



Office of Utility Regulation

Consultations on Regulation of Electricity in Guernsey

Notice of Extension of Deadlines

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Office of Utility Regulation
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Notice of extension of deadlines for Responses to Consultation Papers

1. Introduction

In carrying out her function of regulating the utility markets, the Director General of Utility Regulation (“Director General”) wishes to take account of the relevant views and inputs of as wide a range of interested parties as possible. This will assist the Office of Utility Regulation (“OUR”) in progressing the work programme of the Office as quickly and effectively as possible in order to provide regulatory certainty and clarity and enable the efficient operation of utility markets to the ultimate benefit of end users.

In August 2001 the Director General published a number of public consultation papers on the development of the regulatory regime in Guernsey, including the following consultation papers on the electricity sector:

- OUR01/07: Electricity in Guernsey – Licensing Framework Consultation Paper
- OUR01/08: Electricity Licence Conditions Consultation Paper
- OUR01/09: Proposed Decisions under the Electricity (Guernsey) Law, 2001 Consultation Paper

In preparing those papers, the Director General anticipated that the States of Guernsey at their meeting on 26th September 2001 would consider the commencement of the Electricity (Guernsey) Law, 2001 as well as a number of measures required to commercialise the States Electricity Board. It was expected that the main decisions would take effect from 1st October 2001.

The deadlines for responses to the electricity consultations were set in order to provide interested parties with the opportunity to comment on the documents in time for relevant comments to be considered and taken into account before the finalisation of the regime for 1st October.

2. New Developments

Billet XVII 2001¹ which has been published in advance of the States meeting on 26th September States contains two policy letters – one from the Board of Industry on regulation and one from the Advisory and Finance Committee on commercialisation. The Policy Letter from the Advisory and Finance Committee states:

“Regrettably, some last minute complications in relation to Electricity services have meant that all aspects of this commercialisation cannot be included in this policy letter.”

As a result of these complications the States meeting on 26th September will not consider the commencement of the Electricity Law. However, the Director General notes from the same policy letter that:

¹ www.gov.gg/Billets/2001/Billet_XVII_2001.pdf

“The Committee will be addressing the outstanding issues as a matter of priority, so that it can bring a policy letter to the States to finalise the arrangements for the future provision of Electricity services in the near future.”

3. Requests for Extension to Deadlines

Certain interested parties have commented that they have experienced difficulties in responding to the documents within the timescale provided and have requested an extension to those timescale. Initially the Director General was not in a position to consider an extension because of the legal obligations that would be imposed following the anticipated decisions in the September States meeting.

However, in the light of the delay in that process as notified in the September Billet, the Director General has reconsidered her decision and now proposes to allow a limited extension to the consultation period.

4. Amendments to deadlines for responses to existing consultation papers

The following table lists the changes to the deadlines for responses to the current consultations:

Consultation Paper	Publication Date	Original Deadline for Responses	Amended Deadline
OUR01/07: Electricity in Guernsey – Licensing Framework – Consultation Paper	16 th August	6 th September	28 th September
OUR 01/08: Electricity Licence Conditions – Consultation Paper	16 th August	6 th September	28 th September
OUR01/09: Proposed Decisions under the Electricity (Guernsey) Law, 2001 – Consultation Paper	16 th August	6 th September	28 th September

Because of the extension to the deadlines for responses, the OUR will reschedule its work programme and resources and the finalisation of the licences and associated framework in the electricity market will be adjusted accordingly.

5. Conclusion

In conclusion, the Director wishes to express again her thanks to all those parties who have contributed to the public consultations held to date. If existing respondents wish to supplement their comments in any way, such supplemental comments would be welcome.

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