

**Karen Egan**

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**From:** Katherine Licken  
**Sent:** 20 March 2008 18:22  
**To:** Keith Hussey; Siobhan Judge; Gregory McDermott; Danny Lennon  
**Cc:** Kevin Broderick; Garry Dalton; Breda Holly; Karen Egan; Kilda Taylor; Michael Goodwin  
**Subject:** Easter Week

Folks,

I'm on leave until Friday. I'm not sure of everyone's leave arrangements but would like to ask anyone that is around next week if they could help Karen with a collating job on the Transmission infrastructure study. This is a really straightforward but urgent job as we can't sign the contract until it is completed. Any help any of you can give Karen would be most appreciated.

Regards and thanks

Katherine

**From:** Katherine Licken  
**Sent:** 20 March 2008 17:13  
**To:** Kilda Taylor; Karen Egan  
**Subject:** Draft Contract and Draft Press release

**Attachments:** Draft contract\_Study on Transmission lines\_March 2007\_v3.doc; Press release announcement of consultants.doc



Draft

Press

\_Study on Tiannounceme

Kilda / Karen

Attached is a further revised draft contract and draft press announcement on the study. These are both saved in the tender directory ( I can't remember how to send a link rather than attachment) but be careful of versions of the contract – this is version 3. I've made almost all the amendments we discussed today, and marked changes (including deletions) with yellow highlighter, for ease of reference. I've deleted the commentary. Unfortunately I seem to have included formatting by accident and can't figure how to get rid of this on screen! Only text missing now is:

- Insertion of Clause 10.3 in relation to recovering costs for work already done if the contract is terminated
- Costs for review of submissions and their impact on overall costs, including phasing of payments.

Jens is to send on some amendments to the text relating to Ecofys and Golder in the press release.

If we can aim to get cracking on cataloguing of submissions early next week, we should be able to signing the contract on Friday. I'll be back Friday anyway. Minister can issue press release Monday week, when work officially starts.

Thanks for all the help and effort – not ideal before a Bank Holiday weekend, but much appreciated.

Regards

Katherine

## **Study on the Comparative Merits of Overhead Electricity Transmission Lines versus Underground Cables**

Eamon Ryan, T.D., Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, announced today that international consultants Ecofys, have been appointed by his Department to undertake the independent study on the comparative merits of overhead electricity transmission lines versus underground cables. The consultants were chosen following a tender process launched on 29<sup>th</sup> February on the Government's eTenders website.

The study is to be conducted on a national basis and its purpose is to provide the best available professional advice to the Minister on the relative merits of constructing and operating overhead transmission lines compared to underground cables, having regard to technical characteristics, reliability, operation and maintenance factors, environmental impact, possible health issues and cost.

Established in 1984, Ecofys specialises in energy saving and renewable energy solutions. It is based in the Netherlands and has offices in twelve different countries worldwide. The company was contracted by Sustainable Energy Ireland, following a competitive tender process, to provide the final report of the All Island Grid Study in 2007. Ecofys is currently involved in collaborative research with industry to investigate innovative concepts of underground cabling for offshore and onshore transmission. This research is being conducted in partnership with Dr Heinrich Barkelmann of the University of Duisberg, Essen, Germany.

In undertaking the Irish study, Ecofys will partner again with Professor Brakelmann, who is an expert in the field of power transmission and has previously provided expertise on the issue of overhead lines versus underground cables for a dedicated route in Germany. Ecofys will also utilise the services of Golder Associated, a global group specialising in ground engineering and environmental services, with 150 offices worldwide, including an office in Naas, Ireland. Golder has provided environmental consultancy services for a range of electricity generation and transmission projects in Ireland and the UK.

In tandem with the tender process, the Department placed advertisements in 9 national newspapers, including the Farmers Journal, requesting submissions from the public on the issue. Approximately 500 submissions were received by the closing date of 7<sup>th</sup> March. The consultants have been furnished with these submissions, and will consider points raised in their analysis of the merits or otherwise of underground and overground options. The consultants will also be available to meet with the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, to discuss the details of the report, once published.

