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To whom it may concern

## RIIO-T3 BUSINESS PLANS - SUPPORT SCOTLAND'S TRANSMISSION OPERATORS

Scottish Renewables is the leading voice of Scotland's £10.1 billion renewable energy industry and supply chain which supports more than 42,000 high-value jobs. We believe in a Scotland leading the world in renewable energy and represent more than 350 organisations working across all renewable energy technologies.

On behalf of Scottish Renewables, I am writing to you in support of the RIIO-T3 Business Plans published by SSEN Transmission and SP Energy Networks. These plans collectively represent an unprecedented capital investment worth at least £32 billion for Scotland which is expected to support more than 50,000 high-value jobs. This clearly demonstrates the enormous opportunity of our clean energy transition to net-zero for Scotland and the UK.

SSEN Transmission and SP Energy Networks are at the heart of our ability to unlock Scotland's renewable energy potential for the benefit of our economy, environment and local communities. Through high-value job creation, supply chain growth, sustainability and community benefit initiatives, we are confident that a lasting and hugely positive legacy for Scotland can be delivered by these plans. Moreover, they will ensure we can build an electricity network fit for the future and offer a resilient and reliable supply of clean, secure and affordable energy.

These plans clearly align and respond to the Scottish and UK Government's commitment to tackling climate change and boosting our energy security, placing us on a credible pathway to net-zero. They also underpin the UK Government's Clean Power by 2030 Mission which Scotland will be central to achieving. In its independence advice on how to deliver a clean power system by 2030, the National Energy System Operator (NESO) underlined the importance of accelerating a major network expansion in the years ahead. SSEN Transmission expect to have the capability to meet 20% of Great Britain's (GB) demand for clean power by 2030 and SP Energy Networks expect to facilitate the connection of an additional 19GW of renewable generation.

Independently peer-reviewed by BiGGAR Economics, <u>SSEN Transmission's RIIO-T3 Business Plan</u> sets out a clear and evidence-based need for an expected known total expenditure of around £22.3 billion over the RIIO-T3 period. The plan has also identified potential for an additional £9.4 billion of future Uncertainty Mechanism expenditure, which could bring the total expenditure over the RIIO-T3 period to around £31.7 billion. If delivered in full, this could support up to 37,000 jobs across the UK and add £15 billion in value to the UK economy. SSEN Transmission have also outlined proposals to support the development of at least 1,000 new homes across the North of Scotland and deliver over £100 million in community benefit funding.

Stakeholder-led, SP Energy Network's RIIO-T3 Business Plan sets out a clear and evidence-based need for an expected known total expenditure of £10.6 billion over the RIIO-T3 period. This investment could contribute sustained economic benefit to UK GDP of around £2 billion per annum and create 11,500 jobs over the long-term, according to independent research from the Centre for Energy Policy at the University of Strathclyde. This is expected to save consumers across GB over £167 per year in constraint costs by 2030. SP Energy Networks have also outlined £5.4 billion of supply chain agreements, welcome proposals to establish a £20 million Net-Zero Fund and provide at least a 10% increase in biodiversity on projects subject to planning consent.

Amidst increasingly competitive global conditions, it is critical that regulatory frameworks support these essential and unprecedented levels of strategic investments in the future prosperity of Scotland and the UK.

Yours sincerely



