

## **PRESS RELEASE – 20 January 2009**

**Electricity North West Limited (ENW) notes today's announcement that Ofgem has launched a formal investigation into ENW's charging structure for Independent Distribution Network Operators. ENW will co-operate fully with Ofgem in this inquiry.**

**Further information will be provided in due course.**

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Notes for Editors:

1. Electricity North West Limited (ENW) is one of the nineteen regulated electricity network companies in England, Wales and Scotland.
2. ENW operates under a licence to distribute electricity through its network, with a specified distribution service area covering the North West of England. Previously part of the United Utilities Group, ENW is now a separately owned business.
3. ENW owns the electricity distribution network in North West England, distributing electricity to customers' homes on behalf of the electricity supply companies. Customers receive their electricity bill from their supplier who pays ENW for use of the electricity network. ENW currently has 13,127 km of overhead lines, 43,136 km of underground cables, and 33,822 transformers serving 2.3 million customers in the North West of England.
4. United Utilities operate, maintain, construct and repair these assets on behalf of ENW.
5. The price that ENW can charge for distributing electricity is regulated by the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority ('GEMA'), operating through the Office of Gas and Electricity Markets ('OFGEM') under a price regime which is reviewed every five years.