The commissioning of the independent study was announced by Minister Ryan on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2008, following a series of meetings by the Joint Oireachtas Committee, in which the issue of transmission line infrastructure generally was discussed, as well as issues around current EirGrid transmission line proposals.

The planning, development and routing of transmission line infrastructure is a matter for EirGrid, which is wholly owned State Company. EirGrid has responsibility for operating the electricity transmission system in Ireland, including the wholesale electricity trading system. It delivers connections, transmission and market services to generators, suppliers and customers, using the high voltage electricity system. It is also responsible for planning the construction of high voltage transmission lines.

In the course of EirGrid's pre-planning public consultations on proposed routes for the North South and Meath Cavan transmission lines, concerns have been expressed locally as to the impacts of overhead transmission lines. Noting that these concerns are likely to be common to all transmission line projects, and in order to provide clarity on issues in relation to overhead versus underground transmission lines, Minister Ryan announced that his Department would commission an independent national study on this issue.

"The aim of the study is to provide further clarity and information on all of the issues in relation to underground cables and overhead lines. In so doing, we can help inform policy decisions on all current and future transmission line projects" Minister Ryan said.

It is expected that the report will be finalised and published in May.

ends

**STUDY ON THE COMPARATIVE MERITS OF  
OVERHEAD ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION LINES VERSUS  
UNDERGROUND CABLES**

**Information Meeting, 20th March 2008, Dublin**

PPSMDE081295/ JCB

**Information Meeting**

20th March 2008

01.15pm - 04.30pm

Department of Communications, Energy and Natural  
29-31 Adelaide Road, Dublin 2, Ireland

**Agenda**

- 01.15pm Welcome and Introduction of participants
- 01.30pm Aim and scope of the study
  - Presentation of the study's background by client (15 min.)
- 01.45pm Approach, Methodology, Deliverables (Part I)
  - General overview  
(J. Bömer, 5 min.)
  - WP1: Review of electrical power transmission Technologies  
(J. Bömer, 15 min.)
  - WP2: Current international practice  
(C. Nabe on behalf of H. Brakelmann, 15 min.)
  - WP3: Comparative analysis of technical performance  
(C. Nabe on behalf of H. Brakelmann, 15 min.)
- 02.35pm Coffee Break
- 02.45pm Approach, Methodology, Deliverables (Part II)
  - WP4: Comparison of environmental impacts  
(J. Hunt., 15 min.)
  - WP5: Policy implications  
(M. Maher, 15 min.)
  - WP6: Cost analysis  
(C. Nabe, 15 min.)
- 03.30pm Discussion on contractual issues
- 04.00pm Stakeholders submissions as processed by client (10 min.)
- 04.10pm Agreements on Meetings, Reporting and Deadlines (WP7)
- 04.30pm End of Information Meeting

## STUDY ON THE COMPARATIVE MERITS OF OVERHEAD ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION LINES VERSUS UNDERGROUND CABLES

Information Meeting, 20th March 2008, Dublin

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PPSMDE081295/ JCB

### List of Participants

#### Department of Communications, Energy and Natural

- **Katherine Licken**, Principal, Oil Supply, Oil, Gas, Grid and Peat Corporate Division
- **Bob Hanna**, Chief Technical Adviser, Energy
- **Kilda Taylor**, Assistant Principal, Oil Supply, Oil, Gas, Grid and Peat Corporate Division Resources
- **Karen Egan**, Administrative Officer, Oil Supply, Oil, Gas, Grid and Peat Corporate Division Resources

#### Ecofys Germany GmbH

- **Jens Bömer**, Consultant, Power Systems and Markets
- **Christian Nabe**, Consultant, Power Systems and Markets

#### Golder Associates Ireland

- **Jon Hunt**, Project Manager
- **Michael Maher**, Senior Project Manager

**Karen Egan**

**From:** Bob Hanna  
**Sent:** 19 March 2008 17:23  
**To:** Karen Egan  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback on Tender - [REDACTED]

Karen,

Only confirmed free slot that week is Friday morning, 4 April.

