Meeting minutes

Joint Forum

Date:	01/12/2022	Location:	MS Teams
Start:	14:00	End:	15:00

Attendees

Attendee	Organisation	Attendee	Organisation
Matthew Rivett	ESO	Efstathios Mokkas	UKPN
Charon Balrey	ESO	Tim Manandhar	UKPN
Kanan Ganakesavan	ESO	Gavin Stewart	SSEN
Vicky Chiles	ESO	Tolulope Esan	ENWL
Keith Parker	ESO	Matt Watson	NGED
Steph Wootton	ESO	Laura Brown	NPG
Josh Jones	ESO	Kayode Ogunleye	NGET
Natasha Antill	ESO	Atia Adrees	NGET
Caroline Rose-Newport	ESO		
Mike Flanagan	Capgemini		
Katka Nguyenova	Capgemini		

Agenda

#	Topics to be discussed	
1.	Review actions	Charon Balrey
2.	RDP updates	Matt Rivett, Kanan Ganakesavan, Charon Balrey
3.	Project REVEAL	Caroline Rose-Newport, Mike Flanagan, Katka Nguyenova
4.	ESO RIIO-2 BP2 draft determinations update	Josh Jones
5.	AOB	All

Action Item Log

Action items: in progress and completed since last meeting

ID	Description	Owner	Due	Status
5	AW/SA to discuss joint comms ahead of ICCP link go-live for N-3 RDP.	AW		Open
6	CB to enquire about ENA ON steering group discussion for Project REVEAL.	CB		Open

Discussion and details

#	Topics

2. RDP updates

KP provided an update on N-3 and MW dispatch RDPs in delivery.

N-3: The team are moving forward to establish ICCP links with NGED and SSEN.

MW dispatch with NGED:

The NGED MVP consultation has been released, this closes on 02/12/22. The team are working towards SMP go live. Internal systems are due to go live on 15/02/22. The ICCP link is almost complete; the next stage will involve NGED configuration. KP highlighted that the dedicated NPLS link has been challenging to deliver and may impact overall project timescales.

MW dispatch with UKPN:

The team are currently working on PID and aiming for sign off in December.

KG provided an update on GEMS.

GEMS: KG stated that the team are working on IT developments and have recently completed a series of workshops with SPT. The team are working through outstanding technical queries for the functional design specification. They will then focus on internally developing an environment to establish the GEMs interface system. Additionally, the project team are starting discussions with SPD around the service principles, contractual framework and interface signalling required, with a provisional target of March 2023. KG highlighted that the project will utilise the NGED MW dispatch principles for these developments.

SW provided an update on RDPs in development and highlighted the following:

Heysham/ENWL - working with ENWL to determine the long-term enduring solution for Heysham, including some new tripartite contracts.

North of Scotland/SSEN-D and SHE Transmission - detailed work is being carried out on the use of the CBA and some ENA tools to start to look at solutions.

Midlands/NGED - continuing to work with NGED to look at their priority sites and unpick the vast amount of works that have been triggered in this area.

East Anglia/UKPN - two solutions in place regarding EC5 and the CPA areas of work. This is ahead of more enduring solutions including tec amnesty and queue management.

North East/NPG - working groups have been set up to better understand the regions. Awaiting outputs from ESO connections reform initiatives to inform next steps.

South Wales South West/NGED - solutions identified; awaiting output and recommendations from ESO CPA review and tec amnesty process.

3. Project REVEAL

CRN, KN and MF provided an overview of the NIA funded innovation Project REVEAL. Capgemini are the delivery partners for this project.

The two objectives of the presentation are:

1. To provide an overview of Project REVEAL and

2. Gather DNO input as one of the key stakeholders for this project.

The purpose of the project is to investigate the feasibility of a sandbox-type environment to acquire and test new balancing services.

LB asked how this project fits with the Open Networks programme. KN clarified that this could sit across ESO/DSO market coordination. CRN confirmed that this innovation project is limited to the scope of the ESO to try out things that are potentially outside the regulatory framework before asking for code changes. The project could work with market participants or DSOs if it is suitable for that collaboration. CRN stated that the team wanted this insight from DSOs. CB clarified that innovation is shared via open networks but is not the forum where innovation projects take place.

Action: CB to enquire about ENA ON steering group discussion for Project REVEAL.

ES asked for clarity on the bottlenecks from the market participants that the project is addressing. KN stated that currently it takes an extended period to trial a new service and engage with the right parties. From a regulatory perspective, if anything includes billing or charging this could also take an extended period to gain approval from Ofgem. The trial is to test some parts of a new service or product to see if it is worth continuing before seeking approval.

ES asked for further clarity on the specific needs of the market participants that will be addressed from this project using examples of DFS and ODFM. CRN stated that this project originated from the ESO being asked by industry and Ofgem to find a way to bring products to market faster. CB gave an example of trialling different metering options before requesting a derogation.

ES noted the disconnect in the engagement approach to date regarding engagement with market participants who may be connected to the distribution networks. KN stated that DSO engagement is what they would like from today onwards to help further shape the project.

TM asked for clarification on the definition of 'sandbox.' MF stated that sandbox in this environment is a structure to provide testing of products outside of the regulatory and CNI environment. TM asked if the project is successful, will this be made into an enduring sandbox? MF confirmed that this is the first step in a series of longer events on the journey to becoming a more permanent provider, REVEAL will not own new solutions for the entirety of the lifetime, this is the first 'front door' at the nascent technical level.

For further information, please see here:
https://smarter.energynetworks.org/projects/nia2_ngeso024/

4 ESO RIIO-BP2 Draft Determinations

JJ provided an overview of the ESO's Draft Determinations, released on 30 November. The headlines include:

- The ESO received 100% of the £671 m total costs requested

- The overall RIIO-2 plan ambition is the same as BP1. Role 1 has moved from a 5/5 to 4/5 predominantly due to IT deliverables from BP1 to BP2.

- The cost benchmark has been removed from the BP2 regulatory framework. Ofgem recognise that this currently doesn't align with the bespoke nature of some of our IT investments.

- £21.9 m of NIA funding has been granted.

-Ofgem have agreed to provide FSO transition funding with more detail in 2023.

Regarding specific activities:

- Ofgem have stated that if properly delivered, the ESO's connections reform will exceed Ofgem's expectations. However, they have requested more specific information about delivery.

- In terms of DSO specific activity, this has been approved but CB highlighted that Ofgem have requested further detail on operational coordination with DSO and also DER visibility and service coordination activity.

JJ noted the six-week consultation period has launched until early January. Final determinations will be in March. For further information, including details on how to respond to the consultation, please see [here](#).