

Connection Point Provisions

Follow Up Feedback from IWEA

16th September 2016

Following on from the Generator Connections Liaison Group meeting which took place on Tuesday 6th September, IWEA would like to provide further information on what we would like to see in terms of Connection Point Provisions.

IWEA notes that while concerns have been raised by the system operators in relation to multiple owners behind connection points, the exact detail relating to these concerns has not been provided and we are therefore unable to provide feedback in relation to that detail. IWEA is not looking for a decrease of protection to system operators, we believe that a solution that acknowledges an additional party while still providing the necessary security to the SOs is achievable.

IWEA believes that it is essential that the regulator paves the way for flexibility in relation to connection point provisions to enable more efficient use to be made of existing grid capacity. As we move to a system with increasing levels of renewables, it is important to ensure that the cost of these projects can be reduced to the greatest extent possible, while maintaining safe operation of the system, to ensure that cost reduction of renewables can be achieved. IWEA is strongly of the view that the following types of projects should be facilitated:

- Wind farm extensions
- Co-location of wind and solar, or wind and battery storage
- Community ownership of turbines

IWEA believes that there should be full flexibility in relation to the provisions which can then be backed up by the required contracts.

IWEA believes that the provisions which are in place for Autoproduction and CHP could be amended to allow for colocation of projects. A precedence has been set whereby the contracted party may have a private contractual arrangements with another party who owns the generator on site. IWEA believes that this could be adapted to allow for colocation of generation:

- *A customer is allowed to have a private contractual relationship with a generator on site.*
- *Autoproducer provisions in ESB/EirGrid general conditions Clause 4.2*

*No connection agreement will be entered into by the **Company** with a generator who is contracted to a **Customer** who is an **Autoproducer** or **CHP Producer** to produce on the **Customer's Premises** electricity which is consumed by the **Customer**, whether or not all of that electricity is consumed by the **Customer**. A connection agreement will be offered only to the **Customer**. The contractual and other arrangements between the **Customer** and such a generator must reflect that position.*

IWEA requests a meeting with the CER and the System Operators to discuss any concerns in more detail and to determine what the appropriate next steps might be in relation advancing the required changes.