Regards,

Bob

**From:** Karen Egan  
**Sent:** 19 March 2008 17:18  
**To:** Bob Hanna  
**Subject:** FW: Feedback on Tender [REDACTED]

Hi Bob,  
Would you be available during the week starting 31<sup>st</sup> March to give feedback by phone [REDACTED] why his tender was unsuccessful?  
Karen

**From:** Katherine Licken  
**Sent:** 19 March 2008 17:15  
**To:** Karen Egan  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback on Tender [REDACTED]

Thanks Karen,

Would you ask Bob if he would be willing to make the call with me and arrange a time that suits him and fits my calendar? Always need to have two people giving feedback, not least for corroboration of what was said.

Katherine

**From:** Karen Egan  
**Sent:** 19 March 2008 16:59  
**To:** Katherine Licken  
**Subject:** Feedback on Tender [REDACTED]

Katherine,  
[REDACTED] would like to get feedback over the phone on why his tender was unsuccessful. He will be away until week starting 31<sup>st</sup> March, so I told him that we would call him during that week.  
[REDACTED]

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Karen Egan

From: Karen Egan

Sent: 18 March 2008 17:51

To: [Redacted]

Subject: RE: Request for tender : comparative overhead lines versus cables

Dear [Redacted]

Thank you for your email.

Feedback is available both by phone and in person.

If you just want to know the scores that your tender received from the evaluation by the Steering Committee, please let me know and I will forward you the contact details of the relevant person who will discuss this matter with you.

If you want more detailed feedback, this can be given to you in person at a meeting in our offices to take place during the week beginning Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008.

Kin regards,

Karen Egan  
Department of Communications, Energy  
and Natural Resources,

From: [Redacted]  
Sent: 14 March 2008 13:29  
To: Karen Egan

Subject: Request for tender : comparative overhead lines versus cables

Dear Madam

Following your letter, I would like to know the reasons why our proposal has not been successful and how many competitors have submitted. What was our rank for this tender.

Thank's in advance.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

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**Katherine Egan**

**From:** Katherine Licken  
**Sent:** 18 March 2008 15:14  
**To:** 'Jens Boemer'  
**Cc:** Kilda Taylor; Karen Egan; 'Hunt, Jon'; 'Maher, Michael'; 'Mills, Christina'; 'Christian Nabe'; 'Karsten Burges'  
**Subject:** RE: Agenda for "Information Meeting" on March 20th, 2008

Thanks Jens,

I forwarded a draft contract to Karsten on Friday, for consideration. Some details will need to be addressed, and hopefully we can progress these discussions this week.

Regards

Katherine

**Katherine Licken**

Principal  
Oil Supply, Oil, Gas, Grid and Peat Corporate Division  
Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources  
29-31 Adelaide Road,  
Dublin 2  
ireland

ph: + 353 1 6782960  
fax: + 353 1 6782969  
mail: Katherine.Licken@dcenr.ie  
web: www.dcenr.ie

---

**From:** Jens Boemer [mailto:J.Boemer@ecofys.de]  
**Sent:** 18 March 2008 14:14  
**To:** Katherine Licken; Kilda Taylor; Karen Egan; Bob Hanna; Hunt, Jon; Maher, Michael; Mills, Christina; Christian Nabe; Karsten Burges  
**Subject:** Agenda for "Information Meeting" on March 20th, 2008

Hi Katherine,

Thank you for your comments to the draft agenda. I incorporated them in the final agenda that you will find attached. Additionally, I reduced the time for our presentations from 20 to 15 minutes and gave the contractual issues 15 minutes more so that the schedule now fits a start at 01.15pm and end at 04.30pm as requested.

Look forward to a very effective meeting on Thursday. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best regards,

Jens Bömer

2008

Power Systems and Markets  
Ecofys Germany GmbH

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Katherine Egan

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**From:** Katherine Licken  
**Sent:** 14 March 2008 17:35  
**To:** Bob Hanna; Kilda Taylor; Karen Egan; Rebecca Minch  
**Subject:** FW: Draft agenda for "Information Meeting" on March 20th, 2008  
**Attachments:** 2008-03-20\_Draft Agenda Information Meeting.pdf

Folks,

Any comments or suggestions on agenda to me by noon Tuesday!! Apologies for short notice!

