Independent Fibre Networks Limited

Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended
31 December 2015

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## Independent Fibre Networks Limited Company Information

## **Directors**

D Corney

C Linsdell

A Robinson

## Secretary

C Mumford

## **Auditor**

Deloitte LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor London United Kingdom

## Registered office

Energy House Woolpit Business Park Woolpit Bury St Edmunds IP30 9UP

## Registered number

05910724

## Independent Fibre Networks Limited Strategic Report

The Directors present their strategic report, annual report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015. The Directors in preparing this Strategic report, have complied with S414C of the Companies Act 2006.

#### Principal activity

The Company operates fibre optic telecommunications in the UK.

#### Review of business

The Company expects to continue with these activities. The Directors are not aware, at the date of this report, of any likely major changes in the Company's activities in the next year. The Company operates as part of the Brookfield Utilities UK Group "BUUK Group" and the Directors of the group do not consider individual entities in the group to have individual key performance indicators (KPI's). The Group's results are considered as a whole, and details of the performance can be found in the consolidated group accounts prepared by Brookfield Utilities UK No2 Limited.

## Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties facing the Company are:

#### Pricina

Current fibre products are competitively priced against similar incumbent products. The prices and rate of return are not fixed by Ofcom.

#### Regulatory

Ofcom has a policy of "light touch" regulation for most industry participants. Ofcom will keep the market under review but is very unlikely to introduce changes in the absence of Significant Market Power following a Formal Market Review.

#### Volume

The Company does not take any volume risk for fibre. It receives fixed charges from the backhaul provider for use of the upstream fibre network which are passed through to the Communications Provider.

## Credit

The Company contracts with Communications Provider (CP). The CP contracts with the end customer. All charges levied on the CP are charged up front except call charges. Not more than 10% of the Company's total revenues per site (approximately) equate to call charges and this percentage is expected to decrease as the business continues to grow.

#### Results

The profit for the year, after taxation, amounted to £412,899 (2014 profit: £104,982). The Company performed in line with expectations during the year. At the year-end the Company had net liabilities of £995,319 (2014: net liabilities of £1,408,985). The Company is financed through intercompany facilities for which it has received assurances from group companies providing finance that they will not recall balances before 12 months from the date of this report unless the Company is in a position to do so.

## Social, environmental and ethical policy

The Company is a member of the Brookfield Utilities UK Group of Companies and accordingly adheres to the Group's Social, Environmental and Ethical Policy.

The Group recognises that its business activities and practices, and those of its suppliers, may have an impact on its employees, society and the environment. As such the Group has developed its own policies and procedures to ensure compliance with these matters. The Group expects all employees and its suppliers to work to that Code, which as a minimum standard requires compliance with any relevant international and national, legal or regulatory framework. In addition, the Group has maintained registration of ISO 14001 environmental accreditation.

## **Independent Fibre Networks Limited Strategic Report**

## Health and safety

The Directors are committed to achieving high standards of health and safety in the Group's business activities for employees and customers alike. Policies and procedures are established to maintain continued provision of safe and healthy working conditions compliant with statutory requirements and appropriate codes of practice.

## **Equal opportunities**

A fair and equal opportunities culture is operated throughout the Group. Employment opportunities, whether in the recruitment, training or promotion of employees, are granted on merit irrespective of race, colour, religion, national origin, age, gender, disability or sexual orientation.

Full consideration and equal opportunities are given to employment applications from disabled persons with due regard to the requirements of the job. Where existing employees become disabled every effort is made to provide opportunities for continued employment within the Group supported with training and development as appropriate.

## **Employee involvement**

The Directors recognise the integral importance of their employees in achieving Group success. Employee involvement in the development of the business is encouraged through an open and honest working environment, effective communication of business objectives and performance and actively seeking the opinions and concerns of the wider business team.

This report was approved by the board on 12 July 2016 and signed on its behalf.

## **Independent Fibre Networks Limited**

Registered number:

05910724

**Directors' Report** 

The Directors present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015.

#### **Dividends**

The Directors do not recommend the payment of a final dividend (2014 - £nil).

#### **Directors**

The following persons served as Directors during the year and to the date of this report:

D Corney

C Linsdell

A Robinson

### **Directors' indemnities**

The Company has Directors' and Officers' liability insurance to provide against liability in respect of proceedings brought forward by third parties, subject to the conditions set out in section 234 of the Companies Act 2006. Such qualifying third party indemnity provision remains in force as at the date of approving the Directors' report.

### **Directors' responsibilities statement**

The Directors are responsible for preparing the annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the Directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". Under Company law the Directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company will continue in business.

The Directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### Going concern

After making enquiries, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the annual report and financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in Note 1 of the financial statements.

## **Independent Fibre Networks Limited**

Registered number:

05910724

**Directors' Report** 

### **Auditor**

Deloitte LLP has indicated its willingness to continue in office and a resolution to reappoint them as the Company's auditor will be put to the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

## Disclosure of information to auditor

Each person who was a Director at the time this report was approved confirms that:

- so far as he is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Company's auditor is unaware; and
- he has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken as a Director in order to make himself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Company's auditor is aware of that information.

This confirmation is given and should be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of s418 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the board on 12 July 2016 and signed on its behalf.

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## Independent Fibre Networks Limited Independent auditor's report to the members of Independent Fibre Networks Limited

We have audited the financial statements of Independent Fibre Networks Limited for the year ended 31 December 2015 which comprise the Income Statement, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Changes in Equity and the related notes 1 to 16. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

This report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### Respective responsibilities of directors and auditor

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement, included within the Directors' Report, the Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

#### Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the annual report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

## Opinion on the financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 31 December 2015 and of its profit for the year then ended;
- · have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Simon Grant ACA

Strant

(Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

Deloitte LLP

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor

London, United Kingdom

13 July 2016

# Independent Fibre Networks Limited Income Statement for the year ended 31 December 2015

	Notes	2015 £	2014 £ Restated - See note 2
Turnover	2	3,898,858	1,590,612
Cost of sales	2	(3,336,200)	(1,413,047)
Gross profit		562,658	177,565
Administrative expenses		(40,297)	(43,829)
Operating profit	3	522,361	133,736
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		522,361	133,736
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	5	(108,695)	(28,754)
Profit for the financial year		413,666	104,982

All activities derive from continuing operations.

# Independent Fibre Networks Limited Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2015

!	Notes		2015 £		2014 £
Fixed assets Intangible assets	6				~
mangible assets	0		44,818		-
Current assets					
Debtors	7	778,243		1,461,502	•
Cash at bank and in hand		292,459		1,065	
		1,070,702		1,462,567	
Creditors: amounts falling due					
within one year	8	(2,110,839)		(2,871,552)	
Net current liabilities			(1,040,137)		(1,408,985)
Net liabilities		-	(995,319)	- -	(1,408,985)
Capital and reserves					
Called up share capital	10		1		1
Profit and loss account	11		(995,320)		(1,408,986)
Total equity		-	(995,319)	-	(1,408,985)

The financial statements of Independent Fibre Networks Limited, registered number 05910724, were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 12 July 2016

They were signed on its behalf by:

D Corney Director

## Independent Fibre Networks Limited Statement of Changes in Equity 31 December 2015

	Share capital	Profit and loss account	Total
	£	£	£
At 1 January 2014	. 1	(1,513,968)	(1,513,967)
Profit for the financial year	-	104,982	104,982
At 31 December 2014	1	(1,408,986)	(1,408,985)
At 1 January 2015	1	(1,408,986)	(1,408,985)
Profit for the financial year	-	413,666	413,666
At 31 December 2015	1	(995,320)	(995,319)

## 1 Summary of significant accounting policies

## Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value, and in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland. The date of transition to FRS 102 is 1 January 2014.

On transition no changes to accounting policy or transitional adjustments have been identified which affect the financial position and financial performance reported in the previous financial statements. Accordingly no amendments have been made to the financial position previously reported at 31 December 2014.

The Company meets the definition of a qualifying entity under FRS 102 and has therefore taken advantage of the disclosure exemptions available to members of a group where consolidated financial statements are publicly available. Exemptions have been taken in relation to the presentation of a cash flow statement and remuneration of key management personnel.

#### **Turnover**

Turnover represents the amounts receivable from the supply of goods and services during the year, net of Value Added Tax. Transportation income is recognised when services are provided and are rendered based upon usage during that period. All turnover and profit before taxation, by origin and destination, was attributable to the UK.

#### Going concern

The Company forms part of the Group known as Brookfield Utilities UK ("BUUK", the "Group") of which the ultimate parent undertaking is Brookfield Infrastructure Partners L.P. BUUK had its investment grade rating from Moody's reaffirmed on 24 September 2015. At 31 December 2015 the Group had the following long term funding:

- Senior Secured Loan notes denominated in GBP (£600 million) and US\$ (US\$300 million). The loan notes are privately placed and have maturity dates ranging from 2023 to 2035. The loan notes are fully drawn down and incur a fixed rate of interest. Cross currency interest rate swaps have been taken out to fix the US\$ denominated interest and capital repayments.
- Bank facilities with a syndicate of banks. In total the Group has facilities of £200 million. As at 31 December 2015 £160.5 million of the facilities remained undrawn. The facilities mature in 2020. Interest is paid on a margin above LIBOR.
- Convertible Loan Notes redeemable in 2044 of £158.5 million.

