



**UCD Energy Institute response to the CRU Consultation on the Terms of Reference of The
Networks Stakeholder Engagement Evaluation Panel [CRU/19/015](#)**

15 March 2019

The UCD Energy Institute welcomes the opportunity to respond to CRU/19/015. The UCD Energy Institute is a multidisciplinary institute where the focus of the research is in the area of energy systems including electricity, heating and transport. The inclusion of additional aspects such as meteorology, consumer behaviour and policy implications makes us uniquely placed to carry out research looking at the real world implications of policy scenarios and implementation. The institute is located at the heart of the UCD campus in the O'Brien Centre for Science and includes the new IE Lab.

We welcome the establishment of a panel of stakeholders to evaluate the Stakeholder Engagement activities of the TSO and DSO. The TSO and DSO are essential stakeholders in our research relating to the operation of the power system and our experience with them has been very positive to date. We have some comments relating to the consultation paper as outlined below.

Terms of Reference

The manner in which complaints are dealt with is an important part of stakeholder engagement and the processes along with summary statistics should be provided.

Consideration should be given to merging Meeting 1 and Meeting 2. As outlined in the consultation document, the report for consultation by the System Operators should be no longer than 15 A4 pages, therefore the time to present these should not be excessive. It would also help Panel members to have the presentation of the strategy and report alongside the consultation responses, rather than having these 2 presentations 2 weeks apart. Larger organisations have greater resources for participation in the panel, however the panel needs to be inclusive of community representatives and small consumer representatives.

Remote access facilities should be available for panel attendees.

We support having a separate meeting (Meeting 3) to score the TSO and DSO on their submissions where the SOs would not be in attendance.

The responses to the consultations should be available for panel members to review.

While the proposed panel reflects a spectrum of stakeholders, there may need to be additional representation from communities given the focus from DCCA on community involvement in energy.

Committee Representation:

The UCD Energy Institute would be happy to nominate an academic representative to sit on the panel.