



Making a positive difference  
for energy consumers

**Julia Haughey**

Chair of the DCUSA Board  
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Your Ref: Sandbox Pre-engagement with  
potential innovators

[InnovationLink@ofgem.gov.uk](mailto:InnovationLink@ofgem.gov.uk)

10 December 2020

Dear Julia,

As part of managing the Energy Regulatory Sandbox service, I can confirm that ElectraLink may provide support to potential Sandbox applicants at the pre-application stage. In relation to the Secretariat's functions this will include:

- Where an innovator approaches the DCUSA Secretariat to request guidance regarding their project and whether it will be impacted by the DCUSA, the Secretariat will provide appropriate feedback.
- Informing Ofgem that they have been contacted by a particular project, and provide Ofgem with an indication as to whether a sandbox application will be made in the near future.

Once an application has been made to Ofgem and it is clear the proposal has DCUSA implications, the Secretariat will provide the following services:

- Once Ofgem determines an application is Duly Made, the outcome of Ofgem's initial assessment will be sent to the Secretariat to carry-out the Detailed Assessment of the application, which will include an assessment of the proposal's eligibility and suitability for the DCUSA sandbox.
- The Secretariat will undertake the Detailed Assessment, complete the 'sandbox application assessment form' and return this to Ofgem with an interim recommendation to approve or reject the application. Ofgem will complete their own assessment and make an interim decision based on the combined assessment, as to whether or not the sandbox request is to be approved.
- With this interim pre-approval decision from Ofgem, the Secretariat will present the application to the DCUSA board for approval.

**The Office of Gas and Electricity Markets**

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- The DCUSA Board's decision will be communicated to Ofgem for final approval.

Ofgem, the DCUSA Secretariat and Elexon's sandbox team, will meet on a quarterly basis to make sure the assessment processes are aligned and discuss opportunities for process improvements.

Equally, if necessary, ad-hoc meeting will be set up between Ofgem and the Secretariat to discuss particulars of an application.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin Baillie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line through the middle of the letters.

**Kevin Baillie**

Senior Manager Innovation Link  
Retail Directorate, Retail Policy Team