The Group is required to comply with certain financial covenants on a quarterly basis in compliance with the bank and senior loan note facilities agreement and expects to continue to do so for the forseeable future.

The Group is cash generative and has access to sufficient funds to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and therefore adopts the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

All Companies within the BUUK Group have given assurances that intercompany loans in existence at the Statement of Financial Position date will not be recalled within a period of one year from the date of signing of the financial statements, unless a Company is in a position to make repayment. The Company's forecasts, taking into account reasonable possible changes in trading performance to December 2020, show that the Company should have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Therefore, the Directors have a reasonable expectation that the Company can continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due, for a period of at least 12 months from the date of this annual report. Accordingly, they have prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

## 1 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### Intangible fixed assets

Intangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulative amortisation and any accumulative impairment losses. Amortisation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of the asset over its estimated useful life on a straight line basis.

Computer software

5 years

#### Cash flow statement

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption from preparing a cash flow statement conferred by paragraph 1.12(b) of FRS 102 on the grounds that it is a member of a group where the parent of that group prepares publicly available consolidated financial statements.

#### **Debtors**

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price (which is usually the invoice price), less any impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts.

Loans and other financial assets are initially recognised at transaction price including any transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost determined using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts.

#### Creditors

Short term creditors are measured at transaction price (which is usually the invoice price).

Loans and other financial liabilities are initially recognised at transaction price net of any transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost determined using the effective interest method.

## Taxation

A current tax liability is recognised for the tax payable on the taxable profit of the current and past periods. A current tax asset is recognised in respect of a tax loss that can be carried back to recover tax paid in a previous period.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences between the recognition of income and expenses in the financial statements and their inclusion in tax assessments.

Unrelieved tax losses and other deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits.

Deferred tax is measured using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date and that are expected to apply to the reversal of the timing difference, except for revalued land and investment property where the tax rate that applies to the sale of the asset is used.

Current and deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted.

#### **Provisions**

Provisions (ie liabilities of uncertain timing or amount) are recognised when there is an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event, it is probable that economic benefit will be transferred to settle the obligation and the amount of the obligation can be estimated reliably.

## 1 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued) Foreign currency translation

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recognised at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction.

At the end of each reporting period foreign currency monetary items are translated at the closing rate of exchange. Non-monetary items that are measured at historical cost are translated at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All differences are charged to profit or loss.

#### Leased assets

A lease is classified as a finance lease if it transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

The rights of use and obligations under finance leases are initially recognised as assets and liabilities at amounts equal to the fair value of the leased assets or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments.

Minimum lease payments are apportioned between the finance charge and the reduction in the outstanding liability using the effective interest rate method. The finance charge is allocated to each period during the lease so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability.

Leased assets are depreciated in accordance with the company's policy for tangible fixed assets. If there is no reasonable certainty that ownership will be obtained at the end of the lease term, the asset is depreciated over the lower of the lease term and its useful life.

Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense on a straight line basis over the lease term.

#### Pensions

Contributions to defined contribution plans are expensed in the period to which they relate.

#### 2 Restatement of prior year turnover and cost of sales

Turnover from sales to other group companies was reported net of cost of sales in the prior year. Expenditure of £1,153,062 previously offset against turnover for the year ended 31 December 2014 has now been reclassified to cost of sales. As a result of this both turnover and cost of sales have increased by £1,153,062 for the year ended 31 December 2014 compared to that previously reported. There is no impact of this restatement on the operating result, or balance sheet position, of the Company. The intercompany balances on the balance sheet were correctly presented net.

## 3 Operating profit

This is stated after charging:	2015 £	2014 £
Amortisation of intangible assets	1,868	

Audit fees for the audit of the Company's annual accounts are £3,550 (2014 - £2,780); audit fees are borne by Brookfield Utilities UK No 2 Limited.

## 4 Directors' emoluments and staff costs

The Directors received no emoluments in the year (2014: £nil). The Directors are Directors/employees of other Group Companies and the services that they provide to the Company are considered ancillary to the services that they provide to those other Group Companies. The Company had no employees during the year with all administrative tasks undertaken by employees of fellow group undertakings.

