



MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT **17 JULY 2012**

Competition Authority clears proposed acquisition by SSE plc of Endesa Ireland Limited

The Competition Authority has cleared the proposed acquisition by SSE plc, through SSE Generation Limited of Endesa Ireland Limited. The parties notified the transaction under the Competition Act 2002 on 18 June 2012.

The Authority carried out an intensive investigation which involved research, obtaining information from the parties themselves and consulting with the Commission for Energy Regulation in the State, the Utility Regulator of Northern Ireland and Eirgrid as the Transmission System Operator. None of the regulators raised any competition concerns.

As a result of the investigation the Authority has formed the view that the proposed transaction will not lead to a substantial lessening of competition in any market for goods or services in the State. We will publish a public version of the determination on our website (www.tca.ie) no later than 17 September 2012 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information is removed from the published version.

Notes

Endesa Ireland Limited is an indirectly wholly owned subsidiary of Enel S.p.A an Italian power company and one of Europe's main utilities. Endesa Ireland Limited entered the Irish market in 2009 and operates under a licence from the Commission for Energy Regulation. Endesa Ireland Limited is involved in the generation and wholesale supply of electricity in the SEM in the State. In January 2012, Endesa Ireland Limited began selling electricity to business customers in the State, however Endesa Ireland Limited does not supply electricity to any residential customers in the State.

SSE plc is incorporated in Scotland and is currently listed on the London Stock Exchange. SSE is an energy company with operations in the United Kingdom and the island of Ireland. SSE also supplies electricity to residential and business customers in the United Kingdom. SSE supplies electricity to residential and business customers in Northern Ireland through its subsidiary Airtricity Energy Supply (Northern Ireland) Limited. SSE supplies electricity to residential and business customers in the State through its subsidiary Airtricity.

For further information contact:

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