
 Regulatory Policy Committee	OPINION	
Impact Assessment (IA)	Amendments to electric lines thresholds in the Planning Act 2008	
Lead Department/Agency	Department of Energy and Climate Change	
Stage	Final	
Origin	Domestic	
IA number	DECC0102	
Date submitted to RPC	31/01/2013	
RPC Opinion date and reference	11/03/2013	RPC12-DECC-1388(2)
OIOO Assessment	GREEN	
<p>Overall comments on the robustness of the OIOO assessment.</p> <p>The IA says that the proposal is a deregulatory measure that will be net beneficial for business (an OUT). The estimated EANCB, of -£0.01m appears to be a reasonable assessment of the policy and consistent with OIOO methodology.</p>		
<p>Overall quality of the analysis and evidence presented in the IA</p> <p><i>Costs and Benefits</i> The IA clearly explains the proposed benefits to business by the removal of all minor electric line projects from the scope of the Planning Act 2008. Specifically, the benefits appear to be reductions in time taken to prepare applications of minor projects and in fees payable for the determination of an application.</p> <p>However, we note that this proposal to amend electric lines thresholds within the Planning Act 2008 is directly linked to the proposal to revise fees to business under the Electricity Act 1989. This accompanying proposal sets out plans for fee increases that that will offset many of the business benefits accrued from the changes set out in this IA (Amendment to electric lines thresholds). For reasons of transparency, the IA would benefit from a clear cross reference to this other proposal explaining the interactions between the two.</p>		
Signed 	Alex Ehmann, Committee Member	