



Designer Markets - What is the best fit for Guernsey?

Consultation on Guernsey's **Electricity Market**

The Regulator today (31st July 2002) published a consultation paper on the future of Guernsey's electricity market following on from a public meeting held earlier this month.

“I would like to thank everyone who attended our industry and public meetings on this issue on 17th of this month”, said Regina Finn, “the comments and feedback we received have helped us to put together this consultation paper”.

The paper examines the options for Guernsey's electricity sector and considers what forms of competition might be viable in Guernsey. It looks at the benefits that competition could bring and the costs of introducing competition and asks interested parties – consumers, industry players and policy makers – to comment on a range of questions.

Commenting on the paper, Regina Finn said “Some of the issues raised in this consultation paper are of particular interest to customers, such as what things would make customers chose a different retail supplier of electricity? Is it savings on bills? Is it a desire to buy energy from renewable sources? Are there other reasons customers would choose a new electricity supplier?

“Other questions are directed to possible market players – would they be likely to enter the market? What benefits do they consider they could deliver to customers? What are the market mechanisms that would need to be in place for them to consider competing?

“There are also questions on the high level policies that should be met by any choice for change, and the criteria against which my Office proposes to evaluate the options for Guernsey. All parties, customers, suppliers and policy makers, are invited to comment on these.”

The consultation is designed to help the OUR in preparing a report and recommendations to the Board of Industry on the introduction of competition into the Guernsey market.

“Guernsey’s electricity sector should be sustainable and beneficial to Guernsey consumers and the Guernsey economy alike”, said the Regulator, “and we are seeking the input of all affected parties to help us to make the best recommendation for the future.”

Copies of the consultation paper are available from the OUR website on www.regutil.gg or by calling the Office on 01481 711120.

**ENDS/
31st July 2002**

For further information call the Office of Utility Regulation on 711120