

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

25<sup>th</sup> May 2012

**By email to:** [jburke@cer.ie](mailto:jburke@cer.ie)

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

Dear SEM Committee members,

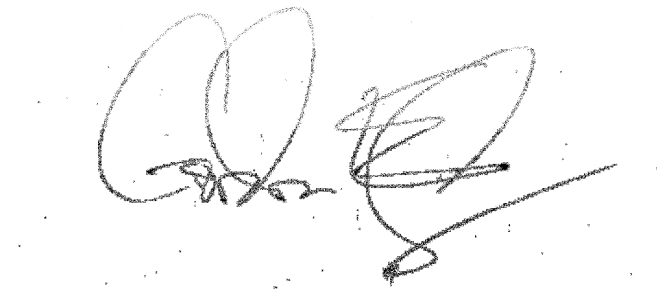
RenewableUK is the trade association for the wind, wave and tidal stream industries in the UK. We are dedicated to maximising the responsible deployment of our technologies to the benefit of the UK economy. With significant wind and tidal resources, Northern Ireland is a key focus for our members, and we have come together with our colleagues at the Irish Wind Energy Association to form the Northern Ireland Renewables Industry Group (NIRIG), to further our aims in this part of the UK. Consequently we are keenly interested in the impact of curtailment on development in Northern Ireland and welcome the opportunity to respond to the SEM Committee consultation on the *Treatment of Curtailment in Tie-Break situations*.

We support the NIRIG 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 believe linking curtailment to firm access will result in the required level of new renewable energy not being realised, which will negatively impact the consumer and prevent Ireland and Northern Ireland from reaching their 2020 renewable targets.

We support the position taken by NIRIG on the options put forward and also support the 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 to be the SEM Committee key objectives, and strikes the right balance between addressing the curtailment issue and enabling the renewables industry to 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, most 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 renewable energy sector.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gordon Edge', written over a faint, circular stamp or watermark.

Gordon Edge  
Director of Policy  
RenewableUK