Your response

Question	Your response
Question 1: Do you agree with our overall approach to accept BT's offer of further commitments to ensure on-going protection of the prices paid by voice-only customers?	Confidential? – N JRC observes that 'These commitments relate to residential line rental and calls products provided under the BT brand (they do not apply to EE, Plusnet, nor to BT's business products and/or services).' With many remote utility sites including CNI assets relying on voice-only connections, e.g. for resilient voice communications, JRC asks that BT also advises Ofcom of its proposals for business products and / or services.

The Joint Radio Company Ltd (JRC)

JRC Ltd is a wholly owned joint venture between the UK electricity and gas industries specifically created to manage the radio spectrum allocations for these industries used to support operational, safety and emergency communications.

JRC manages blocks of VHF and UHF spectrum for Private Business Radio applications, telemetry & tele-control services and network operations. JRC created and manages a national cellular plan for co-ordinating frequency assignments for a number of large radio networks in the UK.

The VHF and UHF frequency allocations managed by JRC support telecommunications networks to keep the electricity and gas industries in touch with their field engineers throughout the country. These networks provide comprehensive geographical coverage to support the installation, maintenance and repair of plant in all weather conditions on a 24 hour/365 days per year basis.

JRC's Scanning Telemetry Service is used by radio-based System Control And Data Acquisition (SCADA) networks which control and monitor safety critical gas and electricity industry plant and equipment throughout the country. These networks are designed to provide resilient and reliable communications to unmanned sites and plant in remote locations to maintain the integrity of the UK's energy generation, transmission and distribution system.

JRC also manages microwave fixed link and satellite licences on behalf of the utility sector.

JRC supports the European Utility Telecommunications Council's (EUTC) Radio Spectrum Group and participates in other global utility telecom organisations. JRC participates in European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) and ITU-R working groups developing new radio standards and recommendations; plus European telecommunications regulatory groups and workshops.

JRC works with the Energy Networks Association's Future Energy Networks Groups assessing ICT implications of Smart Networks, Smart Grids & Smart Meters and is an acknowledged knowledge source for cyber-security in respect of radio networks.