

Inveralmond House
200 Dunkeld Road
Perth
PH1 3AQ

Stuart Cook
Director of Transmission
Office of Gas and Electricity Markets
9 Millbank
London
SW1P 3GE

Telephone: 01738 456571
Facsimile: 01738 456415

30th September 2008

Dear Stuart,

**Long-term Electricity Networks Scenarios (LENS):
Draft scenarios report and consultation**

SSE welcomes the opportunity to respond to the draft scenarios report prepared by Ofgem's academic partners, the Institute for Energy and Environment of the University of Strathclyde and King's College London.

We note that whilst there may be no direct link between the LENS project and DPCR5, it is likely that the LENS project will help inform discussions on the (relatively) short term investment requirements for DPCR5. We also note that any revisions to network policy in light of the final scenarios are likely to be considered as part of the RPI@20 review.

Overall we have been supportive of the LENS study work and are in broad agreement with the five scenarios outlined in the draft report. We believe that all of the scenarios are plausible and, between them, span a suitably wide range of plausible outcomes for GB electricity networks in 2050. With regard to the scenario implications, we believe that leadership by Ofgem in bringing forward change will be critical in ensuring that the electricity networks continue to be fit for purpose. In our view, Ofgem's role will be to provide certainty in a changing environment in order to encourage the necessary investment and development of the networks.

If you have any queries regarding this response please do not hesitate to call me.

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm J Burns
Regulation Manager