

# Minutes

## NOA committee - October 2021

<b>Date:</b> 06/10/2021	<b>Location:</b> MS Teams
<b>Start:</b> 10:00	<b>End:</b> 12:00

## Participants

Attendee	Role in meeting	Job role	Minutes attended
Matthew Wright	Chair	Head of ESO Strategy and Regulation - ESO	1-9
Rob Rome	Committee member	Commercial Operations Manager - ESO	1-9
Kayte O'Neill	Committee member	Head of Markets - ESO	1-9
Julian Leslie	Committee member	Head of Networks - ESO	1-9
Rob Nickerson	Committee member	Electricity market modelling manager - ESO	1-9
Nicholas Harvey	Support member	Network Development Manager - ESO	1-9
Susana Nevesebrooks	Support member	Electricity Customer Connections Manager - ESO	1-9
Martin Price	Technical secretary	Power System Engineer - ESO	1-9
Jason Hicks	Presenter	Power System Engineer - ESO	1-9
Richard Proctor	Presenter	Power System Engineer - ESO	1-9
Calum Mackenzie	Presenter	Power System Engineer - ESO	1-9
Victor Matilla	Presenter	Power System Engineer - ESO	1-9
Griffin John	Presenter	Power System Engineer - ESO	1-9
<b>External Participants</b>			
James Norman	Observer	Ofgem	1-9
Keren Maschler	Observer	Ofgem	1-9
Konark Anand	Observer	Ofgem	1-9
Neil Copeland	Observer	Ofgem	1-9
Niall McDonald	Observer	Ofgem	1-9
David Willmot	Presenter	Network Development - National Grid Electricity Transmission	3-7

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Lisa Cressy	Presenter	Network Development - National Grid Electricity Transmission	3-7
Owen Wilkes	Presenter	Network Development - National Grid Electricity Transmission	3-7
Mark Perry	Presenter	Network Development - National Grid Electricity Transmission	3-7
Roddy Wilson	Presenter	Network Planning Manager – SHE Transmission	3-5
Eric Leavy	Presenter	Head of Transmission Network – SP Transmission	3-5

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## Discussions and details

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### # Topics to be discussed

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#### 1. Apologies and Introduction

Mr Wright welcomed all the attendees and introductions were made.

Ms Stuchfield (Energy Analysis Senior Manager - ESO) sent her apologies and Mr Nickerson was appointed as replacement.

Ms Haigh (Head of National Control - ESO) sent her apologies and Mr Rome was appointed as replacement.

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#### 2. Governance and process

[Redacted due to administrative nature]

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### TOs enter meeting

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#### 3. Update for this year's Networks Option Assessment, NOA process and publication

[Redacted due to commercially sensitive nature]

#### 3.2. Interactive maps for ETYS and NOA

Mr Wright invited Mr Matilla to provide an update on the ETYS and NOA Interactive maps and the following points were noted:

- This year the ambition was set out to create a new and innovative way of showcasing the results of the Electricity Ten Year Statement, (ETYS) 2021 and the Network Options Assessment (NOA) 2021/22.
- Previously feedback had been received extensive feedback from stakeholders that the link between ETYS and NOA has been unclear, and we are looking to bridge that gap through this development.
- We are working with developers to produce an interactive map where stakeholders can actively engage with the system needs and understand how the NOA recommendations satisfy those needs.
- The map will be launched as part of ETYS 2021 and NOA 2021/22 publications. This work will contribute to the stakeholder reporting section as part of our annual regulatory reporting obligations as well as improving the accessibility of our ETYS and NOA analysis and results.

#### Questions and comments:

- Mr Wright stated that the maps look great and an improvement for accessibility for stakeholders.
  - Mr Harvey commented - that as feedback has been given in the past about the amount of information published about circuits, Mr Harvey requested to work with the TOs further on this for the Interactive maps.
  - Mr Wilkes and Mr Perry stated that they are happy to work with the maps and to keep engaged with the TOs about it. Mr Wilson was also glad to work with the maps and glad that ESO are aware of the sensitivities of options particularly in early development. Mr Wilson stated his approval of the maps' improvements.
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#### 4. Scotland and the north of England

##### 4.1. Commentary on the network and boundaries including the effect of the Future Energy Scenarios

Mr Wright invited Mr Mackenzie to give an update on the commentary on the Network and boundaries for the Scotland and the north of England region and the following points were noted:

- With the FES 2021 background, in which three of the scenarios satisfy zero carbon ambitions, the north continues to show growth in renewable generation connections driving ever higher north to south peak power flows across the transmission network
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- The potential need for network reinforcements continues to grow, extending beyond the reinforcements recommended in the last NOA, which already recommended multiple new circuits be developed.
  - The transmission limitations are not limited to the Anglo-Scottish border but extends through Scotland and all the way down through England to the south. With enough renewable generation, the economic market modelling suggests growing interconnector export to continental Europe during times of high renewable output.
  - The projections of boundary Economy Required Transfer for the B7a boundary for all four FES, show that while initially similar, the future requirements exceed those of last year, primarily due to increased projections of northern offshore wind.

