Radio Spectrum Policy Group – Secretariat
DG CNECT B4: Spectrum – Office: BU33 7/065
European Commission
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Kontakt	DW	Unser Zeichen	Ihr Zeichen	Datum
Armin Selhofer	232			29.07.2016

Public consultation on the Draft RSPG Opinion on spectrum related aspects for next-generation wireless systems (5G)
Comments by Oesterreichs Energie

Dear Madam,
Dear Sir,

Oesterreichs Energie, the Association of Austrian Electricity Companies, welcomes the opportunity to comment on the public consultation: RSPG Opinion on spectrum related aspects for next-generation wireless systems (5G). Oesterreichs Energie represents more than 140 energy companies active in generation, trading, transmission, distribution and sales which in total cover more than 90 per cent of the Austrian electricity generation and the entire distribution.

The electricity companies are right in the middle of a massive transformation of the whole sector: The control, automation and monitoring of the electricity infrastructure up to the end costumer and prosumer needs to be implemented.

Reasons for this are, inter alia, the introduction of smart meters, the demand for more transparency for the end customer, the request for ever increasing efficiency of the grid, the growing number of distributed generation from volatile sources, and the increasing importance of smart grids and electro mobility. In future, utilities will increasingly offer a variety of broadband services that require a higher bandwidth such as electro mobility, smart metering, smart grids and smart home. Hence, to comply with existing and future legal requirements as well as with the needs of the operational management the need to transfer information is tremendously gaining in significance in the energy sector. Therefore, also in

the context of the NIS-Directive (2016/1148/EU) where the energy sector is explicitly mentioned, it is essential for the utilities to operate secure communication networks.

In general the utilities will have individual needs for communication with a strong option for information exchange for smart meters and smart grid. The need of the electricity companies for such broadband communication networks can promptly be expected with regards to current (energy-) regulatory requirements for the utilities.

For the companies it is important, that they can cover their whole energy-supply area, usually stretching beyond urban or metropolitan areas. Finally, the frequency bands should be intended for long-term use to guarantee security of investments.

Thank you for taking our comments into consideration. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Österreichs E-Wirtschaft

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