

**BY EMAIL: [Electricityconnectionpolicy@cru.ie](mailto:Electricityconnectionpolicy@cru.ie)**  
Cahir O'Neill, Electricity Connection Policy,  
Commission for Regulation of Utilities,  
The Exchange, Belgard Square  
North, Tallaght,  
Dublin 24, D24 PXW0

24<sup>th</sup> January 2020

**RE: Enduring Connection Policy Stage 2 – Proposed Decision**

Dear Sir or Madam,

As a member of the Irish Solar Energy Association (ISEA), we share the views, and in some instances concerns, being expressed by ISEA in its submission of today's date to your Department.

We support ISEA's submission but would like to stress the following points.

- The need to connect renewable energy is great now than ever before. The CRU needs to design an enduring system which allows project developers plan with certainty by providing clear timeframes for processing of applications once planning is determined. The current proposal of 50 applications is wholly inadequate.
- The cost of connection application and grid security is a barrier to investment in Ireland. We are currently developing in excess of 1,500 MW of projects in the UK where grid connections are a fraction of the costs in Ireland. The CRU needs to revise connection costs in line with other jurisdictions and meet its obligations under the European Directives 2019 on Energy policy to provide fair access to the grid.
- We welcome the opportunity for early engagement with ESB but await the detail.
- We cannot support batch prioritisation in its proposed format due to the low numbers that are proposed to be processed under ECP2. Only where the number is increased to a minimum of 125 do we support such a proposal.
- The CRU and ESB need to recognise the opportunity for each and every home, business, farm and SME in the country to assist in meeting our climate change targets. The proposal to process only 15-30 projects a year for projects greater than 11kw is wholly inadequate.

We fully endorse and support the recommendations being put forward by ISEA in its submission as a means of dealing with these issues.

Yours faithfully,



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**Development Manager**