



**Independent assurance report by Deloitte LLP to Electricity North West Limited (ENWL) on the application of Electricity North West Limited's 2012/13 description of its 2012/13 stakeholder engagement programme for the reporting year ended 31 May 2013.**

**Scope of assurance work**

We have been engaged by the Board of Directors of Electricity North West Limited to provide limited assurance<sup>1</sup> of ENWL description of its 2012/13 stakeholder engagement programme for the reporting year ended 31 May 2013 as found in sections 1.2.1, 1.2.2 and 1.2.3 of ENWL's Part 1 submission (Evidence to present minimum requirements of stakeholder engagement) under Ofgem's Electricity Stakeholder Engagement Incentive Scheme 2012/13.

**Basis of our assurance work and our assurance procedures**

Our work was carried out by a multi-disciplinary team of corporate responsibility and assurance specialists in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements 3000 (ISAE 3000). To achieve limited assurance the ISAE 3000 requires that we review the processes, systems and competencies used to compile the areas on which we provide assurance. This is designed to give a similar level of assurance to that obtained in the review of interim financial information. It does not include detailed testing of source data or the operating effectiveness of processes and internal controls.

**Key assurance procedures**

Our key procedures included:

- Interviewing those responsible for management of the ENWL stakeholder engagement programme to understand activities in the reporting period, how the company is applying the AA1000APS (2008) principles and how issues identified are reviewed and managed.
- Review of documentation associated with the stakeholder engagement programme.
- Reviewing the responsibilities of the internal and external stakeholder panels including interviewing a sample of members of both panels.
- Reading and analysing internal and external information relating to ENWL's stakeholder engagement practices and the company's performance during the year

Our work was based on procedures performed at ENWL only. For the avoidance of doubts we have not tested the integrity of the underlying system/information.

**Our conclusion**

Based on the assurance work performed, in all material respects, nothing has come to our attention to cause us to believe that ENWL's description of its 2012/13 stakeholder engagement programme for the reporting year ended 31 May 2013 as described found in sections 1.2.1, 1.2.2 and 1.2.3 of ENWL's Part 1 submission (Evidence to present minimum requirements of stakeholder engagement) under Ofgem's Electricity Stakeholder Engagement Incentive Scheme 2012/13, is materially misstated.

This conclusion has been formed on the basis of, and is subject to the inherent limitations outlined above.

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<sup>1</sup> Footnote 1: The levels of assurance engagement are defined in ISAE 3000. A reasonable level of assurance is similar to the audit of financial statements; a limited level of assurance is similar to the review of a half year financial report

## **Responsibilities of Directors and independent assurance provider**

**ENWL's responsibilities:** The Directors are responsible for the preparation of the Part 1 submission (Evidence to present minimum requirements of stakeholder engagement) under Ofgem's Electricity Stakeholder Engagement Incentive Scheme 2012/13 and for the information and statements contained within the sections. They are responsible for determining the stakeholder engagement goals and establishing and maintaining appropriate performance management and internal control systems from which the reported information is derived.

**Deloitte's responsibilities:** Our responsibility is to independently express conclusions on the subject matter specified by ENWL. This is set out above.

- We complied with Deloitte's independence policies, which address and, in certain areas, exceed the requirements of the International Federation of Accountants Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants. We have confirmed to ENWL that we have maintained our independence and objectivity throughout the year, and in particular that there were no events or prohibited services provided which could impair our independence and objectivity in the provision of this engagement.
- Our report is made solely to ENWL in accordance with our letter of engagement for the purpose of the Directors' governance and stewardship. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to ENWL those matters we are required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than ENWL for our work, for this report, or for the conclusions we have formed.
- This report provides no assurance on the maintenance and integrity of ENWL's website nor the controls used to maintain this website's integrity, and in particular whether any changes may have occurred to the information subsequent to our work. These matters are the responsibility of the Directors of ENWL.

**Deloitte LLP**

**London, 4 June 2013**