

# Meeting Summary

## CISG Sub-Group - Connections strategic change & impact to CUSC (Meeting #6)

**Date:** 14/11/2023      **Location:** MS Teams  
**Start:** 10:00am      **End:** 11:00am

### Participants

Attendee	Company	Attendee	Company
Camille Gilsean (CG)	ESO (Chair)	Alison Price (AP)	ESO (Tec Sec)
Joseph Henry (JH)	ESO (Tec Sec)	Kav Patel (KP)	ESO (Presenter)
Paul Mullen (PM)	ESO (Presenter)	Helen Stack (HS)	Centrica
Grace March (GM)	Sembcorp	Garth Graham (GG)	SSE
Alex Ikonic (AI)	Orsted	Paul Jones (PJ)	Uniper
Lisa Waters (LW)	Waters Wye	Precious Nwokoma (PN)	Fred Olsen renewables
Dennis Gowland (DG)	Research Relay	Tim Ellingham (TE)	RWE
Deborah MacPherson (DMP)	Scottish Power	Paul Youngman (PY)	Drax
Joe Colebrook (JC)	Innova		

Please note: These notes are produced as an accompaniment to the slide pack, [link here](#):

### Introduction and ways of working – CG

CG introduced the meeting. Following new members joining CG reviewed the scope of the group. CG reiterated that this sub-group was looking to identify gaps within the CUSC which require a subsequent code mod.

No comments were made.

### Actions Log – AP

Action 22 – Queue Management guidance document - Set up session with QM workgroup members to review guidance document.

Meeting in the diary with QM workgroup members. 16/11/2023. GG thanked ESO for facilitating. JC asked if he could be invited to this. JH gave an update to group saying meeting was agreed for CMP376 WG members only as per previous agreement. LW stated she believed we should not be closing this off. JH advised that scope of review to CMP376 WG members was outlined in subgroup #3. **Action to be closed.**

Action 25 – Connection applications - To split out applications into new and mod apps.

Slides on number of connection applications not presented today due to the sub-group meeting being earlier this month due to December's TCMF meeting being in December, and these slides being produced for monthly Agora which is on the 22. November. These slides will be ready for Connections November Agora and November TCMF. **Action carried forward.**

Action 27 – ToR taken to CUSC panel for review.

Tor was taken to CUSC Panel in October, no suggested amends however CG mentioned that there was one comment which was for the sub-group to be mindful of their scope. CG mentioned that this is why we have included a ToR scope slide in this month's slide deck. AP advised that the baseline document has now been published on the ESO website. **Action closed.**

Action 29 – Constraint Notifications - ESO to clarify what constraint data they publish in real-time.

No update however CG mentioned that this may be an action which should be moved to the longer-term action list. **Action carried forward and to be moved to long-term action log.**

Action 30 Queue Management - Check if the guidance document will cover all of QM process and not just what is being introduced under CMP376.

AP advised that KP has confirmed that the Guidance note will cover all of Queue Management. **Action closed.**

Action 31 – Quality of ESO public information, including TEC register.

CG has provided feedback to relevant ESO teams but it would be useful to understand the issues in more detail so ESO can look at this. GM said part of the problem is that individual lines are corrected and forgot about. A more systematic review of the data would be better. **Action carried forward.**

DMP asked when there would be an update on timing of when the queue would form part of TEC register, and that it would be good to get clarity on the restrictions that stop the ESO from providing detailed queue visibility. KP said she would take this away. **New Action 036.**

GG stated that parties behind non -firm policy would get information on their queue position. So the information is available to some parties but not all in their non-firm offer.

GM stated that given QM applied to demand and generation, have the ESO considered a demand register as batteries would require both. KP advised she would take this action away. **New Action 037**

Action 32 – Non-firm participation in Markets

Action carried forward as WKW was not on the call.

Action 33 – DNO treatment of firm – discuss with ESO frequency team for awareness.

Information was fed back to ESO's Frequency Response team by CG. Joseph Donohoe is keen to discuss this further to understand implications for FR markets. HS raised this and CG asked her to pick up with JD. HS said she thinks this is quite an important topic and it would be good to have more information available through this forum without having to speak to FR team. CG said JD wanted to understand the ask and also to be able to prep for attending this meeting and giving some more detail. LW asked if someone from this group had spoken with all ancillary services team. CG advised WKW had conversations with teams but understands more detail is needed. AP noted that this action had rose out of 3PP discussion at last sub-group meeting where the point was raised with reference to a UKPN announcement that DNO's are treating firm as not being 100% firm and that it was checking that the Frequency Team had visibility of this rather than being a consequence of ESO's 5PP.

