

**Christopher Osborne**

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**From:** Rutherford, Joyce <Joyce.Rutherford@detini.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 11 July 2013 18:29  
**To:** Christopher Osborne  
**Subject:** RE: Electricity licence [Scanned]

Chris

Hope you are well. I am currently on leave but have passed to colleagues within Electricity Branch

Hopefully they will be able to assist

Regards

Joyce

**Joyce Rutherford**  
Energy Markets - External  
Department of Enterprise, Trade & Investment  
Netherleigh

1

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**From:** Christopher Osborne [mailto:christopher@ufuhq.com]  
**Sent:** 11 July 2013 12:29  
**To:** Rutherford, Joyce  
**Subject:** Electricity licence [Scanned]  
**Importance:** High

Good afternoon Joyce,

2

Long time so speak. I trust you are well.

I need to speak to you about a problem we are working on in relation to connection to the electricity grid.

Without wishing to get weighed down in too much detail, our question to DETI involves a situation where due to capacity problems, NIE have to issue "a conditional offer" to a would-be applicant. NIE have said that they cannot provide a quote (or indeed an indication if grid connection can proceed) until they refer the matter to NIAUR. Note that the conditional offer does contain a provisional connection charge of £19k plus VAT, but there will be substantial costs on top of this. In the case we are referring to reinforcement work is required on the 33kV lines at the sub station and the indicative costs are not shown in the Statement of Charges, hence NIE need to put the request to NIAUR as the work would be chargeable to the wider customer base. (11kV developer pays and 33kV the wider customer pays). The UFU members involved have 90 days (expires 28 July) to sign the agreement, despite not knowing how much it will cost. This is of particular concern as figures in the regions of £000,000's have been mentioned and our member fear that signing the agreement would be tantamount to signing a black cheque.

To date we have been talking extensively to NIE and to a certain extent NIAUR, but their involvement only kicks in when a formal complaint is lodged. Which it has not since NIE are still working within the 90 day stipulation.

Our query concerns the actual "licence" and the charging obligation contained there-in. We have been informed that it is DETI who

3

issue the licence. And in this particular case, the customer cannot receive a full quote and cost indication until the licence is changed.

The UFU question is, what happens next? Time is running out for our members on this and to date they have still not had any word back from NIE nor NIAUR.

Joyce I realise that you may not know the answer to this, but you are my only contact in DETI on the electricity side and if you cannot help I would be grateful if you could pass this onto someone who could.

Many thanks and I look forward to hearing from you.

Chris Osborne

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4

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