



SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

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1. SUSTAINABILITY POLICY CONTEXT

NIE Networks owns and maintains the electricity transmission and distribution networks throughout Northern Ireland. We take appropriate account of Sustainability issues in all of our activities and ensure that business decisions are properly aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals¹ and, more specifically, the European Distribution System Operator Sustainable Grid Charter².

Sustainability focusses on meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. NIE Networks is committed to ensuring our business has a minimal or, where possible, positive impact on the local, national and global environment, community, society and economy.

NIE Networks is committed to delivering a sustainable energy system for all. In undertaking this Sustainability policy we shall aim to adopt appropriate sustainability principles and practices; comply with all legal, regulatory and environmental requirements along with building on lessons learned from past experiences.

This policy is endorsed by the NIE Networks Board which has overall accountability for Sustainability within the company while everyone in NIE Networks is responsible for its adherence.

We are committed to reviewing our policies so they remain fit for purpose, while reflecting the evolving requirements of all our customers and stakeholders.

¹ United Nations Sustainable Development Goals - <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

² E.DSO Sustainable Grid Charter - https://www.edsoforsmartgrids.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/03_EDSO_Sustainable-Grids_web.pdf

1.1 Policy Principles

NIE Networks recognises that our activities, electricity transmission and distribution, have environmental and societal impacts and that we should responsibly manage these impacts while supporting sustainable economic development.

We use externally certified ISO management systems throughout our company to strive for excellence in all our endeavours and to comply with all applicable laws and regulatory requirements.

We are committed to playing our part as a responsible business by achieving an appropriately high standard of environmental management and by embedding sustainability in all our activities.

1.2 Sustainability Policy Statement

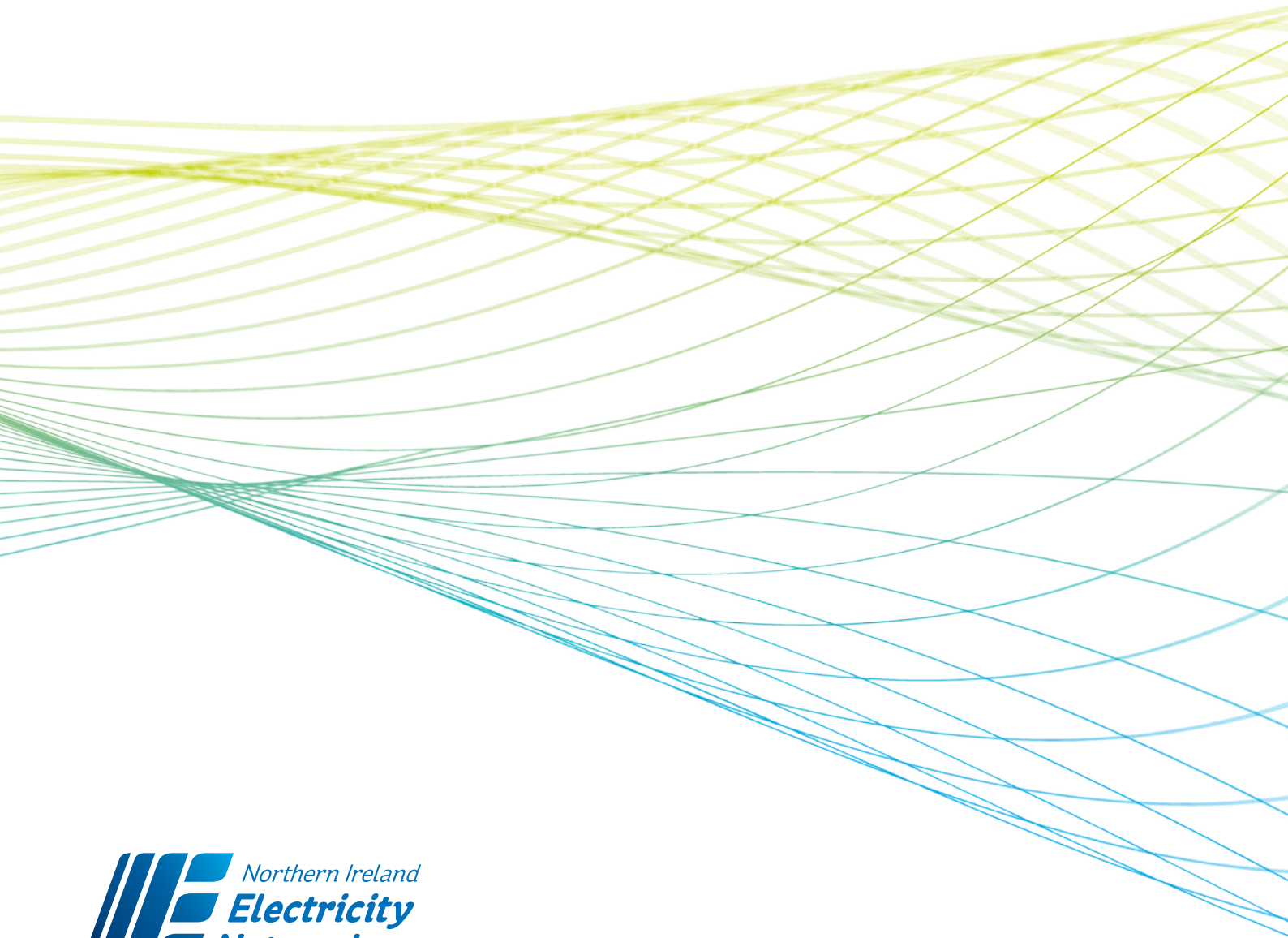
We are committed to providing the business with leadership in the transition to a sustainable, low carbon energy system.

Under this policy NIE Networks:

- commits to the energy transition by reducing our own carbon emissions and supporting this transition when working with others through a 'whole system' approach;
- complies with all regulatory, planning, environmental and sustainability legislation pertaining to our businesses;
- takes responsibility for the safe and environmentally sound operation of our businesses in a world of increasingly extreme weather patterns;
- where appropriate, seeks to operate with the minimum of materials necessary to conduct business operations safely and takes the life cycle of materials into account;

- applies the waste hierarchy to minimise waste disposal;
- takes the necessary preventive measures to minimise pollution risks arising from its business operations;
- operates its businesses responsibly, respectful of biodiversity and without harming ecosystems;
- where appropriate, seeks similar environmental social and governance standards from suppliers and other partner organisations as it has set itself;
- engages key stakeholders to adopt similar principles and commitments, while supporting NIE Networks in its endeavours;
- invests in sustainable infrastructure, subject to financial due diligence with due regard for the consumer, communities and the environment;
- reduces carbon emissions through sustainable travel, safe/eco driving practices and energy performance improvement at our buildings;
- is inclusive, recognising the value of individual difference and supports equal opportunity and human rights in its operations and
- operates in a transparent, fair and lawful manner, reporting to regulatory authorities as required by law and annually publishing our performance.





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