Regards

Katherine

**From:** Jens Boemer [mailto:J.Boemer@ecofys.de]  
**Sent:** 4 March 2008 16:06  
**To:** Katherine Licken  
**Cc:** Christian Nabe; Karsten Burges  
**Subject:** Draft agenda for "Information Meeting" on March 20th, 2008

Dear Katherine,

As discussed at the phone, please find attached a draft agenda for the upcoming "Information Meeting" on Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, for the Study on the Comparative Merits of Overhead Electricity Transmission Lines versus Underground Cables.

We hope this agenda reflects your expectations and would welcome your comments. As long as we receive your comments by Tuesday noon, we can still adapt our preparations – however, we would appreciate receiving a first indicative later today.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for offering sandwiches to us during the coffee break – you see the need to adapt the time schedule, feel free doing so.

Best regards,  
 Jens

Jens Bömer  
 Energy Systems and Markets  
 Ecofys Germany GmbH

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2008

**Karen Egan**

**From:** Jens Boemer [J.Boemer@ecofys.de]  
**Sent:** 18 March 2008 14:14  
**To:** Katherine Licken  
**Cc:** Kilda Taylor; Karen Egan; Bob Hanna; Hunt, Jon; Maher, Michael; Mills, Christina; Christian Nabe; Karsten Burges  
**Subject:** Agenda for "Information Meeting" on March 20th, 2008  
**Attachments:** 2008-03-20\_Agenda Information Meeting.pdf

Dear Katherine,

Thank you for your comments to the draft agenda. I incorporated them in the final agenda that you will find attached. Eventually, I reduced the time for our presentations from 20 to 15 minutes and gave the contractual issues 15 minutes more time so that the schedule now fits a start at 01.15pm and end at 04.30pm as requested.

We look forward to a very effective meeting on Thursday. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Regards,  
 Jens

---  
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3/05/2008

**STUDY ON THE COMPARATIVE MERITS OF  
OVERHEAD ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION LINES VERSUS  
UNDERGROUND CABLES**

**Information Meeting, 20th March 2008, Dublin**

**PPSMDE081295/ JCB**

**Information Meeting**

20th March 2008

01.15pm - 04.30pm

Department of Communications, Energy and Natural  
29-31 Adelaide Road, Dublin 2, Ireland

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(J. Bömer, 5 min.)
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(C. Nabe on behalf of H. Brakelmann, 15 min.)
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(C. Nabe on behalf of H. Brakelmann, 15 min.)
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**STUDY ON THE COMPARATIVE MERITS OF  
OVERHEAD ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION LINES VERSUS  
UNDERGROUND CABLES**

**Information Meeting, 20th March 2008, Dublin**

PPSMDE081295/ JCB

**List of Participants**

Department of Communications, Energy and Natural

- **Katherine Licken**, Principal, Oil Supply, Oil, Gas, Grid and Peat Corporate Division
- **Bob Hanna**, Chief Technical Adviser, Energy
- **Kilda Taylor**, Assistant Principal, Oil Supply, Oil, Gas, Grid and Peat Corporate Division Resources
- **Karen Egan**, Administrative Officer, Oil Supply, Oil, Gas, Grid and Peat Corporate Division Resources

Ecofys Germany GmbH

- **Jens Bömer**, Consultant, Power Systems and Markets
- **Christian Nabe**, Consultant, Power Systems and Markets

Golder Associates Ireland

- **Jon Hunt**, Project Manager
- **Michael Maher**, Senior Project Manager

**ren Egan**

**From:** Katherine Licken  
**Sent:** 14 March 2008 17:34  
**To:** 'Jens Boemer'  
**Cc:** 'Christian Nabe'; 'Karsten Burges'; Kilda Taylor; Karen Egan; Bob Hanna  
**Subject:** RE: Draft agenda for "Information Meeting" on March 20th, 2008

Dear Jens,

Thank you for the draft agenda and subsequent clarification. As discussed with you, Monday is a public holiday in Ireland so we will be unavailable. I will revert to you by Tuesday noon with any comments.

