

**Electricity Networks Strategy Group**  
**Terms of Reference**  
**June 2008**

The Electricity Networks Strategy Group (ENSG) provides a high level forum which brings together key stakeholders in electricity networks that work together to support Government in meeting the long-term energy challenges of tackling climate change by reducing carbon dioxide emissions both within the UK and abroad and ensuring secure, clean and affordable energy.

Specifically the ENSG will:

- **Develop and promote a “vision” of the UK electricity networks that will effectively and efficiently facilitate the increase in renewable and other low-carbon generation necessary to meet the EU 2020 renewables target and longer-term energy and climate change goals.**
- **Develop an understanding of the implications of policy for our electricity networks, identifying potential technical, commercial and regulatory barriers to meeting the UK renewables target and provide strategic advice on possible solutions.**
- **Maintain an overview of activities and developments that have potential to impact on realisation of the vision and advise on whether they provide a complete and coherent delivery and development path against the targets.**
- **Disseminate the results of its activities to the wider community ensuring engagement of the relevant stakeholders.**
- **Review its terms of reference, including the need for its continued operation not more than 2 years from July 2008.**

**Background**

The Energy White Paper 2007 set out the Government’s international and domestic energy strategy to address the long term energy challenges and deliver its four energy policy goals:

- to put ourselves on a path to cutting CO2 emissions by some 60% by about 2050, with real progress by 2020;
- to maintain the reliability of energy supplies;
- to promote competitive markets in the UK and beyond;
- to ensure that every home is adequately and affordably heated.

The European Union has set a target to increase renewable energy to 20% by 2020. The EU has proposed a target of 15% for the UK. Meeting our share of the EU target will require a very significant increase in renewable electricity with potentially significant implications for electricity networks in the UK.