

Email to:
RIIOElectricityTransmission@ofgem.gov.uk



31 March 2023

Dear Lina Apostoli,

Orkney Transmission Project – Minded-to consultation on Needs Case and Delivery Model

Scottish Renewables is the voice of Scotland's renewable energy industry. The sectors we represent deliver investment, jobs, social benefits and reduce the carbon emissions which cause climate change. Our 330 plus members work across all renewable energy technologies, in Scotland, the UK, Europe and around the world. In representing them, we aim to lead and inform the debate on how the growth of renewable energy can help sustainably heat and power Scotland's homes and businesses.

The Orkney Islands are home to some of the world's greatest resources of renewable electricity, from established onshore wind, to emerging marine technologies, where Orkney is at the forefront of global developments in marine energy generation.

Following significant growth in small-scale renewable electricity generation in Orkney, the local electricity network has long been at full capacity and no new electricity generation can connect without significant reinforcements.

Scottish Renewables supports the progression of a timely upgrade to the connection to Orkney to alleviate current and future constraints and allow more generators to connect smoothly. We welcome Ofgem's decision to provisionally approve long awaited and much needed plans to provide a subsea electricity transmission link to Orkney.

This as a hugely significant milestone in finally unlocking Orkney's vast renewable potential and is decisive in connecting Scotland's three main island groups.

Scottish Renewables would be keen to engage further with this agenda and would be happy to discuss our response in more detail.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen McKellar

Stephen McKellar
Policy Manager | Grid & Systems
Scottish Renewables

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