

Q: What is the transmission asset transfer

- Bringing ownership of the Grid together with operation in EirGrid
- Removing the current anomalous split accountability model
- Vesting EirGrid with single accountability for network delivery
- Transfer involves c€1.5bn assets (less than 20% ESB)
- Affects small number of staff (<200) few expected to move

Q: Why is it important

- Eliminates split accountability model where nobody responsible
- Delivers €4bn Grid25 programme efficiently
- Saves approx. €600m in 15 year period
- Structural reform of key sector required to drive competitiveness
- Essential enabler for large scale renewable deployment

Q: What will it do for 'Ireland Inc.'

- Deliver essential infrastructure earlier and at lower cost
- Facilitate competition in the electricity sector – driving prices down
- Allow a supply chain for transmission services provision to grow
- Enable EirGrid to deliver on key strategic objectives (e.g., further interconnection, offshore grids)

Q: How will it drive competitiveness

- Deliver essential infrastructure earlier and at lower cost
- Structurally reform industry, allowing participation without dependency relationship with ESB (not possible now)
- Provide clear line of sight over developments to all customers
- Provide 'bankable' connection offers with firm committed dates

Q: How will it facilitate a sustainable energy future

- Ensures Grid appropriately developed to accommodate renewables, achieve sustainability goals and EU emission targets
- Manage system constraints, upratings and new build to minimise overall cost
- Provide certainty for new generation on system access, driving down project delivery and financing costs

Q: Is this the best model for Ireland to adopt

- The asset transfer is the preferred model of every independent commentator, including OECD, IEA, ESRI, CER & EU Commission
- Currently nobody is responsible for end to end delivery of grid
- The single accountability model is best practice elsewhere
- EirGrid has demonstrated its ability to deliver major projects (EWIC)



would like to see the "asset transfer happen sooner rather than later" (2010)



"ESB's ownership of the Grid is a major stumbling block to competition" (2009)



Unbundling transmission is the "most effective approach to create confidence in the TSO's independence and impartiality" (2007)



In countries where unbundling has happened prices are lower by between 9% and 23% (2007)



"further efforts should be made to increase competitionby separating the ownership of different activities" (2009)



"the ownership of the transmission system in the Republic should be transferred to EirGrid"; this will ensure the "cost of providing the necessary transmission will be minimized" (2009)