

Meeting minutes

Meeting name

Date: 03/02/2022	Location: MS Teams
Start: 14:00	End: 15:00

Participants

Attendee	Organisation	Attendee	Organisation
Charon Balrey	ESO	Avi Aithal	ENA
Matt Rivett	ESO	Gavin Anderson	ENWL
Katharine Clench	ESO	Steve Atkins	SSEN
Vicky Chiles	ESO	Efsathios Mokkas	UKPN
Vicci Page	ESO	Tim Manandhar	UKPN
Lizzie Blaxland	ESO	Matt Watson	WPD
Rob Lee	Afry for ESO	Sophie Corbett	NPG
Simon Bradbury	Afry for ESO	Guy Shapland	SPEN

Agenda

#	Topics to be discussed	
1.	Review of actions	Charon Balrey
2.	Regional Development Programme updates	Matt Rivett/Katharine Clench
3.	Network Planning Review/Centralised Strategic Network Planning	Lizzie Blaxland
4.	Future of Reactive Power	Vicci Page
5.	AOB	All

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	10/03/2022	In progress
5	SPEN reactive power flexibility trials – GB to come back to share any learnings in Nov	Gerry Boyd - SPEN	N/A	Closed - Guy Shapland to circulate relevant material
7	CBA to be discussed at future meeting	Andy Wainwright/Charon Balrey	10/03/2022	In progress

Discussion and details

Topics to be discussed

2 Regional Development Programme

- MW dispatch MVP (WPD):

Project on track, with draft contract to be shared with DNOs for review shortly. Key areas for the next few weeks includes - finalising connection and registration data to be shared with DNOs, completing Network Access Planning end-to-end design and online modelling approach (noting rollout of new SCADA ESO vendor system in next few years), scheduling design discussions internally, concluding WPD interface design noting need to close out specific elements such as the use of web services between the ESO and WPD and secure business approval for settlements process now this has been established.

MW dispatch UKPN:

ESO impact assessment for UKPN MVP undergoing internal review. Then will be able to be shared externally.

GEMS/SPT: will begin to ramp up towards implementation phase in Feb/March.

KC update:

Heysham ENWL: Phase 1 ongoing, awaiting re-offer

North of Scotland SSEN-D and SHE-T: CBA process ongoing

South West WPD: Identified sites to progress and review need case

East Anglia UKPN: Reviewing site- by- site at a GSP basis to understand detailed constraint data; engage on storage proposals.

3 Network Planning Review/Centralised Strategic Network Planning

- LB discussed the drivers for change, noting that a new Network Planning Review (NPR) team has been set up in the ESO, and how this will be working closely with the offshore coordination project to consider what an offshore/onshore grid will look like. The output of this work will provide a view on the ways of working of a centralised strategic network planner (CSNP) as envisaged by Ofgem.

LB discussed the stages of the NPR – the first stage is the breakdown of the network planning process. After this stage, additional capabilities and processes required to undertake CSNP will be identified. Dependent on the above, the next stage will be to establish capabilities and processes for ESO to undertake strategic network planning. Anticipating Ofgem conclusions on CSNP following October 2021 Network Planning Review consultation in Feb/March.

LB requested for DNOs to register interest if they'd like to be involved in upcoming stakeholder interviews with ESO contractors DNV to help deliver the first two stages of the NPR.

EM queried how the NPR would fit into existing DNO processes. LB pointed to Ofgem's Network Planning Review consultation (https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2021-11/Consultation_Electricity_Transmission_Network_Planning_Review_v2.pdf) and noted that the important element is that this is encapsulated as part of a whole systems approach. EM also raised question around the costs – LB clarified that there is a cost threshold for projects that will be covered by this, referring to the Ofgem consultation.

4 Future of Reactive Power

- Mural link for feedback:
<https://app.mural.co/t/jointforumfeedback5492/m/jointforumfeedback5492/1643093253789/6d7809b862b4d9c18f926b237eac80dd35190758?sender=u5aef3c7ab5a384204073005>

VP discussed the following:

Reactive power from distribution connected assets: provided a recap around reactive power provision and the need case for this at DNO level.

Current DNO practice for managing volts: often results in problems on the transmission network

Power Potential: moving towards BAU solution with UKPN/ESO. Roles were: ESO as service buyer, DNO as service facilitator, DER as service provider. Noted routes for cost recovery aren't clear yet.

Possible ways forward: options cover distribution system stability, losses, charging, connections, system studies and ESO/DSO conflict potential.

Incremental coordination, central roles, DSO led solution: in which the DSO takes the first call on DER use with the ESO then having access to remaining DER capacity identified as the best solution.

Next steps: VP requested feedback on possible ways forward for reactive power provision for DER. April onwards will start to share plans on implementation of reactive power market.

EM noted that the opportunity for reactive markets at DN level is too big to be missed opportunity wise Regarding Power Potential, EPN/SPN areas are going to go towards 2028 and will scale up as part of 4 GSPs as part of trial.

TM said that he was available for any questions from other DNOs from his experience working on Power Potential.

5 AOB

Next meeting to be moved to 10 March (tbc).

MR noted that, as part of ENA ON WS1a – P5 (primacy), the product team are assessing opportunities to improve the data exchange between organisations. From early February, intend to share locational information on all distributed connected STOR units with their host DSO to fulfil needs of the P5 work. Emails have been sent to the relevant STOR providers.
