

Minutes	
Meeting name	Electricity Balancing System Group
Meeting number	6
Date of meeting	27 March 2012
Time	10:00 - 15:00
Location	National Grid, Wokingham

Attendees		
Name	Initials	Company
Campbell McDonald	CM	SSE (by phone)
Dan Webb	DW	Seabank
Graham Bunt	GB	EDF Energy
Guy Phillips	GP	E.ON
Hannah McKinney	HM	EDF Energy (by phone)
Joe Warren	JW	RLTec
Nick Sargent	NS	National Grid (Technical Secretary)
Robert Paterson	RP	National Grid
Shaf Ali	SA	National Grid (Chair)
Simon Peter Reid	SR	Scottish Power (by phone)

Apologies		
Name	Initials	Company
Christopher Proudfoot	CP	Centrica
John Lucas	JL	Elexon
John Norbury	JN	RWE
Karen Davies	KD	Seabank
Lisa Waters	LW	Waters Wye
Martin Mate	MM	EDF Energy
Scott Keen	SK	Intergen
Simon Amos	SAM	Barking Power

1 Introduction

SA welcomed the attendees and opened the meeting.
 DW advised that KD can be taken off the attendee list going forward.

SA introduced the agenda.
 The next EBSIT subgroup meeting is Thursday 29th March so that item can be taken off the agenda for today's meeting (RP).
 No additional items were proposed and the agenda was accepted by all.

2 Approval of Minutes from the last meeting

GP asked for his apologies to be added to the last minutes.
 No other comments received and minutes agreed.

3 Review of Actions

Action 11/05	Ongoing action. NS circulated the latest version ahead of the meeting. To discuss meeting dates later Timeline to be updated and recirculated (GP) ACTION: NS
Action 11/11	This is a low priority action to be arranged when other EBS issues have been cleared off (RP). It will be left as live though (SA) so that it's not ignored (CP)
Action 12/06	Updated by RP and presented to GCRP Closed
Action 12/07	Received and incorporated Closed
Action 12/08	Received and incorporated Closed
Action 12/09	Draft circulated and subject of an agenda item later on Closed

4 Feedback from the last GCRP

SA introduced an update from the last GCRP meeting. There was a lot of discussion particularly on the timeline of the TSL consultation and how to move things forward quickly.

At the last GCRP meeting, GCRP view was to speed up the EBSG consultation time and target the May GCRP meeting to provide consultation feedback. Timeline will be looked at when we review the consultation.

There will still be a lot of time spent in making Grid Code updates/modifications so we've added a question to the consultation "what should NG do in the interim period". There is a more immediate need to address the problem one way or the other. We are looking towards National Grid to revert to the previous position pre-summer last year (CM).

We will look at opportunities to support and may look for ideas on how we may do this (SA).

The interim solution is purely to address timescales so minimal, or no, additional legal text is required for the interim solution (RP).

The Pricing Issues paper was accepted at the GCRP meeting without much discussion except for the key issue of the timescale in which it's being progressed. (RP).

The GCRP did not reach conclusion on timescales particularly in relation to the potential Cash-Out Significant Code Review [SCR], which was mentioned by Barbara Vest (RP).

CM and RP did not wish to add anything further from the last GCRP meeting.

In terms of recommendation, the GCRP is comfortable with taking the Pricing Issues paper forward. The question is if there are any implications for the Ofgem SCR on Cash-Out. Ofgem have not made a final decision on whether to go ahead; we've heard nothing formal (SA). If the SCR does go ahead, there is a direct link with the pricing issues that we have here (SA).

If Ofgem raises the SCR on Cash-Out, we might have to pull the Pricing Issues paper (RP).

[Post meeting note: Ofgem has issued an open letter confirming the launch of the Cash-Out SCR]

Maybe we should wait until the next BSC panel meeting before making that decision (SA).

Next BSC meeting is 12 April (RP).

Next EBSG 01 May

Next BSC 10 May

RP asked if people would prefer to hold submission to 10 May?

Ofgem didn't offer much input to discussion at the GCRP (CM).

SA was reluctant to take this forward quickly. Should sound Elexon out after this meeting.

Should we consult the industry on expanding the pricing mechanism? (CM)

Everyone was in agreement with the GCRP that the pricing issue goes to the BSC but should we submit for the April meeting with the risk of Ofgem Cash-Out review being raised or go for the May BSC meeting? (RP)

The suggestion is to go for the May meeting as April will be a rush to submit paperwork by papers day (CM).

All present agreed.

5 Draft Two Shifting Limit Consultation

SA made general points. People made for/against comments with most debate around TSL.

No specific comments from EBSG members to support TSL were received (RP).

After the last GCRP meeting, National Grid looked at the LW paper and inserted comments supporting TSL into the consultation (SA).

National Grid has made its own view clear but it aimed to give balanced views in the consultation for/against. SA asked if those present were comfortable that this approach had been taken by National Grid.

Text and a diagram to show the impact of running additional plant had been included and National Grid would also like to ask for group feedback on the additional question asking for an interim solution to overcome timing issues (SA).

Everyone present had reviewed the draft consultation document and a page-turn final review was proposed for the meeting (RP).

The consultation document was reviewed section by section (ALL). Tracked changes were made in readiness for the document to be distributed by Friday 30 March (NS).

Action: NS to publicise/circulate the TSL consultation by 30 March 2012.

6 Proposed meeting dates

Next meeting Tuesday 01 May

7 Next Steps

Documentation to be distributed - NS

8 AOB

None