

Meeting minutes

NOA Committee - May 2022

Date: 12/05/2022 **Location:** MS Teams
Start: 13:00 **End:** 15:00

Participants

Attendee	Role in meeting	Job role	Minutes attended
Matthew Wright	Chair	Head of ESO Strategy and Regulation - ESO	1-15
Amy Weltevreden	Committee member	Proxy for Head of Markets - ESO	1-15
Craig Dyke	Committee member	Acting Head of National Control	1-15
Lauren Stuchfield	Committee member	Electricity Analysis Senior Manager - ESO	1-15
Nicholas Harvey	Committee member	Proxy for Head of Networks - ESO	1-15
Martin Price	Technical secretary	Power System Engineer - ESO	1-15
David Wagstaff	Presenter	Senior Electricity Analyst	1-15
Jason Hicks	Presenter	Holistic Network Design Integration Manager- ESO	1-15
Toby Thornton	Presenter	Energy Demand Manager - ESO	1-15
Rob Nickerson	Presenter	Electricity Market Modelling Manager - ESO	1-15
Jeremy Rawlings	Presenter	Power System Engineer - ESO	1-15
Richard Proctor	Presenter	Power System Engineer - ESO	1-15
Griffin John	Observer	Technical Economic Assessment Manager- ESO	1-15
Paul Wakeley	Observer	Economic Assessment Manager - ESO	1-15
External Participants			
Keren Maschler	Observer	Ofgem	1-15
Neil Copeland	Observer	Ofgem	1-15
David Willmot	Observer	Network Development - National Grid Electricity Transmission	3-15
Nathan Oliver-Taylor	Presenter	Network Development - National Grid Electricity Transmission	3-15
Rodney Williams	Presenter	Business Development Manager - National Grid Electricity Transmission	3-15

Manomay Roy	Presenter	Network Development - National Grid Electricity Transmission	3-15
Lisa Cressy	Presenter	New Infrastructure - National Grid Electricity Transmission	3-15
Roddy Wilson	Observer	Network Planning Manager – SSEN-T	3-8
Graeme Dean	Observer	Senior Transmission System Planning & Investment Engineer - SSEN-T	3-8
Bless Kuri	Observer	Head of System Planning and Investment – SSEN-T	3-8
Kirsten McIver	Presenter	Lead Design Engineer - SP Transmission	3-8
David Adam	Observer	SP Transmission	3-8
Eric Leavy	Observer	Head of Transmission Network – SP Transmission	3-8

Discussion and details

Topics to be discussed

1. Apologies and Introduction

Mr Wright welcomed the attendees and introductions were made.

Mr Leslie sent his apologies and Mr Harvey was appointed as a proxy in his place.

2. Governance and process

[Redacted due to administrative nature]

3. TOs enter meeting

4. FES 2022 update

Mr Wright invited Mr Nickerson to update the committee on FES 2022 electricity supply. The following points were noted.

[Redacted due to sensitive nature]

Mr Wright invited Mr Thornton to update the committee on FES 2022 electricity demand. The following points were noted.

[Redacted due to sensitive nature]

Mr Wright thanked Mr Nickerson and Mr Thornton for their scenarios. The FES presentations are SOFI until FES has been published.

5. FES 2022 potential influence on the NOA

Mr Wright invited Dr Proctor to discuss the potential influence of FES 2022 on the NOA.

[Redacted due to sensitive nature]

Mr Wright thanked Dr Proctor for his talk.

6. HND and NOA publication update

Mr Wright invited Mr Hicks to update the committee on HND.

The terms of reference of the HND Project are to co-ordinate efficiently 40 GW of offshore wind connection by 2030. HND has developed a preferred offshore connection design in which some windfarms connect further south than might be expected in FES 2021. This would change how the power will flow through the onshore network. Thus, a refresh to the NOA 2021/22 would be so that the revised onshore power flows are understood. The ESO will be publishing a NOA 2021/22 refresh publication that communicates this as part of the HND project.

Some changes are being made to NOA so that it aligns with HND.

HND has identified reinforcements which are deemed 'required works' because they are needed so that 40 GW of offshore wind can connect by 2030. A significant number of options that were recommended to "Proceed" in January will become 'required works'. These options will not be reassessed in the NOA 2021/22 refresh and will be placed in the background.

[Redacted due to sensitive nature]

Mr Wright thanked Mr Hicks for his update.

7. NOA methodology update

Mr Wright invited Dr Rawlings to update the committee on the NOA Methodology.

NGESO have revised the NOA Methodology, which will be used to produce NOA 2022-23. Our Licence obliges us to revise the Methodology, to consult on the changes and to submit the updated document to Ofgem by 1st August. The consultation will be launched very shortly.

The key changes in the Methodology this year are the following:

ESO have removed the "Delay" recommendation and separated "Proceed" into "Proceed - Critical" and "Proceed - Maintain". This is to distinguish options where investment is needed next year from those where investment could slip by up to one year.

