

### **Enhanced Ratings Strategy for NGET**

## **Executive Summary -**

### Background

The Enhanced Ratings Strategy focuses on the deployment of dynamic ratings on our network. Enhanced or dynamic ratings leverage real-time or near-time data about assets or their immediate environment to deliver thermal ratings. These ratings are generated using our Met Office Ratings Enhancement (MORE) method. This method uses weather forecast data and Dynamic Line Rating (DLR) sensors that monitor weather conditions and measure the overhead line (OHL) conductor directly.

Enhanced thermal ratings have demonstrated the potential to significantly reduce transmission constraint costs with modest upfront investments, benefiting consumers by providing rapid cost savings. This strategy is crucial during the RIIO-ET3 period due to the rapid connection of Net Zero generation and the high volume of network outages for major upgrades.

#### **Investment Drivers**

The primary drivers for the Enhanced Ratings Strategy are:

- Reducing constraint costs: Enhanced ratings offer a rapid reduction in transmission constraint costs, leading to significant savings for consumers.
- Increasing deliverability: Enhanced ratings increase system access, which is vital for managing the network efficiently, particularly during high congestion periods due to upgrades and new connections.

# **Options**

Several options for implementing enhanced ratings were considered, ranging from a continuation of the EIIO-ET2 approach, to a blanket rollout of DLR across all circuits.

### **Preferred Solution**

The preferred option is to increase the use of weather-based enhancements supplemented with targeted sensor-based systems; prioritising deployments based on joint collaboration with the National Electricity System Operator (NESO) to maximise consumer benefits. This involves a combination of weather-based enhancements and sensor-based systems. This targeted approach, working closely with NESO, aims to provide significant value to consumers by reducing constraint costs and facilitating a faster transition to Net Zero.

#### **Timeline**

The programmatic roll-out will occur on an ongoing basis throughout the RIIO-ET3 period, guided by joint NGET-NESO prioritisation.