



**Northern Ireland Electricity Networks
(The NIE Networks Transmission, Distribution and Landbank
Businesses)
31 March 2017**

Summary Regulatory Accounts

NORTHERN IRELAND ELECTRICITY NETWORKS
Summary Regulatory Accounts
31 March 2017

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IMPORTANT NOTE AND STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The summary regulatory accounts have been extracted from the full regulatory accounts for the year ended 31 March 2017, prepared by Northern Ireland Electricity Networks Limited (NIE Networks or the "Company") for submission to the Utility Regulator ("UR") in accordance with Condition 2 of the Company's Participate in Transmission Licence and Electricity Distribution Licence (together the "Licences"). For further information the full regulatory accounts and the auditor's report on those accounts should be consulted.

The Company is required under the Licences to prepare summary regulatory accounts for each financial year which present fairly the assets, liabilities, reserves and provisions of, or reasonably attributable to, the separate businesses as defined for that purpose in the Licences and of the revenues, costs and cash flows of, or reasonably attributable to, those businesses for that period. In preparing those accounts, the Company is required:

- to conform to the best commercial accounting practices including International Accounting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards issued by the International Accounting Standards Board as adopted by the European Union ("EU");
- to state the accounting policies adopted;
- not to change the bases of charge, apportionment or allocation from those applied in respect of the previous financial year unless previously directed by the Utility Regulator ("UR").

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of NIE Networks and which enable them to ensure that the summary regulatory accounts comply with the Licences. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of NIE Networks, which may for regulatory accounting purposes be allocated or apportioned to the separate businesses, and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the directors of Northern Ireland Electricity Networks Limited (NIE Networks or the Company) and the Northern Ireland Authority for Utility Regulation (NIAUR)

We have examined the summary regulatory accounts of NIE Networks for the year ended 31 March 2017, which comprise the Income Statement, Net Asset Statement, Cash Flow Statement and the related notes 1 to 14.

This statement is made solely to the directors of the Company as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the directors of the Company those matters that we have agreed to state to them in an auditor's statement, and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the directors of the Company as a body for our work, for this statement or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities set out on page 3, the Company's directors are responsible for the preparation and submission of the summary regulatory accounts to the Utility Regulator ("UR") as required by the Licences.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summary regulatory accounts with the full regulatory accounts.

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 2008/3 issued by the Auditing Practices Board. Our report on the full regulatory accounts describes the basis of our opinion on those financial statements.

Opinion on the summary regulatory accounts

In our opinion the summary regulatory accounts are consistent with the full regulatory accounts for the year ended 31 March 2017.

Ernst & Young LLP
Statutory Auditor
Belfast

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INCOME STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 March 2017

	Notes	Transmission		Distribution		Landbank		Total	
		2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m
Revenue									
Sales to Power NI		-	-	77.7	81.7	-	-	77.7	81.7
Sales to Power NI PPB		-	-	3.8	8.7	-	-	3.8	8.7
Other external sales		34.5	31.1	105.9	93.1	-	-	140.4	124.2
Sales to NIE Networks businesses		-	-	0.1	(0.1)	(0.1)	0.1	-	-
Sales to NIE Networks subsidiary		-	0.1	-	0.8	-	-	-	0.9
Sales to ESB group undertakings		-	-	13.8	14.1	-	-	13.8	14.1
Amortisation of customer contributions		3.2	2.4	11.9	8.8	-	-	15.1	11.2
Total Revenue		37.7	33.6	213.2	207.1	(0.1)	0.1	250.8	240.8
Operating costs	3	(25.7)	(25.3)	(129.7)	(121.3)	0.1	(0.1)	(155.3)	(146.7)
OPERATING PROFIT		12.0	8.3	83.5	85.8	-	-	95.5	94.1
Finance revenue		-	0.2	0.1	0.6	-	-	0.1	0.8
Finance costs		(5.6)	(5.7)	(32.6)	(32.4)	-	-	(38.2)	(38.1)
Net pension scheme interest		(0.6)	(0.8)	(3.3)	(4.8)	-	-	(3.9)	(5.6)
Net finance costs		(6.2)	(6.3)	(35.8)	(36.6)	-	-	(42.0)	(42.9)
PROFIT BEFORE TAX		5.8	2.0	47.7	49.2	-	-	53.5	51.2
Tax charge		(0.8)	(0.2)	(4.9)	(1.1)	-	-	(5.7)	(1.3)
PROFIT AFTER TAX		5.0	1.8	42.8	48.1	-	-	47.8	49.9

