



ENSG Planning Project Working Group Terms of Reference

Tasks of the Working Group

To consider:

- how the findings of the ENSG Report '*Our Electricity Transmission Network: A Vision for 2020*' might be related to the NPS; and
- In the absence of firm generator commitment, the main elements/criteria against which the IPC might consider the need case for an individual network project application.

Main Activities

The Group will consider the process that must be gone through by a company in reaching the various decision points, from starting work on a planning application through to its submission of a planning application. In doing so, the group will prepare two case studies of possible network development, based on findings of the ENSG 2020 Report. These will include consideration of the following:

- when and how the corporate decision process starts for those projects;
- the development process, timetable and evidence of need available at each stage;
- how the findings are used in making a final decision to invest;
- How an individual project could be demonstrated as helping to meet the national strategic need.

From this it should be possible to identify the triggers/measures for defining a need case for the company and its investment decision.

The Group will then consider the criteria that might be applied by the IPC to satisfy itself that a specific application had adequately demonstrated that it met the need case and the evidence that may be required to meet those criteria.

The Group is also invited to consider alternative approaches to achieving the objectives to that set out above.

Outputs

- Two case studies examining key features of network development.
- Suggestions for a framework, perhaps criteria, for the IPC to apply that will provide clear advice on the need for network infrastructure. This would include an explanation of how the strategic need for investment could be translated into individual project applications.