

Meeting minutes

Joint Forum

Date: 05/05/2022	Location: MS Teams
Start: 14:00	End: 15:00

Attendees

Attendee	Organisation	Attendee	Organisation
Charon Balrey	ESO	Tolulope Esan	ENWL
James Cawthorne	ESO	Jack Scoffham	NPG
Katharine Clench	ESO	Simon Jesson	NPG
Vicky Chiles	ESO	Sophie Corbett	NPG
Kanan Ganakasavan	ESO	Steve Atkins	SSEN
Josh Jones	ESO	Sam Do	UKPN
Jon MacDonald	ESO	Sima Davarzani	UKPN

Agenda

#	Topics to be discussed	
	Review actions	All
	Regional Development Programme updates	James Cawthorne / Katharine Clench
	The ESO's draft second Business Plan	Josh Jones / Charon Balrey
	Reactive power RFI	Jon MacDonald
	AOB	

Action Item Log

Action items: In progress and completed since last meeting

ID	Description	Owner	Due	Status
1	MW Dispatch updates for DER to be included in letter for V+C parties, followed by additional engagement material/webinars	ESO	07/04/2022	Soon to be closed

3	DM/DR – how big are the frequency change predictions expected for the DM product?	Charlotte Watts	05/05/2022	Charlotte provided the following update: the frequency changes associated with wind in this particular example could range from 1 GW to 17 GW. Closed.
4	BP2: how will the barriers associated with ANM and flexibility will be addressed through our BP2 plans?	Katharine Clench	09/06/2022	Open

Discussion and details

Topics

2. Regional Development Programme (RDP)

JC provided his monthly update on RDP delivery with the following highlights:
 WPD MW dispatch – CONTRACTS are nearing completion. CONNECTIONS and REGISTRATIONS - design nearing completion. DISPATCH – elements are almost ready for testing, although likely to be delayed slightly due to connection and information flow issues.
 UKPN MW dispatch – feasibility assessment under review and contractual arrangements in progress.

N-3 Intertripping - progressing well with ICCP links on track for Q2 delivery.

GEMs working to try to develop a functional design for the SPT systems. Also working with the ESO's balancing programme to ensure GEMS functionality is aligned. SPD – currently looking at 2024/25 delivery.

SA: noted a request to discuss MW dispatch further with the ESO to understand if learnings can be extended to GSPs in SSE's licence area. KC will look to put dates/times in the diary for a discussion.
 SJ: asked whether there was a list available that showed other DNOs who are in discussion with the ESO regarding future RDPs.

KC provided an update on RDPs in development.
 East Anglia have reached interim solutions at 2 GSPs. This will enable DER to connect ahead of works on non-firm basis at these sites.
 More broadly – looking at whether the ESO can apply similar principles developed through current RDPs to other sites.

3. The ESO's draft Business Plan

CB and JJ discussed the ESO's RIIO-2 BP2 draft that was submitted to Ofgem on 29 April. The presentation focussed on the key changes from BP1, including new activities such as: market monitoring, data and analytics operating models, net zero market reform, role in Europe and offshore coordination/network planning review.

The presenters also introduced the business plans focus on facilitating distributed flexibility and summarised some of the activities this will entail for the ESO In BP2 (for example, increased DER visibility in real time operations and enabling whole electricity system coordination).

JJ highlighted that bilaterals dates have been circulated to each DNO to discuss the ESO's BP2 draft further. Please contact Charon Balrey if you have any queries about this.

For further information on the ESO's draft Business Plan 2, Including the formal consultation response questions, please see here: <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/our-strategy/riio>

TE: asked about gaining a better understanding from the ESO on how the barriers associated with ANM and flexibility will be addressed through our BP2 plans.

SA: asked about whole electricity system view and how this aligns to connections deliverables in BP2. SA noted that SSE are looking at trialling a common portal for queue management to get an understanding of the transmission and distribution picture.

SJ: queried whether NPG had received invites for BP2 bilaterals. CB confirmed that these had been sent to NPG colleagues. SD had a similar query.

4. Reactive power RFI

The presenter covered the following:

The ESO's reactive market innovation project has now concluded. This set out recommendations for implementing reactive markets. At project conclusions webinar at end of April, outlined that ESO will spend next year looking at feasibility of those markets. The project outlined there is a lot of additional capability on tx and dx networks. Given the costs of voltage management at the moment, the ESO is trying to access reactive market capability and reduce balancing costs. As such, the ESO wants to gain access to this capability by April 2023.

The RFI will cover:

The reactive capability that already exists, including exactly where it's been located.

For purposes of this RFI, the responses from assets will be limited to those that are connected at 132 kV and above, for England and Wales.

The ESO's RFI will be published in the coming weeks.

SJ: asked for clarification around whether the RFI is looking for parties that are connected to the area of Interest or wider, and whether there was a requirement for the DNOs to be included in the response or participate themselves. JM confirmed that the ESO will be looking at parties that are connected to the areas of interest. However, if there are areas that the DNO is aware of outside of these areas that may be of interest than this can be included in the response.

5. AOB