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NET ASSET STATEMENT

	Note	Transmission		Distribution		Landbank		Total	
		2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m
Non-current assets									
Property, plant and equipment	4	349.9	317.8	1,264.4	1,148.7	-	-	1,614.3	1,466.5
Intangible assets	5	5.0	6.0	17.9	21.7	-	-	22.9	27.7
Deferred tax asset	6	-	-	-	-	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
Derivative financial assets		126.6	107.1	457.4	387.0	-	-	584.0	494.1
		481.5	430.9	1,739.7	1,557.4	1.8	1.8	2,223.0	1,990.1
Current assets									
Inventories	7	3.2	2.6	11.4	9.3	-	-	14.6	11.9
Trade and other receivables	8	11.0	10.4	39.6	37.5	-	-	50.6	47.9
Derivative financial assets		3.1	2.8	11.3	9.9	-	-	14.4	12.7
Other financial assets	9	0.6	0.6	2.1	2.0	-	-	2.7	2.6
Cash and cash equivalents	10	(9.1)	4.8	22.8	37.5	-	-	13.7	42.3
		8.8	21.2	87.2	96.2	-	-	96.0	117.4
TOTAL ASSETS		490.3	452.1	1,826.9	1,653.6	1.8	1.8	2,319.0	2,107.5
Current liabilities									
Trade and other payables	11	25.7	24.6	92.7	88.8	-	-	118.4	113.4
Current tax		1.3	1.1	4.9	4.1	-	-	6.2	5.2
Deferred income	12	4.0	2.5	14.3	8.9	-	-	18.3	11.4
Derivative financial liabilities		3.1	2.8	11.3	9.9	-	-	14.4	12.7
Other financial liabilities	13	6.0	6.0	21.5	21.5	2.7	2.6	30.2	30.1
Short-term provisions	14	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.4	-	-	0.5	0.5
		40.2	37.1	145.1	133.6	2.7	2.6	188.0	173.3
Non-current liabilities									
Deferred income	12	95.1	77.4	343.6	279.5	-	-	438.7	356.9
Derivative financial liabilities		126.6	107.1	457.4	387.0	-	-	584.0	494.1
Other financial liabilities	13	126.2	124.1	456.0	448.7	-	-	582.2	572.8
Deferred tax liability	6	13.2	15.0	47.8	53.9	-	-	61.0	68.9
Long-term provisions	14	0.9	1.7	3.5	6.2	0.1	0.2	4.5	8.1
Pension liability		34.2	26.4	123.5	95.6	-	-	157.7	122.0
		396.2	351.7	1,431.8	1,270.9	0.1	0.2	1,828.1	1,622.8
TOTAL LIABILITIES		436.4	388.8	1,576.9	1,404.5	2.8	2.8	2,016.1	1,796.1
NET ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)		53.9	63.3	250.0	249.1	(1.0)	(1.0)	302.9	311.4

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NET ASSET STATEMENT (continued)

The summary accounts on pages 6-23 were approved by the Company's Board of directors and signed on its behalf by:

Director:

Date: 9 June 2017

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CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 March 2017

