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Dear Essential Service Operator,

Following the power outage that occurred on 09 of August 2019, the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) commissioned the Energy Emergencies Executive Committee (E3C) to undertake a review into the event, to identify lessons learnt and put in place a robust action plan for the prevention and management of further power disruption events. The final report can be found [here](#).

Although the power disconnection on the 09 August itself was relatively short lived – all customers were restored within 45 minutes - the knock-on impacts to other services were significant. This is especially true for rail services which experienced major delays that extended into Sunday 11 August. The wider disruptions were caused by automatic safety systems under the control of individual service providers, which reacted to frequency and voltage fluctuations, or problems with their back-up power supplies.

As a result, the E3C report, which was endorsed by BEIS, recommended developing and delivering guidance for essential services owners/operators, to better support their contingency, continuity and resilience planning for short-term power outages. Your organisation has been identified by your Lead Government Department (LGD) as an essential service operator. I am pleased to attach with his letter the guidance document. I hope that this guidance provides a useful framework to support your organisation's planning for short-term power outages. If you have any further questions or queries, in the first instance, please channel these through your LGD.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Phil Sheppard (Director of Gas Transmission)
Chair of the E3C



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