Dear Mr. Lowe,

Please find attached an opinion adopted on 4 December 2013 by the Article 29 Working Party on the Data Protection Impact Assessment Template for Smart Grid and Smart Metering Systems (‘DPIA Template’) prepared by Expert Group 2 of the Commission’s Smart Grid Task Force.

The Working Party recognises the work carried out by the Expert Group 2 and realises that the second version of the template constitutes considerable improvement with respect to the previous version especially with regard to the methodology used. However, unclear elements remain and there is a need for more clarity in some parts, which, if addressed as indicated in the Working Party’s opinion, will contribute to the successful deployment and use of the template. The Working Party furthermore recommends a testing and validation phase of the DPIA Template.

The Working Party is aware of the urgent need for a DPIA in this industry sector. It would therefore welcome the swift finalisation of the DPIA Template and looks forward to receiving the final version for its consideration.

Yours sincerely,

On behalf of the Article 29 Working Party,

Jacob Kohnstamm
Chairman