

**IWEA feedback on CER Connection Policy Work Plan
23 January 2017**

IWEA welcomes the opportunity to comment on the CER Connection Policy Workplan for 2017
The work plan presented at the previous meeting lists the following:

1. Future Connection Policy:
 - a. Transitional Arrangements; **decision published**
 - b. Enduring Connection Policy;
2. MEC Security Policy Amendments; **decision published**
3. Contestable Commissioning;
4. OGSC;
5. Harmonics;
6. Joint Charging Principles;
7. Connection Agreement Review (CAR);
8. Standard Charges;
9. COPP Clarifications; **clarification note published**

Comments on the work plan:

Transitional Arrangements – IWEA expects the uptake of the release of capacity to be limited given the lack of clarity in relation to the enduring grid access policy. The ability to hand back partial capacity would allow this to be further utilised.

A regular update on the take up of the transitional arrangements at the GCLG would be welcomed.

Enduring Connection Policy – it was noted that the next consultation on this is likely to be Q3 2017. This needs to be prioritised and expedited so that the consultation can take place in the first half of 2017.

Harmonics – This was consulted on in July 2014 and no decision has been made.

Additional Items to be addressed:

IWEA believes there are a number of additional items which need to be addressed including the following:

- Non-GPA process – IWEA strongly believes that the non-GPA process is not fit for purpose and needs to be addressed, in particular given the extended timeframe for the enduring connection policy.
- EU network codes – these codes, and their implementation in Ireland, will need to be addressed throughout 2017.
- Contestable telecoms – this is an item that was raised at the Liaison Group meeting
- Review dispute process to minimise/avoid spurious disputes
- Status updates on derogations and Grid Code Compliance Testing (derogations are due to move from SO review to CER consideration over next few months and it would be useful to track)

- More efficient use of grid capacity – increasing installed capacity and separate legal entities behind connection point, line rating review
- Extend compensation for curtailment past Jan 2018 due to delay of DS3 programme

As discussed previously IWEA also proposes that a connections forum be established with a similar structure to D/GCRP to ensure connection costs are appropriate and reduced where possible, dealing with:

- Pricing and Standards
- COPP review: splitting/2nd stage & stranded asset bonds
- Increasing capacity behind connection point: EirGrid market, Grid code, performance monitoring meeting
- Connection costs review

IWEA welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback and is available to discuss these items further.