#### 4.2. Overview of the NOA options submission

[Redacted due to commercially sensitive nature]

#### 4.3. 5 point plan

Mr Wright invited Mr John to provide an update on the 5 Point Plan and the following points were noted:

- **Forecasting - Constraints**, work has been undertaken with regards to the modelling of BSUOS forecasts. Also looking at how and where this information would be published.
- **Intertrips** - and through the Constraint Pathfinder project, the commercial window for the tender is now complete. The prices have now been submitted and the assessment will be carried out based on the commercial assessment methodology that was consulted on and set out at the start of the tender. Results are expected to be announced in mid-late December. Following that, future tenders will be looked at and other areas the NOA will be proposing under Commercial Solutions
- **Local Constraint Market** - the Request for Information, RFI was carried out for the platforming and the service design has now being built.
- **Energy Storage**
  - The Storage for Constraints project is part of the Constraint Management 5 Point Plan.
  - It is a project delivered by consultants DNV, running from August to November 2021. It is a technical feasibility study and will assess how much storage could reduce constraint costs by in the period 2022-2030.
  - There were four work packages assessed, in the technical, economic, business and market elements of storage, being used to alleviate network constraints. The first pass review with DNV has happened and refinements have been provided to the analysis to improve its usefulness.
  - The challenges faced were on the most constraint boundaries in the duration and frequency of the constraint periods increased. The unconstraint periods start to become rare and storage is either full or cannot charge any longer. Long duration storage has been looked at, however initial findings show that this could take too long and miss the high constraints period seen in 2030 before it is built and commissioned.
  - Going forward more work will be done on the other work pages three and four which focus on business and the market elements.
  - The project is on track, although a few aspects of the analysis are proving more difficult than expected, including how to represent in the model an intelligent operating strategy for the storage, and how to get the model to optimise across many different dimensions in a sensible amount of time.
- **Network Improvements** - Outage requirements are currently being processed. It also gives the opportunity to test forecasting

*Questions and comments:*

- Mr Wilkes asked - from a resource planning point, it would be very advantageous to have a clear timeline, particularly around the requirements from the TOs. Can we have more engagement to enable this?

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- Mr Harvey replied - We are collating information to take to the JPC IP and doing work on how we can do 365 24/7 network analysis. We are looking to provide this to the TOs when possible. Aware of the competing tasks from NOA and HND etc. We are anticipating this work will be last quarter of the financial year.
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#### 5. **East coast SWW/LOTI**

Mr Wright invited Mr Wilson to give an update the East Coast SWW/LOTI and the following points were noted:

- Two initial needs cases were submitted last year for HVDC links. OFGEM launched their consultation on those this year. OFGEM's conclusions from that are expected soon.
- Started preparing the final needs case for those HVDC links now.
- The final needs case will take the form of two documents. One will cover Torness-Hawthorne pit and the other will cover Peterhead to Drax. This is on track for submission in December to Ofgem.
- The CBA undertaken by the ESO confirms the requirement for these two links
- Sea-bed surveys have been completed for both. We are awaiting the results for the Peterhead to Drax route.
- Onshore developments are progressing as per their agreed timeline. Engineering studies and surveys are ongoing.
- Both projects are on track - looking to open Invitations to tender by Q2 2022. Onshore planning applications will be submitted Q1 or Q2 2022. Expect the results of those applications in early 2023. Similar time for the marine applications.

*Questions and comments:*

- Mr Leslie expressed gratitude for the overview and asked when the planned delivery was. Mr Wilson replied that the Torness link will be in 2027 and Peterhead link in 2029.
  - Mr Leslie asked about the other two links. Mr Wilson - the two links are in the earlier stages of development. However, not at the stage where anything is prepared for seabed survey or planning. The planned delivery date is 2031.
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#### **Scottish TOs exit meeting**

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#### 6. **England and Wales excl. the north of England**

##### **6.1. Commentary on the network and boundaries including the effect of the Future Energy Scenarios**

Mr Wright invited Mr Proctor to give an update on the network and boundaries including the effect of the Future Energy Scenarios, and the following points were noted

- Trend of further Increases in Interconnector export to Europe, driven by UK renewables.
- General trends are more constraints on the back of increasing north to south power flows

##### **6.2. Overview of the NOA options submission**

[Redacted due to commercially sensitive nature]

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#### 7. **South coast SWW/LOTI**

Mr Wright invited Mr Perry to give an update the South Coast SWW/LOTI and the following points were noted:

- Mr Perry – SEALink (SCD1) is in NOA 2021/22 with an EISD of 2030 and are looking to bring it forward.

*Questions and comments:*

- Mr Norman asked Mr Perry if the delivery of SEALink would affect other NGET projects, to which Mr Perry responded that these would not be impacted.
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#### **NGET exit meeting**

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#### 8. **Date and time of next meeting**

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The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 9 December 2021

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9. **Any other business and meeting review**

[Redacted due to commercially sensitive nature]

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## Action Item Log

Action items: In progress and completed since last meeting

ID	Description	Owner	Due	Status	Date
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*No actions were noted as part of the previous meeting*

Action items: New

ID	Description	Owner	Due	Status	Date
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*No actions were noted as part of this meeting*