5	Taxation	2015 £	2014
	Analysis of charge in year	L	
	Current tax:		
	Group relief credit in respect of the current year	106,156	28,754
	Adjustments in respect of previous years	2,875	-
		109,031	28,754
	Deferred tax:		
	Origination and reversal of timing differences	(336)	-
	Tay on profit on ordinary activities	109 605	29.754
	Tax on profit on ordinary activities	<u> 108,695</u>	28,754

## Factors affecting tax charge for year

The differences between the tax assessed for the period and the standard rate of corporation tax are explained as follows:

	2015 £	2014 £
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	522,361	133,736
Standard rate of corporation tax in the UK	20.25%	21.50%
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by the standard rate of corporation tax	<b>£</b> 105,778	£ 28,754
Effects of: Difference between current and future tax rates in the year Adjustments to tax charge in respect of previous years	42 2,875	-
Tax charge for year	108,695	28,754

## 5 Taxation (continued)

## Factors that may affect future tax charges

The Finance Act 2013, which provides for a reduction in the main rate of corporation tax from 21% to 20% effective from 1 April 2015, was substantively enacted on 3 July 2013.

Reductions in the corporation tax rate to 19% from 1 April 2019 and 18% from 1 April 2020 were substantively enacted on 26 October 2015. Consequently deferred tax has been calculated at the year end using a tax rate of 18%.

The Company has no unrecognised deferred tax assets or liabilities as at 31 December 2015 (2014: £nil).

## 6 Intangible fixed assets

J	intaligible fixed assets		Computer software £
	Cost		
	At 1 January 2015		-
	Additions		46,686
	At 31 December 2015		46,686
	Amortisation		
	At 1 January 2015		-
	Provided during the year		1,868
	At 31 December 2015		1,868
	Carrying amount		
	At 31 December 2015		44,818
	At 31 December 2014		
7	Debtors	2015	2014
•		£	£
	Trade debtors	107,300	91,737
	Amounts owed by fellow subsidiary undertakings	651,061	1,239,008
	Deferred tax asset (see note 9)	336	-
	Other debtors	-	116,244
	Prepayments and accrued income	19,546_	14,513
		778,243	1,461,502

Amounts owed by fellow subsidiary undertakings are non-interest bearing, unsecured and repayable on demand.

8	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2015 £	2014 . £
	Amounts owed to immediate parent company	-	2,307,317
	Amounts owed to fellow subsidiary undertakings	1,932,601	369,219
	Other creditors	66,077	124,800
	Accruals and deferred income	112,161	70,216
		2,110,839	2,871,552

Amounts owed to immediate parent and fellow subsidiary undertakings are non-interest bearing, unsecured and repayable on demand.

9	Deferred taxation			2015	2014
				£	£
	Decelerated capital allowances			(336)	
	•				
				2015	2014
				£	£
	At 1 January			-	_
	Credited to the profit and loss account	t		(336)	-
	At 31 December			(336)	
10	Share capital	Nominal	2015	2015	2014
		value	Number	£	£
	Allotted, called up and fully paid: Ordinary shares	£1 each	1	1	1
	Ordinary Shares	£ i each	,		<u>'</u>
11	Profit and loss account			2015	2014
				£	£
	At 1 January			(1,408,986)	(1,513,968)
	Profit for the financial year			413,666	104,982
	At 31 December			(995,320)	(1,408,986)

## 12 Related party transactions

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption provided by FRS 102 paragraph 33.1A not to disclose transactions with other wholly-owned Group undertakings.

The Company has taken advantage of the exemption provided by FRS 102 paragraph 1.12 (e) not to disclose key management personnel compensation.

## 13 Presentation currency

The financial statements are presented in Sterling, which is also the functional currency.

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## 14 Legal form of entity and country of incorporation

Independent Fibre Networks Limited is a limited company incorporated in England & Wales.

#### 15 Principal place of business

The address of the company's principal place of business and registered office is:

Energy House Woolpit Business Park Windmill Avenue Woolpit Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 9UP

## 16 Ultimate parent undertaking

The Company's immediate parent undertaking is Inexus Group (Holdings) Ltd, a Company registered in England and Wales. The Company's ultimate parent undertaking and controlling party is Brookfield Infrastructure Partners L.P., which is registered in Bermuda.

The smallest Group of which the Company is a member and for which Group financial statements are prepared is Brookfield Utilities UK No 2 Limited, a Company registered in England and Wales. The largest Group the Company is a member and for which Group financial statements are prepared is Brookfield Infrastructure Partners L.P., which is registered in Bermuda.

Brookfield Infrastructure Partners L.P.'s financial statements can be obtained from: Brookfield Infrastructure Partners L.P., Canon's Court, 22 Victoria Street, Hamilton, HM 12, Bermuda.