



Energy, Environment & Safety

SEM Committee,
c/o Commission for Energy Regulation,
The Exchange,
Belgard Square North,
Tallaght,
Dublin 24.

25th May 2012

By email to: jburke@cer.ie

Re: Response to the "**Treatment of Curtailment in Tie-Break situations**", SEM-12-028

Dear SEM Committee members,

OES Consulting is a well established Environmental, Energy and Safety Services Company, with 15 professional staff. OES provides a range of support services to the Wind Energy Industry in Ireland in the planning, environmental assessment and construction environmental management of projects.

We have significant concerns regarding the proposed curtailment regime and the adverse impact this will have on the, implementation of renewable energy projects in Ireland. In addition to the macro scale impacts to customers, and indeed the capacity of Ireland to achieve renewable energy targets, this will have a significant impact on our business and on many other small businesses throughout the country, who play a vital role in creating and maintaining employment to the benefit of the local and national economy.

We welcome the opportunity to respond to the SEM Committee consultation on the Treatment of Curtailment in Tie-Break situations.

We support the IWEA response to this consultation and would like to reiterate that curtailment is a critical matter to be addressed to provide a stable policy framework to allow the industry on the island to move forward. We do believe linking curtailment to firm access will result in the required level of new renewable energy not materialising, which will negatively impact the consumer and prevent Ireland and Northern Ireland from reaching their 2020 renewable targets.



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We support the position taken by IWEA on the options put forward and also support the IWEA proposal to vary Option 3 ("Option 3b"). We believe this is a solution that represents an industry compromise position which importantly meets all of what we understand as the SEM Committee key objectives and strikes the right balance between addressing the curtailment issue and enabling the renewables industry advance in line with Government and EU policy and targets. We believe "Option 3b" as set out can be supported by the SEM Committee and the industry as well as importantly providing the least impact on the consumer.

In conclusion we would like to thank the SEM Committee for the opportunity to engage on this issue and to highlight the particular importance of this consultation given the significant implications it has for the viability of the wind sector.

Yours Sincerely,



Peadar O'Loughlin
Managing Director