I have also emailed a draft contract to Karsten for consideration, in order that we might progress the contract over the coming week.

I look forward to meeting you and your colleagues on Thursday. The Steering Group to oversee the study comprises officials from this Department as follows:

- Katherine Licken, Principal, Oil Supply, Oil, Gas, Grid and Peat Corporate Division
- Bob Hanna, Chief Technical Adviser, Energy
- Kilda Taylor, Assistant Principal, Oil Supply, Oil, Gas, Grid and Peat Corporate Division
- Rebecca Minch, Assistant Principal, Electricity and Gas Regulatory Division

Regards and thanks

Katherine

**Katherine Licken**  
Principal  
Oil Supply, Oil, Gas, Grid and Peat Corporate Division  
Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources  
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Dublin 2  
Ireland

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Mobile: + 353 86 389 2483  
Email: Katherine.Licken@dcenr.ie  
Web: www.dcenr.ie

---

**From:** Jens Boemer [mailto:J.Boemer@ecofys.de]  
**Sent:** 14 March 2008 16:06  
**To:** Katherine Licken  
**Cc:** Christian Nabe; Karsten Burges  
**Subject:** Draft agenda for "Information Meeting" on March 20th, 2008

Dear Katherine,

As discussed at the phone, please find attached a draft agenda for the upcoming "Information Meeting" on Thursday, March

28/05/2008

20th for the Study on the Comparative Merits of Overhead Electricity Transmission Lines versus Underground Cables.

We hope this agenda reflects your expectations and would welcome your comments. As long as we receive your comment by Tuesday noon, we can still adapt our preparations – however, we would appreciate receiving a first indicative later today.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for offering sandwiches to us during the coffee break – if you see the need to adapt the time schedule, feel free doing so.

Best regards,  
Jens

---  
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Karen Egan

**From:** Katherine Licken  
**Sent:** 14 March 2008 17:19  
**To:** 'Karsten Burges'  
**Cc:** Karen Egan; Kilda Taylor  
**Subject:** RE: "Study on the Comparative Merits of Overhead Electricity Transmission Lines versus Underground Cables", planning kick off meeting  
**Attachments:** Draft contract\_Study on Transmission lines\_March 2007.doc

Dear Karsten,

I attach for your consideration a draft contract for the purposes of the above study. I must stress that this contract is a draft only and we may require to make some further modifications next week. I am however forwarding this draft in the interests of advancing our contract negotiation as a matter of priority. A number of items require to be agreed between us and cannot therefore be specified in the contract until we have met (we have arranged an initial meeting on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March) and until we agree a contract date. These include the number of days required to review submissions and consequent total fee, and the schedule for delivery of the report and invoices.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter to date, and I look forward to hearing from you or your colleagues next week. Please be advised that Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March is a public holiday in Ireland, and we will not therefore be in the office. If you need to contact me urgently however, please phone my mobile on [REDACTED]

Regards and thanks

Katherine

**Catherine Licken**

Principal  
 Oil Supply, Oil, Gas, Grid and Peat Corporate Division  
 Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources  
 31 Adelaide Road,  
 Dublin 2  
 Ireland

Tel: +353 1 6782960  
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 Email: Katherine.Licken@dcenr.ie  
 Web: www.dcenr.ie

**From:** Karsten Burges [mailto:K.Burges@ecofys.de]  
**Date:** 14 March 2008 07:41

**To:** Katherine Licken; Christian Nabe; Mills, Christina  
**From:** Karen Egan

**Subject:** RE: "Study on the Comparative Merits of Overhead Electricity Transmission Lines versus Underground Cables", planning kick off meeting

Katherine,  
 I need yesterday on phone Christian Nabe will contact you today to prepare the technicalities for the kick-off meeting on Thursday. In case of difficulties, his mobile number is :+49 (0) 172- 2164399.

