Subject: Invitation to start the procedure on a framework guideline on electricity grid connection rules

Dear Mr Dobbeni,

On 29 July 2011 the European Commission received from ACER the framework guideline on capacity allocation and congestion management adopted on the same date (ACER Decision no. 02/2011). The Commission considers that this framework guideline contributes to non-discrimination, effective competition, and the efficient functioning of the internal market.

Therefore, in accordance with Article 6 (6) of Regulation (EC) No. 714/2009, we request ENTSO-E to submit to ACER a draft network code, covering optimal and coordinated use of transmission network capacity, day-ahead capacity allocation and intraday capacity allocation in line with this framework guideline by 31 September 2012. In due course we will request you to commence work on the network code on forward capacity allocation, covered in Section 4 of the framework guideline. We are not including this network code at this point because of the ongoing work on this topic, including by consultants engaged by the Commission (presented at the XX Florence Forum from 23-24 May this year). The consultants' final report should be available by the end of September.

The different parts of the code (i.e. optimal and coordinated use of transmission network capacity, day-ahead capacity allocation and intraday capacity allocation) should be treated as a package forming a coherent set of rules in one draft legal act. As the network code is to be made legally binding, the requirement at section 1.3 of the framework guideline that the network code contain a glossary and definitions will be necessary for their effective application. For example, the relationship between control areas, balancing areas and the zone definitions developed in accordance with section 2.2 of the framework guideline will be particularly important.
We would appreciate if you could communicate to us your planning for the development of the network codes, in particular how you intend to consult with stakeholders. The Commission services are at your disposal to discuss any questions which may arise regarding this letter or in the course of drafting the network code.

Yours Sincerely

Jean-Arnold Vinois

c.c.: John Mogg (Chair ACER Board of Regulators), Alberto Pototschnig (Director ACER), Peter Plug (Chair ACER Electricity Working Group), Florence Forum Participants