



PRESS RELEASE

Date: 17 June 2010

npower joins Arqiva's Smart Grid proof-of-concept network

- **npower to join Smart Grid trial using Arqiva's long-range radio solution**
- **Network to cover 80 square kilometres around Reading**

Arqiva, the communications infrastructure and media services company, today announced that npower would be joining its Smart Grid proof-of-concept network. The network utilises Arqiva's long-range radio communications solution for smart metering and will cover 80 square kilometres around Reading. Arqiva will build the communications network and provide communications for smart meters to npower customers in the Reading area. Sensus, Arqiva's technology partner, will support the trial by providing its FlexNet™ solution, which has already been deployed to nearly 7 million end points in North America. The network is expected to go live during July.

Dave Ford, head of smart metering development at npower, commented: "Smart meters and smart grid networks have the potential to deliver huge benefits to both customers and suppliers, but only if we get the right devices into consumers' homes and build the right platform to support communication between meters and providers. npower continues to be at the forefront of developing new products and services for smart meters. We were the first supplier to install pay-as-you-go meters as well as the first to install smart meters for our micro-generation customers. Our partnership with Arqiva is vital as it will enable the industry to better understand the communications options that are available. Arqiva's long-range radio communications solution promises real benefits in terms of reaching meters placed in basements or under stairs."

David Green, programme director for smart metering at Arqiva, added: "This proof of concept with npower underscores the credentials of our proposition – that long-range radio is the most secure, resilient and effective solution to meet the government target of providing smart meters to every home in the UK by 2020."

17 June 2010
npower joins Arqiva's Smart Grid proof-of-concept network

The trial follows the award in March 2010 of a grant to Arqiva by the UK's Department of Energy and Climate Change, under its Smart Grid Capital Grants Programme..

- Ends -

About Arqiva

Arqiva operates at the heart of the broadcast and mobile communications industry and is at the forefront of network solutions and services in an increasingly digital world. The company provides much of the infrastructure behind television, radio and wireless communications in the UK and has a significant presence in Ireland, mainland Europe and the USA. There are three business units:

Wireless Access provides cellular, wireless broadband, voice and data solutions for the mobile communications, public safety, local government, and commercial markets. Arqiva is the largest independent provider of radio sites in the UK and Ireland. With its own spectrum, the company can provide complete mobile communications networks including backhaul links.

Terrestrial Broadcast provides transmission for all UK terrestrial TV broadcasters, including the new networks being built for the Digital Switch Over. Transmission is also provided for BBC Radio and most commercial radio stations, both analogue and DAB. The company owns and operates two of the six UK digital terrestrial TV multiplexes, enabling major media companies to bring their TV and radio services to Freeview.

Satellite & Media provides global communication platforms to enterprise, government and broadcast customers around the world. It owns and operates teleports at key locations including Los Angeles, Washington, London and Paris, as well as comprehensive satellite capacity, an international terrestrial fibre network and extensive media facilities. These enable Arqiva to provide world leading organisations with a comprehensive range of services to deliver their data, broadcasts and media across the globe.

Arqiva has its headquarters near Winchester and other major UK offices in London, Warwick, Buckinghamshire and Yorkshire. Customers include major broadcasters such as the BBC, ITV, BSkyB and the independent radio groups, major telco providers including the UK's five mobile network operators, and the emergency services.

www.arqiva.com

npower has 6.5 million residential gas and electricity accounts throughout the UK. npower is a market leader in renewable energy. [npower juice](#) matches green energy primarily from off-shore wind farms for juice customers at no extra cost. Join the energy industry discussion on npower's interactive debating website [the brighter energy debate](#) where you can post your questions, views and comments.

About Sensus – Arqiva's smart meter and grid technology partner

Sensus creates innovative technology solutions that enable the conservation of water and energy. Sensus has led the discovery, development, and implementation of technologies for the energy and water industries for more than a century. Water, gas, and electric utility customers around the world benefit from the company's open, flexible products and solutions to help them optimize their resources – today and tomorrow.

With operations and service facilities on five continents and over 225 customers for FlexNet™, its Smart Meter and grid solution, Sensus is a global leader in utility infrastructure systems and resource conservation.

Sensus is a privately held company employing almost 4,000 people worldwide. Nearly 1,000 of these are in Europe with offices or manufacturing facilities in Germany, France, UK, Italy, Spain, Poland, Ukraine, Czech Republic and Slovakia. Sensus headquarters are in Raleigh, North Carolina, USA.

www.sensus.com.

FlexNet™ is a trademark of Sensus

17 June 2010
npower joins Arqiva's Smart Grid proof-of-concept network

For more information, please contact:

Iago John
Harvard Public Relations
Tel: +44 (0) 207 861 2800
email: arqiva@harvard.co.uk

Bruce Randall
Arqiva, Winchester
Tel: +44 (0)1962 822582
email: press.office@arqiva.com