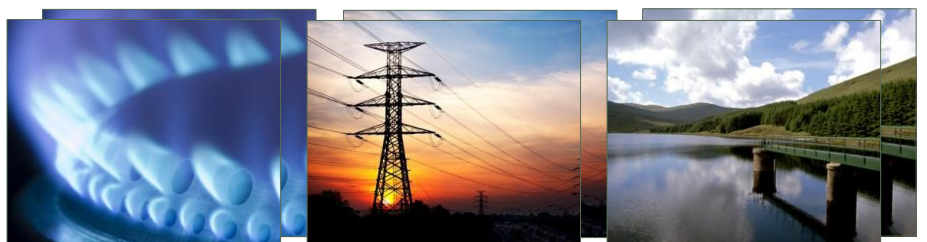


# Antrim Wind Energy Limited Decision Paper

5 February 2018



# About the Utility Regulator

The Utility Regulator is the independent non-ministerial government department responsible for regulating Northern Ireland's electricity, gas, water and sewerage industries, to promote the short and long-term interests of consumers.

We are not a policy-making department of government, but we make sure that the energy and water utility industries in Northern Ireland are regulated and developed within ministerial policy as set out in our statutory duties.

We are governed by a Board of Directors and are accountable to the Northern Ireland Assembly through financial and annual reporting obligations.

We are based at Queens House in the centre of Belfast. The Chief Executive leads a management team of directors representing each of the key functional areas in the organisation: Corporate Affairs; Electricity; Gas; Retail and Social; and Water. The staff team includes economists, engineers, accountants, utility specialists, legal advisors and administration professionals.

## Our Mission

Value and sustainability in energy and water.

## Our Vision

We will make a difference for consumers by listening, innovating and leading.

## Our Values

Be a best practice regulator: transparent, consistent, proportionate, accountable, and targeted.

Be a united team.

Be collaborative and co-operative.

Be professional.

Listen and explain.

Make a difference.

Act with integrity.

## Abstract

On 23 October 2017, the Utility Regulator (UR) gave notice under Article 10(4) of the Electricity (Northern Ireland) Order 1992 (the Order) that we proposed to grant a licence to generate electricity to Antrim Wind Energy Ltd. We received one response to that notice. This document sets out our final decision on the grant of the licence.

## Audience

Electricity Industry, Statutory Bodies

## Consumer impact

The decision to grant a licence to generate electricity to Antrim Wind Energy Ltd is part of the statutory objective of the Utility Regulator to promote competition, where appropriate in the generation, transmission and supply of electricity.

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# 1. Introduction

1.1. Article 10(4) of the Order states that:

*Before granting a licence under this Article the Authority [UR] shall give notice –*

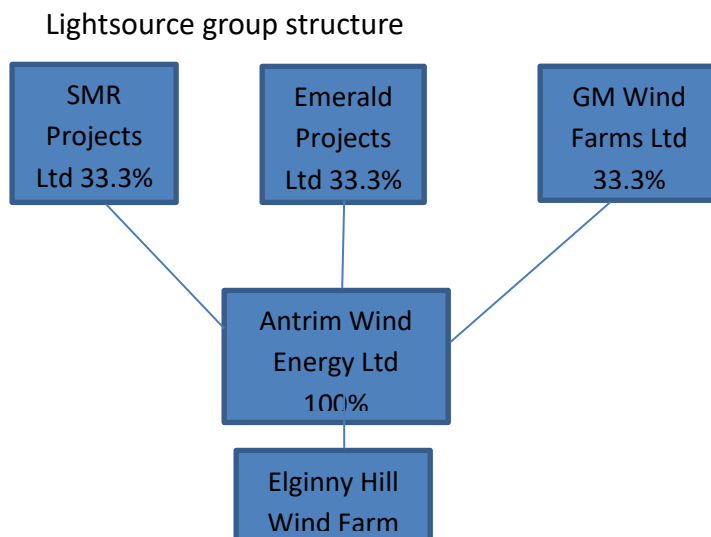
- (a) stating that the Authority proposed to grant the licence;*
- (b) stating the reasons why it is proposed to grant the licence; and*
- (c) specifying the time (not being less than 28 days from the date of publication of the notice) within which representations or objections with respect to the proposed licence may be made,*

*and shall consider any representations or objections which are duly made and not withdrawn<sup>1</sup>.*

1.2. On 23 October 2017, the UR published a notice under Article 10(4) of the Order that we proposed to grant a licence to generate electricity to Antrim Wind Energy Ltd<sup>2</sup>.

1.3. Figure 1 below shows where Antrim Wind Energy Ltd sits within the overall company corporate structure.

Figure 1: Antrim Wind Energy Ltd. Corporate Structure



1.4. The purpose of the notice mentioned at 1.2 above was to bring to the attention of

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisi/1992/231/article/10>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.uregni.gov.uk/news-centre/consultation-proposed-electricity-generation-licence-antrim-wind-energy-limited>

persons likely to be affected by the grant of the proposed licence and to invite representations or objections with respect to the proposed licence.

- 1.5. We received one response to the notice. This decision paper outlines the UR's decision in relation to that response.

## 2. Consultation Response

- 2.1. One response was received to this notice from a person "likely to be affected by the grant of the licence" (under Article 10(5) of the Order).
- 2.2. This response raised certain issues with the application and included such information the respondent considered necessary to support its response. The UR has responded directly with the respondent in relation to its consultation response.

## 3. Utility Regulator Investigation

- 3.1. In considering the representation made under Article 10(4) of the Order, we contacted Antrim Wind Energy Ltd to inform them of the response received and to provide them an opportunity to respond.
- 3.2. We received a substantive response from the company, including supporting information to document their case.
- 3.3. In reaching its decision, the UR has conducted its own checks to the fullest extent possible, including corresponding with relevant agencies and bodies; for example, Companies House, Belfast.

## 4. Utility Regulator Decision

- 4.1. Having:
  - given careful consideration to all of the information provided by the applicant;
  - given careful consideration to all of the information provided by the respondent;
  - carried out the requisite searches against Antrim Wind Energy Ltd and its directors; and

- reviewed all available evidence and information,

we consider that there is not sufficient information which leads the UR to conclude that Antrim Wind Energy Ltd should not be granted a generation licence.

- 4.2. Therefore, in accordance with Article 10 of the Order, the UR now gives notice that a licence for the generation of electricity in Northern Ireland was granted to Antrim Wind Energy Limited today, 23 January 2018.