	Transmission		Distribution		Landbank		Total	
	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m
Cash flows from operating activities:								
Profit before tax	5.8	2.0	47.7	49.2	-	-	53.5	51.2
Adjustments for:								
Net finance costs	6.2	6.3	35.8	36.6	-	-	42.0	42.9
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	13.4	12.2	48.4	44.0	-	-	61.8	56.2
Amortisation of customer contributions and grants	(3.4)	(2.6)	(12.2)	(9.5)	-	-	(15.6)	(12.1)
Amortisation of intangible assets	1.1	1.1	4.1	4.1	-	-	5.2	5.2
Contributions in respect of property, plant and equipment	22.6	14.6	81.7	52.7	-	-	104.3	67.3
Defined benefit pension charge less contributions paid	(2.3)	(2.2)	(13.4)	(12.8)	-	-	(15.7)	(15.0)
Net movement in provisions	(0.8)	(0.1)	(2.7)	(0.4)	(0.1)	-	(3.6)	(0.5)
Operating cash flows before movement in working capital	42.6	31.3	189.4	163.9	(0.1)	-	231.9	195.2
Increase in working capital	(1.8)	(3.8)	(7.0)	(13.7)	-	-	(8.8)	(17.5)
Cash generated from / (used in) operations	40.8	27.5	182.4	150.2	(0.1)	-	223.1	177.7
Interest received	-	0.1	0.1	0.5	-	-	0.1	0.6
Interest paid	(8.3)	(5.6)	(29.8)	(32.4)	-	-	(38.1)	(38.0)
Net cash flows from / (used in) operating activities	32.5	22.0	152.7	118.3	(0.1)	-	185.1	140.3
Cash flows from investing activities:								
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(44.7)	(33.6)	(161.6)	(121.3)	-	-	(206.3)	(154.9)
Purchase of intangible assets	(0.1)	-	(0.3)	(0.2)	-	-	(0.4)	(0.2)
Loans made to fellow NIE Networks undertakings	-	(0.5)	-	(1.9)	-	-	-	(2.4)
Transfer of intercompany debt	-	5.6	-	19.9	-	-	-	25.5
Net cash flows used in investing activities	(44.8)	(28.5)	(161.9)	(103.5)	-	-	(206.7)	(132.0)

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CASH FLOW STATEMENT (continued)
for the year ended 31 March 2017

	Transmission		Distribution		Landbank		Total	
	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m
Cash flows used in financing activities								
Dividend paid to shareholder	(3.5)	(3.6)	(12.5)	(12.9)	-	-	(16.0)	(16.5)
Receipts from borrowings	1.9	-	7.0	-	0.1	-	9.0	-
Net cash flows used in financing activities	(1.6)	(3.6)	(5.5)	(12.9)	0.1	-	(7.0)	(16.5)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(13.9)	(10.1)	(14.7)	1.9	-	-	(28.6)	(8.2)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of year	4.8	14.9	37.5	35.6	-	-	42.3	50.5
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	(9.1)	4.8	22.8	37.5	-	-	13.7	42.3

NORTHERN IRELAND ELECTRICITY NETWORKS
Notes to the Summary Regulatory Accounts
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1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Northern Ireland Electricity Networks Limited (NIE Networks or the Company) is a limited company incorporated and domiciled in Northern Ireland. These summary regulatory accounts report on NIE Networks' Transmission Owner, Distribution and Landbank businesses and are separate from NIE Networks' statutory accounts which are prepared on a consolidated basis including the Company's subsidiary businesses. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with IFRS as adopted by the EU and applied in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with Condition 2 of the Licences. The accounts are presented in sterling (£) with all values rounded to the nearest £100,000 except where otherwise indicated.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been applied consistently to all years presented, unless otherwise stated.

New and revised accounting standards and interpretations

The following standards and amendments to existing standards and interpretations, applicable from 1 January 2016, were effective for the year, but were either not applicable or did not have a material impact on the accounting policies, financial position or performance of the Company:

Amendments to IAS 1: Disclosure Initiative

Amendments to IAS 16 and IAS 41: Agriculture: Bearer Plants

Amendments to IAS 16 and IAS 38: Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortisation

Amendments to IAS 27: Equity Method in Separate Financial Statements

Amendments to IFRS 10, IFRS 12 and IAS 28: Investment Entities: Applying Consolidation Exception

Amendments to IFRS 11: Accounting for Acquisitions of Interests in Joint Operations

Annual Improvements to IFRSs – 2012 to 2014 cycle

At the date of the authorisation of these accounts, the following new standards in issue are applicable but not yet effective and have not been adopted by the Company:

IFRS 9 Financial Instruments (effective 1 January 2018)

IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers (effective 1 January 2018)

IFRS 16 Leases (effective 1 January 2019)

The directors are currently assessing the impact of the new and amended standards.

Except for IFRS 16 Leases, the impact of which will be assessed during 2017, the directors do not currently anticipate that the adoption of the standards and interpretations will have a material impact on the Company's accounts in the period of initial application. The adoption of the standards and interpretations may however result in certain changes in the presentation of the Company's accounts from 2017 onwards.

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2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these accounts, which are consistent with the policies adopted in the Company's statutory accounts, are set out below.

