

Energy Networks Association

Innovation in the GB RIIO Price Controls

Clare Cantle-Jones

Thursday 23rd June 2016

Background



R

Revenues set for 8 years by Ofgem. Only change is through agreed uncertainty mechanisms, automated financial updates & mid point review





Incentives can lead to financial rewards or penalties depending on performance during the price control period. Most incentives +/- 1% of base revenue





Innovation funding is provided to enable trials of new technologies and operating practices on the network. Some funding is up front, the rest available through annual competitions





Outputs are set up front with funding to meet them. Companies reporting annually against outputs and are subject to rewards/penalties

Operational Environment

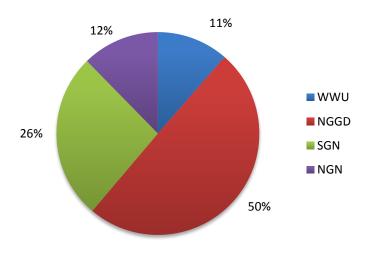


Number of UK Gas DSOs

- 8 Licence Network Areas
- 4 DSO Companies



DSO Market Share



Innovation as Part of RIIO



Network Innovation Competition Network Innovation Allowance Innovation Roll Out Mechanism

Gas Networks Innovation Competition



Network Innovation Competition (NIC)

- Opportunity to compete for funding
 - New technologies
 - New operating regimes
 - New commercial arrangements
- Provided environmental benefits
- Reduces Costs
- Aides Security of Supply
- Up to £18m per annum

2013 Gas NIC Projects





- Opening up the Gas Market (£1.9m)
- Robotics (£6.5m)

Northern Gas Networks Low Carbon Gas Preheating (£4.8m)



• BioSNG Demonstration Plant (£1.9m)

2015 Gas NIC Projects



SGN

 Real Time Gas Networks (£7.1)



 CITY CNG (£700,000) partial funding granted



Commercial BioSNG
 Demonstration Plant (£5.4m)

Gas Networks Innovation Allowance



Network Innovation Allowance (NIA)

- Limited funding to use for two purposes
 - Smaller technical, commercial or operational projects with the potential to deliever finacial benefits; and/or preparation of submissions to the NIC
- NIA is granted as a % of allowed revenue between 0.5% and 0.7% annually, set at the time of the price control settlement.

Gas Networks Innovation Allowance



Network Innovation Allowance (NIA)

2014

2015

Around 170 Projects spending £12.6m

Around 220 projects spending £18.9m

Innovation Roll Out Mechanism (IRM)



Innovation Roll Out Mechanism

- The IRM is a 'Revenue Adjustment Mechanism' that enables companies to apply for additional funding within their price control period for the rollout of initiatives with demonstrable and cost effective low-carbon or environmental benefits.
- The IRM is intended to facilitate the roll-out of proven innovations, which will provide long- term value for money to customers, in advance of the next price control period. To qualify roll-outs must deliver carbon and/or environmental benefits.
- There will be two reopener windows and the mechanism will be subject to the materiality threshold.

Innovation with a small "I'

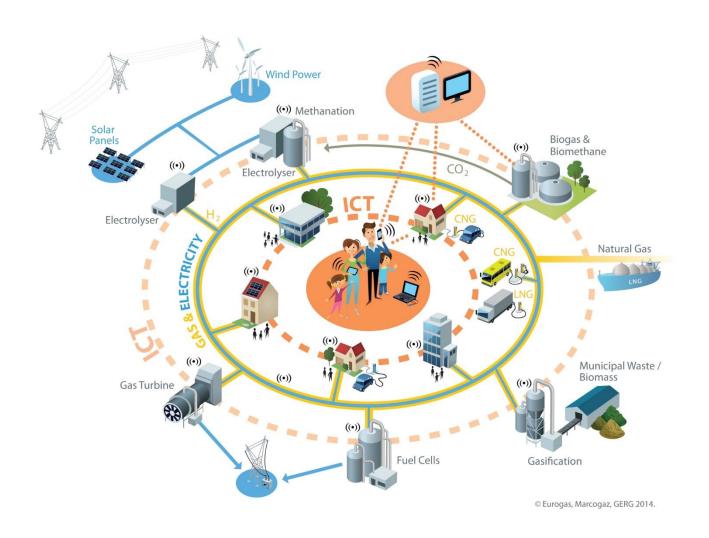


- Totex Incentive
- Discretionary Reward
 Scheme
- Other Incentives
 - Broad Measure of Customer Service
 - Shrinkage



Future Role of Gas





Understanding the Scale of the Challenge



- The energy Market is getting more complex
- A multi-vector perspective
- Structure of government interventions
- Local or national energy provision
- Need to consider the role for heat
- The decarbonisation road maps to 2030 and 2050
- Quantify the costs and benefits of the potential solutions
- Networks have a significant role to play here

Future Challenges



Future Sources

- Shale
- Biomethane
- Bio SNG

Future Uses

- CNG Vehicles
- Hydrogen Networks
- Power to Gas