

A landscape photograph showing a green field in the foreground, a line of trees in the middle ground, and a clear blue sky with a bright sun setting on the horizon. Several high-voltage power lines stretch across the sky from a pylon on the left towards the right. A green rectangular box is overlaid on the bottom right of the image, containing white text.

Community Payments

Renewables Grid Initiative

Brussels, September 2016

Some initial questions

- 1. What are Community Payments?**
- 2. Why is RGI interested in this topic?**
- 3. What are some issues surrounding these practices?**

What are Community Payments?

- Money set aside by the TSO to fund local projects of community benefit
- Often in the form of a contribution to local authority budgets or an independently managed fund
- Amounts based on the fundamental characteristics of the project

“Community Payments for grid infrastructure are payments made by the TSO to provide a direct benefit to communities in the vicinity of new or upgraded high voltage electricity lines.”

Community Payments:
Case studies from across
Europe, RGI

What this does NOT include

- Independent from compensation **monies paid to landowners or to business owners** for loss of income
- Not part of any **environmental remediation activities**
- Does not include **non project-specific initiatives done at the corporate “CSR” level**

Why is RGI interested in this topic?

Grids are needed for the transition to an energy future built on renewable energy.



This infrastructure should be developed in a **timely and equitable** fashion.



One of the acceptance challenges is a justified grievance concerning a **lack of local benefit**.



RGI looking to identify and promote innovative ways of providing this local benefit.



Read more in our brochure



What are some issues surrounding these practices?

How should local government be involved?

What is the “community”?
How do you limit eligibility?

How do you ensure transparency and prevent corruption?

What body should direct the money? How should the TSO be involved in this?

Should community payments be legally compulsory or optional?

What are the legal risks associated with paying non-landowning stakeholder groups?