Basis of Preparation

In preparing the summary regulatory accounts for the year ended 31 March 2017 the directors of the Company (after consultation with the Utility Regulator) have allocated revenue and operating costs to each of the Transmission Owner and Distribution Businesses on the basis of actual revenue and operating costs incurred by each separate business where clearly identifiable with any residual amounts being apportioned in the ratio 15%/85% to the respective businesses. Net assets have been allocated in proportion to the respective businesses' Regulatory Asset Bases (RABs) at the closing year end dates.

Prior year comparative amounts have been re-stated to allocate amounts previously presented as 'unallocated' to the separate Businesses.

Going Concern

On the basis of their assessment of the Company's financial position, which included a review of the Company's projected funding requirements for a period of 12 months from the date of approval of the accounts, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company will have adequate financial resources for the 12 month period and accordingly continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts.

Foreign currency translation

The functional and presentation currency of the Company is sterling (£).

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency at the rates of exchange prevailing on the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from settlement of such transactions and from the translation of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the exchange rates prevailing at the balance sheet date are recognised in the income statement.

Company's investments in subsidiaries

The Company recognises its investments in subsidiaries at cost less any recognised impairment loss. Dividends received from subsidiaries are recognised in the income statement. The carrying values of investments in subsidiaries are reviewed annually for any indications of impairment, including whether the carrying value is impaired as a result of the receipt of dividends.

Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are included in the balance sheet at cost, less accumulated depreciation and any recognised impairment loss. The cost of self-constructed assets includes the cost of materials, direct labour and an appropriate portion of overheads. Interest on funding attributable to significant capital projects is capitalised during the period of construction provided it meets the recognition criteria in IAS 23 and is written off as part of the total cost of the asset.

Freehold land is not depreciated. Other property, plant and equipment are depreciated on a straight-line basis so as to write off the cost, less estimated residual values, over their estimated useful economic lives as follows:

Infrastructure assets - up to 40 years

Non-operational buildings - freehold and long leasehold - up to 50 years

Fixtures and equipment - up to 10 years

Vehicles and mobile plant – up to 5 years

The carrying values of property, plant and equipment are reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable. Where the carrying value exceeds the estimated recoverable amount, the asset is written down to its recoverable amount.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Property, plant and equipment (continued)

The recoverable amount of property, plant and equipment is the greater of net selling price and value in use. In assessing value in use, estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. For an asset that does not generate largely independent cash flows, the recoverable amount is determined for the cash generating unit to which the asset belongs. Impairment losses are recognised in the income statement.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected to arise from its continued use. The gain or loss arising on the disposal or retirement of an asset is determined as the difference between the net selling price and the carrying amount of the asset.

Computer Software

The cost of acquiring computer software is capitalised and amortised on a straight-line basis over its estimated useful economic life which is between three and ten years. Costs include direct labour relating to software development and an appropriate portion of directly attributable overheads. Interest on funding attributable to significant capital projects is capitalised during the period of construction provided it meets the recognition criteria in IAS 23 and is written off as part of the total cost of the asset.

The carrying value of computer software is reviewed for impairment annually when the asset is not yet in use and subsequently when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

Gains or losses arising from de-recognition of computer software are measured as the difference between the net selling price and the carrying amount of the asset.

Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of average purchase price and net realisable value. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimate costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

Financial instruments

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and in hand and short term deposits with maturities of three months or less.

Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are initially recorded at fair value. After initial recognition, loans and receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Interest bearing loans and overdrafts

Interest bearing loans and overdrafts are initially recorded at fair value, being the proceeds received net of direct issue costs. After initial recognition, interest bearing loans are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables do not carry any interest and are recognised and carried at the lower of their amortised cost value and recoverable amount. Provision is made when there is objective evidence that the asset is impaired. Balances are written off when the probability of recovery is assessed as being remote.

Trade payables

Trade payables are not interest bearing and are stated at their amortised cost.

Derivative financial instruments

Derivatives that are not designated as hedging instruments are accounted for at 'fair value through profit or loss'. These derivatives are carried in the balance sheet at fair value, with changes in fair value recognised in net finance costs in the income statement.

