

Utility Regulator  
Queens House  
14 Queen Street  
Belfast  
BT1 6ED

25 February 2025

Dear Colleague

### **Draft Forward Work Programme (FWP) 2025-2026**

NIE Networks welcomes the publication of the UR's Draft Forward Work Programme (FWP) 2025-2026, and the opportunity to provide feedback. Our comments are set out below.

- The FWP is comprehensive and includes many projects, and delivering them all may be a challenge for the UR. Where any projects require input and/or involvement from NIE Networks, we are committed to working with you and to delivering the required outputs/outcomes from the relevant projects.
- In relation to Project 1.2, which refers to the electricity Time of Use (ToU) tariffs and dynamic tariffs, the industry has requested that apportionment of existing network tariffs be considered. Specifically, to consider the portion of network costs recovered from particular customers groups and its appropriateness. The UR may wish to consider including this as part of the project.
- There does not seem to be a project regarding changes to the connection charging arrangements in Northern Ireland. Given its strategic importance, the UR will need to ensure adequate resources are available to progress the agreed changes, without any undue delay.
- In the aftermath of Storm Éowyn, the UR may need to consider adding a project to work with the DfE and NIE Networks, to review and amend the existing Guaranteed Standards of Service (GSS) arrangements in Northern Ireland. Such a project should also include consideration and implementation of the associated price control amendments that will be necessary to accommodate any new arrangements.

In addition to the points made above, we would also like to acknowledge the very positive engagement we have had working together with the UR over the past 12 months. We are confident that we and the UR can continue to work constructively to address the challenging but also exciting period that lies ahead, for the benefit of everyone in Northern Ireland.

Yours faithfully



**CARL HASHIM**  
Head of Regulation Strategy