2008

Best regards,

Karsten Burges  
Manager Power Systems and Markets  
Ecofys Germany GmbH (Berlin)  
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**From:** Katherine Licken [mailto:Katherine.Licken@dcenr.gov.ie]  
**Sent:** 12 March 2008 17:07  
**To:** Karsten Burges  
**Cc:** Karen Egan  
**Subject:** RE: "Study on the Comparative Merits of Overhead Electricity Transmission Lines versus Underground Cables", planning kick off meeting

Dear Karsten,

We will keep Thursday free anyway, while we wait to hear from you again. Hopefully you will be able to discuss with your colleagues in Golder tomorrow or Friday.

Regards and thanks  
Katherine

**Katherine Licken**  
Principal  
Oil Supply, Oil, Gas, Grid and Peat Corporate Division  
Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources  
29-31 Adelaide Road,  
Dublin 2

28/05/2008



Ph: + 353 1 6782960  
Fax: + 353 1 6782969  
Email: Katherine.Licken@dcenr.ie  
Web: www.dcenr.ie

**From:** Karsten Burges [mailto:K.Burges@ecofys.de]  
**Sent:** 12 March 2008 15:54  
**To:** Katherine Licken  
**Cc:** Karen Egan  
**Subject:** "Study on the Comparative Merits of Overhead Electricity Transmission Lines versus Underground Cables",  
planning kick off meeting

Dear Katherine Licken,  
Unfortunately, it turned out that I will not be able to definitely confirm the proposed meeting date (next Thursday) today, neither to offer a co-ordinated alternative proposal. Both, Christina Mills and Conor Wall of Golder are out of office. I will come back to you as soon as I managed to discuss the matter with Golder and I am in a position to talk for the consortium.

Sorry for the inconvenience,  
Best regards,  
Karsten Burges  
Manager Power Systems and Markets  
ecofys Germany GmbH (Berlin)  
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+49-174-929 5279

Anschrift: Köln | Geschäftsleitung: Carsten Petersdorff | Amtsgericht Köln: HRB 28527

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**Karen Egan**

**Subject:** Information and contract Meeting with EcoFys

**Start:** Thu 20/03/2008 13:00

**End:** Thu 20/03/2008 17:30

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Accepted

**Required Attendees:** Bob Hanna; Karen Egan; Kilda Taylor; Rebecca Minch; \*Minister's Boardroom (AR)\*

Meeting agenda to follow, and apologies for a meeting so close to holiday weekend - Ecofys are very anxious to getting working on the project and this is the earliest date that suits. Karen - could you arrange tea and coffee at 1pm and then a fresh pot at 3pm with some sandwiches? Thanks, Katherine

Ecofys delegation:

Ecofys: Dr Christian C Nabe  
 Jens Bomer  
 Golder: John Hunt  
 Michael Meyer

**Karen Egan**

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**From:** Karen Egan  
**Sent:** 14 March 2008 16:08  
**To:** Katherine Licken  
**Subject:** RE: Contract for Ecofys

**Attachments:** Draft contract\_Study on Transmission lines\_March 2007.doc

Katherine,  
Draft contract attached.

EirGrid\North-South Interconnector\Study on Transmission lines\Tender for Study\Correspondance with Ecofys\Draft contract\_Study on Transmission lines\_March 2007.doc

Karen



Draft  
\_Study on Ti

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**From:** Katherine Licken  
**Sent:** 14 March 2008 15:44  
**To:** Karen Egan  
**Subject:** RE: Contract for Ecofys

Karen,

I'll need to see it before it goes to them. If there's anything I can help you with at this stage let me know so we don't end up too late here!

Katherine

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**From:** Karen Egan  
**Sent:** 14 March 2008 15:04  
**To:** Katherine Licken  
**Subject:** RE: Contract for Ecofys

will do my best to get it to them today.

Karen Egan

EirGrid (Corporate) Division

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**From:** Katherine Licken  
**Sent:** 14 March 2008 15:01  
**To:** Karen Egan  
**Subject:** Contract for Ecofys

Karen,

Ecofys have asked for a draft contract today if possible. How are you progressing with it?

Katherine