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2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs attributable to significant capital projects are capitalised as part of the cost of the respective assets. All other borrowing costs are expensed in the period they occur. Borrowing costs consist of interest and other costs that an entity incurs in connection with the borrowing of funds.

Operating lease contracts

Leases are classified as operating lease contracts whenever the terms of the lease do not transfer substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership to the lessee. Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Revenue

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Company and the revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and represents amounts receivable for goods and services provided in the normal course of business, exclusive of value added tax and other sales related taxes.

The following specific recognition criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised:

Interest receivable

Interest income is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the effective interest rate applicable, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to that asset's net carrying amount.

Use of System and Public Service Obligation (PSO) revenue

Revenue is recognised on the basis of units distributed during the period. Revenue includes an assessment of the volume of electricity distributed, estimated using historical consumption patterns.

Transmission service revenue

Revenue is recognised in accordance with the schedule of entitlement set by the Utility Regulator for each tariff period.

Customer contributions

Customer contributions received in respect of property, plant and equipment are deferred and released to revenue in the income statement by instalments over the estimated useful economic lives of the related assets.

Government grants

Government grants received in respect of property, plant and equipment are deferred and released to operating costs in the income statement by instalments over the estimated useful economic lives of the related assets. Grants received in respect of expenditure charged to the income statement during the year are included in the income statement.

Tax

The tax charge represents the sum of tax currently payable and deferred tax. Tax is charged or credited in the income statement, except when it relates to items charged or credited directly to equity, in which case the tax is also dealt with in equity.

Tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from net profit as reported in the income statement because it excludes both items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years as well as items that are never taxable or deductible. The Company's liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax is the tax payable or recoverable on differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities in the accounts and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable profit, and is accounted for using the balance sheet liability method. Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences and deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which deductible temporary differences can be utilised.

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2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Tax (continued)

Deferred tax liabilities are recognised for taxable temporary differences arising on investments in subsidiaries, except where the Company is able to control the reversal of the temporary difference and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax is not recognised on temporary differences where they arise from the initial recognition of goodwill or of an asset or liability in a transaction that is not a business combination that at the time of the transaction affects neither accounting nor taxable profit nor loss.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each balance sheet date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the deferred tax asset to be recovered.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply to the period when the asset is realised or the liability is settled, based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the balance sheet date.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when (i) the Company has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event (ii) it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and (iii) a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Where the Company expects a provision to be reimbursed, the reimbursement is recognised as a separate asset but only when the reimbursement is virtually certain. If the effect of the time value of money is material, provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a pre tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and, where appropriate, the risks specific to the liability. Where discounting is used, the increase in the provision due to the passage of time is included within finance costs.

Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

Employees of the Company are entitled to membership of Northern Ireland Electricity Pension Scheme (NIEPS) which has both defined benefit and defined contribution pension arrangements. The amount recognised in the balance sheet in respect of liabilities represents the present value of the obligations offset by the fair value of assets.

Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent currency and term to the liabilities. Full actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and updated at each balance sheet date. Remeasurements comprising of actuarial gains and losses and return on plan assets are recognised immediately in the period in which they occur and are presented in the statement of comprehensive income. Remeasurements are not reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods.

The cost of providing benefits under the defined benefit scheme is charged to the income statement over the periods benefiting from employees' service. These costs comprise current service costs, past service costs, gains or losses on curtailments and non-routine settlements, all of which are recognised in operating costs. Past service costs are recognised immediately to the extent that the benefits are already vested. Curtailment losses are recognised in the income statement in the period they occur.

Net pension interest on net pension scheme liabilities is included within net finance costs. Net interest is calculated by applying the discount rate to the net pension asset or liability.

Pension costs in respect of defined contribution arrangements are charged to the income statement as they become payable.

The Company has adopted the exemption allowed in IFRS 1 to recognise all cumulative actuarial gains and losses at the transition date in reserves.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Pensions and other post employment benefits

Employees of the Company are entitled to membership of NIEPS which has both defined benefit and defined contribution arrangements. The cost of providing benefits under the defined benefit scheme is determined using the projected unit credit method. The key assumptions used for the actuarial valuation are based on the Company's best estimate of the variables that will determine the ultimate cost of providing post-employment benefits.

Unbilled debt

Revenue includes an assessment of the volume of electricity distributed, estimated using historical consumption patterns. A corresponding receivable in respect of unbilled consumption is recognised within trade receivables.

