**PPA Notice Board – output from Working Group**

Terry Ballard, RWEnpower; Robert Williams, BT; Owen Forster, EDF; Christopher Granby, Infinis

27 May 2013 v1.0

**Context**

This note builds on the draft circulated by Mark Knights and Peter Lynch and is the output from the working group established at the DECC Working Group 2 meeting on 20 May 2013.

**PPA Notice Board**

The web-based PPA Notice Board will act as a central point for Generators/Developers to post details of a generation project requiring a PPA, and for Offtakers to review PPA opportunities and to provide responses to PPA enquires which have been posted.

The scope of the Notice Board is proposed as follows:

* The Notice Board acts like a registry for the notification of PPA contract opportunities, with secure login process
* Project developers and Generators seeking PPA’s will post project details on the Notice Board and define specific PPA requirements. As far as is practicable, the data entry windows will be pre-populated with options to aid consistent data entry
* An email would be generated and sent to each Offtaker when full data entry occurs, with a response deadline given to Offtakers to provide their proposals
* An Offtaker will have the opportunity to post a response of ‘interest’ or ‘no interest’ on the Notice Board within the set timeframe to respond to the invitation to tender, and this is logged by the Notice Board (only visible to Generator and Administrator) to provide an indication of market liquidity to the Administrator (proposed as OFGEM, see below)
* The Offtaker will provide commercial and contract terms directly to the Generator
* Generators will be required to provide feedback on the Notice Board after the response deadline has passed, to state which Offtakers provided terms, and if their PPA requirement has been met. This feedback is retained by Administrator to provide an indication of market liquidity
* Offtakers repeatedly not responding to the invitations to tender will be removed from the Notice Board to ensure that the Notice Board is kept up to date

The design and scope of the PPA Notice Board will not include analysis or comparison of PPA proposals or pricing. It will simply be an early stage tool to help Generators to get their project to market, and for Offtakers to have visibility of PPA opportunities to help them manage response timeframes. It will also allow structured feedback for the Administrator, in order to allow ongoing reviews of market dynamics and competitiveness

**Generator/Developer access**

Generators/Developers will register for access. They will post details of a generation project.

**Offtaker access**

Offtakers will register for access. The company names of Offtakers will be visible to all registered Generators to give visibility of the parties to whom project details will be sent. The contact details within the companies will be held by the Notice Board and will be varied by the Offtaker from time to time, but the contact details will not be visible to the Generators. This will promote use of the Notice Board and will limit cold-calling to Offtakers

**Offtaker Information**

The information held about Offtakers would be as follows:

* For viewing by Generators - Company Name (contracting party) and company logo for viewing by Generators
* Registration details – held by Administrator
  + Principal Contact Name and Job Title
  + Contact email address for notifications
* To be added periodically and visible to Generators, ratings by the Administrator based on each Offtakers ‘interest/no interest’ response rate, and also a rating based on number of offers received by Generators

**Generator/Developer information**

The minimum amount of data required for the enquiry form:

* Contact name
* Job Title
* Contact Tel and Email address
* Developer Company Name and website address
* Project Name
* Contracting Party Name (i.e. SPV name)
* Location including address, postcode and Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference
* Technology
* Estimated Installed Capacity (MW)
* Estimated p50/p75/p90 annual output
* Date of planning consent
* Estimated Financial Close date
* Estimated Grid Live date
* Estimated Commissioning Date
* Estimated Commercial Operations Date
* Additional Information (250 words) about PPA structure, Company or Project

**Administration of Notice Board**

OFGEM or an Industry body (R-UK or REA) were the options considered for hosting

It was considered that membership of R-UK or REA could be a barrier for these commercial organisations to host a fully open noticeboard. Costs to cover establishing and operating the noticeboard and would have to be recovered from their members. It was questioned if there could be, or perceived to be, a bias towards members, even if membership was not a requirement.

It was agreed by the working group that it would feel more impartial and transparent if the noticeboard was operated by a public body rather than industry body.

OFGEM currently operate a website for FIT and recover the costs of operation through the levellised charges passed on to Licenced Suppliers. It was agreed that OFGEM would be considered an appropriate host and the current mechanism for cost recovery would also seem to be applicable for any PPA Notice Board.

Matthew Harnack at OFGEM has been involved in setting up the FIT schemes website. Terry Ballard agreed to contact OFGEM to see if they had initial views on hosting on similar basis. Feedback to be reported to the next DECC Working Group meeting.