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ELEXON welcomes publication of Smart Metering Consultation Response

ELEXON welcomes the publication of the Government's response to the consultation on the Prospectus for the Smart Metering Implementation Programme. We're very encouraged by the guidance made in the documents, particularly as several of the comments directly reflect suggestions we made in our consultation response and subsequent presentations, such as the need to start the Data CommsCo (DCC) Service Provider procurement in parallel with the DCC Licence award process.

Yesterday's publication of a baseline plan that sets out responsibilities, sequenced activities and key milestones is critical for all stakeholders as the programme now moves into its Foundation Stage. Success depends on the combined actions of the industry, consumers, Ofgem and Government and we believe establishing a central programme team plays an essential part in co-ordinating activities that will establish the right consumer, commercial, technical and regulatory environment. ELEXON is totally committed to playing a full and active role in delivering the vision.

Many of the benefits sought require consumer engagement and behaviour change. Such actions will need to be reflected in the wholesale electricity settlement calculations that we perform. We will share our views on their evolutionary path and are committed to driving system and process improvements, for example in delivering a quicker change of supplier process. In embracing the opportunities which come with smart, we will work with industry to evolve the existing settlement arrangements while maintaining their quality.

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Press Release

About ELEXON

ELEXON delivers balancing and settlement services critical to the successful operation of Great Britain's electricity trading arrangements. We manage systems and processes from meter to bank that handle over £500 million of our customers' funds each year and interact with over 200 companies in the electricity industry. They, in turn, supply over 28 million customers.

We've implemented, administer, manage, operate and develop one of Great Britain's largest energy industry codes, the Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC). We also enforce performance standards, targets and other obligations so that our customers have confidence that the BSC works efficiently and fairly.

We have just celebrated our 10th Birthday. In which time we have successfully cleared the market for each and every half hour - over 175,000 times! We've managed extensive industry change including the introduction of the existing market arrangements (NETA) and their expansion across the Scottish market (BETTA). We operate with international, best in class, partners that are competitively procured. We are perfectly placed and totally committed to helping the industry meet the challenges that it faces.

How is ELEXON looking to the future?

We're fully engaged in smart metering and smart grids, looking at how any proposed changes may affect settlement and our customers, and proactively proposing solutions. We're also considering the impact of the low-carbon economy, and particularly the challenges that electrifying transport and using more renewable energy sources will bring.

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