Fair value measurement

The measurement of the Company's derivative financial instruments is based on a number of judgmental factors and assumptions which by necessity are not based on observable inputs. These have been classified as Level 2 financial instruments in accordance with IFRS 13.

Changes in accounting estimates

IT improvements undertaken within the year have enabled the re-assessment of accounting estimates relating to the recognition of connections revenue and the provision for obsolete inventory.

Revenue for the year to 31 March 2017 includes £3.1m of connections revenue arising as a result of the change in accounting estimate.

Operating costs for the year to 31 March 2017 include a £1.3m reduction in the inventory provision.

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3. OPERATING COSTS

	Transmission		Distribution		Landbank		Total	
	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m
Staff costs	2.7	2.6	15.5	15.0	-	-	18.2	17.6
Depreciation and amortisation	14.4	13.2	52.1	47.6	-	-	66.5	60.8
Power NI charges	-	-	2.9	2.4	-	-	2.9	2.4
Other operating costs	8.6	9.5	59.2	56.3	(0.1)	0.1	67.7	65.9
	<u>25.7</u>	<u>25.3</u>	<u>129.7</u>	<u>121.3</u>	<u>(0.1)</u>	<u>0.1</u>	<u>155.3</u>	<u>146.7</u>

4. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	Transmission £m	Distribution £m	Landbank £m	Total £m
Cost:				
At 1 April 2016	515.6	1,863.3	-	2,378.9
Additions	47.8	161.8	-	209.6
Write off of accumulated depreciation	(2.6)	(9.2)	-	(11.8)
Re-apportionment on RAB values	(2.3)	2.3	-	-
At 31 March 2017	<u>558.5</u>	<u>2,018.2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,576.7</u>
Depreciation:				
At 1 April 2016	197.8	714.6	-	912.4
Charge for year	13.4	48.4	-	61.8
Write off of accumulated depreciation	(2.6)	(9.2)	-	(11.8)
At 31 March 2017	<u>208.6</u>	<u>753.8</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>962.4</u>
Net Book Value:				
At 1 April 2016	<u>317.8</u>	<u>1,148.7</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,466.5</u>
At 31 March 2017	<u>349.9</u>	<u>1,264.4</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,614.3</u>

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5. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	Transmission £m	Distribution £m	Landbank £m	Total £m
Cost:				
At 1 April 2016	22.3	80.5	-	102.8
Additions	0.1	0.3	-	0.4
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2017	22.4	80.8	-	103.2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Amortisation:				
At 1 April 2016	16.3	58.8	-	75.1
Amortisation charge for year	1.1	4.1	-	5.2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2017	17.4	62.9	-	80.3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Book Value:				
At 1 April 2016	6.0	21.7	-	27.7
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 March 2017	5.0	17.9	-	22.9
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

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6. DEFERRED TAX

	Transmission		Distribution		Landbank		Total	
	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m
Deferred tax assets								
At 1 April	-	-	-	-	1.8	2.1	1.8	2.1
Decrease in provision	-	-	-	-	-	(0.3)	-	(0.3)
At 31 March	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1.8</u>	<u>1.8</u>	<u>1.8</u>	<u>1.8</u>
Deferred tax liabilities								
At 1 April	15.0	13.2	53.9	47.2	-	-	68.9	60.4
(Decrease)/Increase in provision	(1.8)	0.7	(6.1)	2.9	-	-	(7.9)	3.6
Transfer from subsidiary	-	1.1	-	3.8	-	-	-	4.9
At 31 March	<u>13.2</u>	<u>15.0</u>	<u>47.8</u>	<u>53.9</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61.0</u>	<u>68.9</u>

7. INVENTORIES

	Transmission		Distribution		Landbank		Total	
	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m
Materials and consumables	3.0	2.4	10.6	8.5	-	-	13.6	10.9
Work in progress	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.8	-	-	1.0	1.0
	<u>3.2</u>	<u>2.6</u>	<u>11.4</u>	<u>9.3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14.6</u>	<u>11.9</u>