NOA for Interconnectors will build on Ofgem's 'cap and floor' window for 2022 and on previous work to calculate the optimum level of interconnection.

'EISD advancement' is a new step to examine options which could potentially be delivered sooner than the earliest in service date and where constraint costs will be reduced. The analysis is done and discussed with the TO but not included in the NOA report.

The interaction of HND with NOA and early competition are topics under development. We are aware that there will be changes but we cannot state what these will be at present.

8. East Coast SWW / LOTI update

Mr Wright invited Ms McIver and Ms Cressy to update the committee.

Ms McIver updated the committee on the first two Eastern Links: the Final Needs cases were submitted to Ofgem in December 2021. Ofgem have published a 'minded to' approve decision on this. The consultation on it closed week ending 6th May 2022. Both projects are on track with invitations to tender to be issued shortly and planning applications to be submitted this year.

Ms Cressy updated the committee on East Coast projects:

With Bramford to Twinstead (BTNO), NGET concluded statutory consultation in March. The development consent order (DCO) is planned for January 2023. The planning application was submitted in April and a determination is expected in August 2022.

OPN2 or "Yorkshire Green" is a new 400 kV double circuit between the existing Norton to Osbaldwick circuit and Poppleton and relevant 275 kV upgrades. The initial needs case has been approved and NGET expect to submit the final needs case in summer 2022. Statutory consultation has been completed and NGET are working on the DCO which they plan to submit at the end of this year.

"Humber Trent" (CGNC) and "Lincolnshire Green" (GWNC): a joint LOTI eligibility letter has been submitted to Ofgem. CGNC is a new 400 kV double circuit from North Humber to South Humber. GWNC is a new 400 kV double circuit between the South Humber and South Lincolnshire.. NGET are working to identify preferred corridors with preliminary route swathes for the non-statutory consultations.

"East Anglia Green" provides a new 400 kV double circuit in East Anglia (AENC and ATNC). The preferred route corridor has been identified for 180km of new line: Norwich to Bramford and Bramford to Tilbury. Non-statutory consultation was launched in April and is due to close in June 2022. A village hall information event last weekend was very well attended and there was good engagement with stakeholders.

Mr Wright thanked the presenters and observers from the Scottish TOs.

9. Scottish TOs exit meeting

10. NGET update on HWUP and BTNO interaction

Mr Wright invited Mr Williams, Mr Oliver-Taylor and Mr Roy to update the committee.

BTNO is a new 400 kV double circuit between Bramford and Twinstead. HWUP is a scheme to upgrade Hackney, Tottenham and Waltham Cross 275 kV to 400 kV. BTNO and HWUP both received "Proceed" recommendations in NOA 2020-21 and NOA 2021-22. An outage clash was identified in 2027 due to location and duration. The outages for HWUP between Pelham and Rye House cannot be taken at the same time as the outages at Pelham and Bramford. The total outage duration would be 49 weeks.

The reconductoring work between Bramford and Rayleigh Main will be accelerated to reduce the outage requirement in 2027.

Mr Oliver-Taylor explained that HWUP provides a new 400 kV route from Waltham Cross to Hackney by-passing Tottenham. It was developed in 2012 and received DCO in 2014. NGET are looking at modifications to the option required by NOA 6 and NOA 7 such as quad boosters. The initial plan was to move one circuit from Pelham to Waltham Cross 400 kV substation by the end of 2026. NGET are now investigating how to connect the second circuit to Waltham Cross 400 kV in the same period.

NGET are working with their contractor to remove outages north of Waltham Cross in 2027. They are developing options and hope to have a solution by late July 2022. A working group has been set up between the NGET project team and the ESO to resolve the interaction of the outages. NGET are evaluating switchgear for Waltham Cross that does not use SF₆. Mr Roy said NGET are investigating how to reduce the outage interaction and the duration of the outages for BTNO in 2027.

Question:

Mr Harvey asked if the work on the VC route (Hackney to Tottenham) will assist with managing the outage clashes in 2027 or is this immaterial?

The Hackney to Tottenham work frees up time in 2025 and 2026, which allows other work to take place in 2027. VC does not interact directly.

Mr Wright thanked NGET for the update.

11. **South Coast SWW / LOTI update**

Mr Wright invited Ms Cressy to update the committee.

SCD1 is a new offshore HVDC link between Suffolk and Kent to be commissioned by 2030. The connection site in Suffolk has been confirmed. This is proposed as part of the Scottish Power Renewables DCO for offshore wind, which has been granted. The local authority requires the parties to co-ordinate their work, so NGET is working with NGV to identify sites for the three converter stations in Suffolk.

NGET intend to submit the initial needs case at the same time as the non-statutory consultation in summer 2022 in order to meet the programme timescales.

Mr Wright thanked Ms Cressy for her update.

12. **TOs exit meeting**

13. **Date and time of next meeting**

[Redacted due to administrative nature]

14. **Any other business**

[Redacted due to administrative nature]

15. **Feedback and review**

[Redacted due to administrative nature]
