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RE: Scrutiny Review of P.116/2021 – Common Population Policy

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a response to the Scrutiny Review of the Common Population Policy.

Previously, Jersey Electricity (JE) has provided input to the Infrastructure Capacity Study, which supported the Bridging Island Plan and this document as well as the consultation on the Bridging Island Plan itself. Consistent with the feedback provided at that time we confirm that JE's network has significant capacity to sustainably accommodate the currently estimated population growth in the short and medium time scales. This is subject to the requirements for local network reinforcement to accommodate the development and redevelopment of sites for housing as well as having the right sort of regulatory environment that allows JE to invest with confidence.

In addition it is also worth mentioning the other factors that are important to helping timely delivery of any necessary network reinforcement such as, cost effective access to sites and our infrastructure (e.g. in roads) together with a balanced and supportive permissions environment, to enable efficient development, including planning permission, the rights to access roads, sites for substations etc.

In addressing this policy we are also cognisant of the Carbon Neutral Roadmap (Consultation Draft) which sets out the proposed Government of Jersey Policy to achieve a net-zero and/or carbon-neutral future for the island and which is reliant on electricity as a key energy source in fulfilling this ambition. Whilst we will be separately commenting on the detail of this document, it should be noted that this will cause a significant increase in the use of electrical energy and the peak demands our network will be required to meet in the relatively near future. We have been reviewing these implications with various scenarios since the declaration of a 'Climate Emergency' in 2019 and are generally positive in our ability to accommodate this policy subject the points made earlier in this letter to allow JE to invest with confidence.

Whilst we acknowledge that the purpose of Common Population Policy is not to set population targets, we support the approach that the future Council of Ministers Government Plans, include a long term population policy. This in combination with the development of an



infrastructure roadmap, as well as current and future policies, such as carbon neutrality, will allow JE to sustainability plan investment in its infrastructure with the required confidence, to the benefit of all stakeholders.

Yours sincerely



Mark Preece

Operations Director