Electricity Industry - UK - November 2018

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"A key focus for distribution network operators is the development and roll-out of innovative smart grid technologies to support the growing clean energy capacity coming onto the grid and to help the transition to a more flexible energy system. According to government estimates, smart grids could also reduce the cost of additional distribution reinforcement."
– Claudia Preedy, B2B Analyst

This report looks at the following areas:

- **A key focus for electricity distribution network operators (DNOs) is the development and roll-out of innovative smart grid technologies to enable the transition to a smarter and more flexible energy system**
- **The potential boom in electric vehicles (EVs) may pose serious network management challenges for DNOs**

As of June 2018, there were 67 challenger energy suppliers, with most active in both gas and electricity. The high level of entry into the retail market indicates that low barriers to entry.

While a number of new suppliers that entered the market over the last five years have managed to expand significantly (such as Utilita, OVO Energy and Bulb Energy), there are no suppliers, besides the 'big six', that have yet reached an individual 5% market share.

Smaller suppliers buy energy at shorter notice than larger suppliers, which tend to purchase energy one or two years ahead. This means they have been more successful at passing through competitive deals and responding quickly to falling wholesale prices. While smaller suppliers have been able to take advantage of falling wholesale prices, they are also harder hit by rising wholesale prices than larger suppliers, who are in a much stronger position to absorb any increases.

DID YOU KNOW?

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market

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