

Alan Craig  
Finance and Network Assets  
Queens House  
14 Queen Street  
Belfast  
BT1 6ED

21/3/24

**REF: RP7 Price Control Determination**

Dear Alan,

I am writing to you as a long term sub-contractor of NIE to express the challenges we face in this industry so you can be aware of these factors when considering the RP7 price control.

Campbell Contracts have held a contract to supply operated plant and machinery to the Overhead Lines Teams since 1974, we are proud to be a key chain partner with NIE for 50 years.

During this time we have seen many changes, however since 2020 and the covid pandemic, the challenges faced by our industry have been unprecedented. These challenges have been further compounded since Brexit.

One of the factors that has had the biggest impact on costs, has been the risings and fluctuations in fuel.

In recent years we have faced a massive shortfall in skilled labour resources and have experienced previously unseen levels of staff turnover since 2020. As a company we were forced to employ drastic measures to put a stop to losing staff in whom we have invested heavily. That has meant increasing wages and several other incentives to ensure staff retention, all at increased cost to the company.

As an industry as a whole, insurance costs are spiralling year on year and despite being a low claim company who invest heavily in health and safety management systems we are feeling the pressure of the rising costs.

The pricing and availability of spare and wear parts for plant and machinery has increased dramatically with no end in sight.



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I would appreciate if you would give take above factors into account when considering RP7 Price Control. If you have any queries or require any further clarity on issues raised, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

*Grainne Quinn*

Grainne Quinn

Director

Campbell Contracts LTD



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