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8. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	Transmission		Distribution		Landbank		Total	
	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m
Trade receivables (incl. unbilled consumption)	10.2	9.7	37.0	34.9	-	-	47.2	44.6
Other receivables	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.5	-	-	0.6	0.6
Amounts owed by ESB group undertakings	0.3	0.2	1.0	0.8	-	-	1.3	1.0
Prepayments and accrued income	0.4	0.4	1.1	1.3	-	-	1.5	1.7
	11.0	10.4	39.6	37.5	-	-	50.6	47.9

9. OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS

	Transmission		Distribution		Landbank		Total	
	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m
Current								
Intra-group loans	0.6	0.6	2.1	2.0	-	-	2.7	2.6

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10. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	Transmission		Distribution		Landbank		Total	
	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m
Cash at bank and in hand	-	1.0	5.7	3.8	-	-	5.7	4.8
Deposit account	(9.1)	3.8	17.1	33.7	-	-	8.0	37.5
	<u>(9.1)</u>	<u>4.8</u>	<u>22.8</u>	<u>37.5</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13.7</u>	<u>42.3</u>

11. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	Transmission		Distribution		Landbank		Total	
	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m
Trade payables	3.9	4.7	14.0	16.8	-	-	17.9	21.5
Payments received on account	12.7	13.1	45.9	47.6	-	-	58.6	60.7
Taxation and social security	2.0	1.9	7.1	6.8	-	-	9.1	8.7
Accruals	5.8	4.9	21.0	17.6	-	-	26.8	22.5
Other payables	1.3	-	4.7	-	-	-	6.0	-
	<u>25.7</u>	<u>24.6</u>	<u>92.7</u>	<u>88.8</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>118.4</u>	<u>113.4</u>

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12. DEFERRED INCOME

	Transmission £m	Distribution £m	Landbank £m	Total £m
Current	2.5	8.9	-	11.4
Non-current	77.4	279.5	-	356.9
Total at 1 April 2016	<u>79.9</u>	<u>288.4</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>368.3</u>
Receivable	22.6	81.7	-	104.3
Released to income statement	<u>(3.4)</u>	<u>(12.2)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(15.6)</u>
Current	4.0	14.3	-	18.3
Non-current	95.1	343.6	-	438.7
Total at 31 March 2017	<u>99.1</u>	<u>357.9</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>457.0</u>
Deferred income at 31 March 2017 comprises:				
Grants	1.3	4.6	-	5.9
Customer contributions	<u>97.8</u>	<u>353.3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>451.1</u>
	<u>99.1</u>	<u>357.9</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>457.0</u>

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13. FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

	Transmission		Distribution		Landbank		Total	
	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m	2017 £m	2016 £m
Current								
Intra-group loans	-	-	-	-	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.6
Interest payable on bonds	1.4	1.4	5.0	5.0	-	-	6.4	6.4
Interest payable to NIE Networks undertaking	4.6	4.6	16.5	16.5	-	-	21.1	21.1
	6.0	6.0	21.5	21.5	2.7	2.6	30.2	30.1
Non-current								
Bonds	37.9	37.8	136.8	136.7	-	-	174.7	174.5
Amounts owed to parent undertaking	2.0	-	7.1	-	-	-	9.1	-
Amounts owed to NIE Networks undertaking	86.3	86.3	312.1	312.0	-	-	398.4	398.3
	126.2	124.1	456.0	448.7	-	-	582.2	572.8

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14. PROVISIONS

	Transmission	Distribution	Landbank	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Current	0.1	0.4	-	0.5
Non-current	1.7	6.2	0.2	8.1
Total at 1 April 2016	<u>1.8</u>	<u>6.6</u>	<u>0.2</u>	<u>8.6</u>
Applied in the year	(0.1)	(0.6)	-	(0.7)
Increase in provision	-	0.1	-	0.1
Release to income statement	(0.7)	(2.2)	(0.1)	(3.0)
Current	0.1	0.4	-	0.5
Non-current	0.9	3.5	0.1	4.5
Total at 31 March 2017	<u>1.0</u>	<u>3.9</u>	<u>0.1</u>	<u>5.0</u>
<i>Provisions at 31 March 2017 comprise:</i>				
Litigation	-	0.1	-	0.1
Environmental	0.3	1.2	0.1	1.6
Liability and damage claims	0.7	2.6	-	3.3
	<u>1.0</u>	<u>3.9</u>	<u>0.1</u>	<u>5.0</u>