

Brian Moorhead  
Network Connections Major Projects  
Northern Ireland Electricity Networks Limited

Date: 27/04/2018

Our Ref: CNO/E/TH/352

Dear Brian,

**Request for Authority's consent to further defer Connection Offer Timelines to Issue a Connection Offer for Connection Application at Hightown Quarry Waste Incinerator, NIE Networks reference 16/16703.**

Thank you for your correspondence of 16 April 2018 requesting consent from the Authority for NIE Networks to extend the required three month timeline to issue a connection offer to **Hightown Road**, Connection Application.

**NIE Network's request for further connection offer extension**

NIE Network's asks for a further extension for this connection offer to 31/08/2018 under Condition 30 paragraph 4 of the NIE Networks Distribution licence.

NIE Networks have stated that this extension request is to enable the formulation and issue of a distribution connection offer for this application. This has previously not been possible due to SONI assessment concluding that no capacity existed for this application at transmission level. NIE networks have also commented that on 11th April, following a reassessment of transmission capacity by SONI, with respect to an updated connection queue due to third parties withdrawing from the queue, SONI were able to confirm that capacity now exists for this application.

NIE Networks have advised the applicant of this updated status and are liaising with the applicant to finalise the details of their application so that an accurate connection offer can be progressed by NIE Networks.

**The Authority's decision**

The relevant section of the distribution licence is within Condition 30. This requires a connection offer to be made not later than 3 months unless consent to a longer period has been approved by the Authority.

Having considered your correspondence and reviewed the response from the connection applicant in question, the Authority is able to agree to the extension period requested to 31/08/2018.

We wish to remind NIE Networks that we remain of the view that granting of extensions should be the exception rather than the norm, and so NIE Networks should be mindful of this if considering further extensions in the future

This extension letter will be published on our website; we will also keep a record of the information and decision on the Public Electricity Register as required by the Electricity (Northern Ireland) Order 1992.

We ask to be kept informed of progress.

Yours sincerely,



**Tanya Hedley**  
**Director of Compliance and Network Operations**