; this represents a 226% increase in the levy in a period of serious economic difficulty. This year alone another increase of 12.3% is proposed.

In addition to the ongoing increase in the levy, there appears to be no long term projections available for businesses to plan to. Every year there are changes, most often increases, which then come into the bills in October which is very unfair as the majority of businesses run budgets in-line with the calendar year.

Irish electricity prices are among the highest in Europe and this dramatic increase in the PSO Levy only serves to maintain this imbalance. Job creation, job security and the competitiveness of Irish companies abroad are adversely affected by this levy.

Yours Sincerely,

John Joe McGrath
Director