GG noted it would be helpful if the ESO produced a table giving information on services and which parties can participate in which services e.g. what firm can do vs non-firm. CG said that this is more of an agora topic, GG disagreed with the view that Agora's are not the place for commercial discussions whereas this group has more of a commercial focus. What services that are able to be provided comes into this group in GG opinion. LW said there was no time for discussion or questions at the Agora. CG said she understood feedback and

would take this away, whether this is provided in this meeting or the Agora's. HS said if it is not discussed at either session then a separate standalone session could be held. **New Action 038.**

## Action 34 – Long-term actions

Slide created in pack. **Action closed.**

## Action 35 – Wording Amendment on slide deck

Wording amended by JH and circulated by AP to sub-group members already. **Action closed.**

## **5PP - KP**

KP stated that 5PP updates would move to the Agora platform. GG said that he does not agree with this for the previously highlighted reasons. GG suspects that a lot of the 5PP will not be in practical purposes of interest to many who attend the agora. JC agreed with KP that relevant 5PP issues only should be discussed at this forum.

TEC amnesty - will be moving out of 5PP discussions moving forwards. Information is archived on ESO website and ESO working with TOs to submit final sums to Ofgem whether people have requested reduction or termination. LW stated she would like to know final impact of TEC amnesty, and that it would be useful to know how much volume back can be reused. KP advised that this would be considered. GG stated that it would be important to know how much volume is being brought forward and when. GG suggested a GANT chart to do this. It will be important for industry to understand when the volume is freed up and when it can be used. KP said the ESO were looking into this and will look to discuss this at the next CISG meeting. **New Action 039.**

Queue Management – CMP376 WACM7 approved and milestones will be applied from 27 November 2023. Guidance document has been circulated to Workgroup members with a discussion session planned for 16 November. All comms now published on ESO website with the creation of a [Queue Management page](#), including a link to ESO open letter to industry. A milestone calculator has been created to allow customers to ascertain the likely dates for their project's Queue Management Milestones; however there are some technical issues, which should be rectified before 27 November 2023 (QM implementation date). LW stated she received queries yesterday around when projects had to take action and asked if calculator will tell customers this. KP advised no, the calculate will not cover this; letters will be sent to customers post 27<sup>th</sup> November, giving them their options and they will have 6 months to reply advising if they want to submit a Modification Application to amend connection date or remain as is and await an Agreement to Vary which will include the new Queue Management clauses. LW asked if the ESO will this clear at the next agora. KP said there have been various comms and meetings already issued out to stakeholders. LW said that she has had issues with Agora invites. LW said that Microsoft Forms is causing the issue as opposed to sending a Team's invite. LW concerned that comms has not been clear as the queries received by Waters Wye suggest lack of clarity. JC said the milestone calculator currently has a VBA bug. KP stated she was aware. JC suggested that Eventbrite is a better tool than MS Forms. KP to feedback into the team which manages the Agora's regarding dates being published and PM to feedback the request for a meeting invite to be sent out. JC said that the comms were very good in his opinion. GG said that KP noted there would be QM weekly meetings – would be good to diarise these meetings. Appreciate this will be difficult between now and December. **New Action 040.**

PJ stated he is still not getting emails through for Thursday's meeting.

LW asked if there was any update for construction planning assumptions. KP advised this would be at the agora.

## **Connection Reform – Paul Mullen**

PM updated on Connections Reform. The ESO are currently working towards publishing final recommendations on the reformed Connections process within the next few weeks. Following this publication, there is planned to be an in-person meeting and webinar shortly thereafter to talk through the final recommendations. Given we are entering the Christmas season, GG asked if the proposed in-person meeting

could be hybrid; however, PM noted that the webinar for those who could not attend in person would be in same week.

PM also noted that the current external governance for Connections Reform is proposed to change once we move into the implementation phase from January 2024. (In summary, the current governance groups (DPEG and Steering Group) are proposed to be replaced with the CDB (Connections Delivery Board) and CPAG (Connections Process Advisory Group) respectively. PM noted that CPAG will have an independent chair with representation across all impacted customer groups and will provide a steer on implementation and help coordinate the suite of changes that need to be made across all codes before modifications are formally raised. . DG asked if CPAG would be a separate standing group from this CISG sub-group and PM confirmed this would be the case. in

## Close and AOB

CG advised there would be a further sub-group in December but that we were proposing to close this group down following our next meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> December. GG said it would be better to wait until the QM weekly meetings are set up. GG appreciates many of the actions are now complete and being dealt with in other forums but there is no other place to discuss Queue Management or non-firm in detail. Other members agreed with this. CG said ESO would take this away and understands the transition phase we are in. ESO to come back with a plan in December **New Action 041**.

JC highlighted 3PP technical limits is reliant on CMP298 being approved and interactions with connections. JC really concerned that the industry is assuming this will be approved. Decision expected on 16<sup>th</sup> November. CG advised we will ask Paul Mott to reach out if we do not receive approval from the Authority by the end of the week. GM mentioned that the Implementation Group for CMP298 was last talked about in January and wondered where we are with this. CG said this could be discussed at the next meeting. PM said Connections note interactions. PM also highlighted he chaired CMP298 and suspects the solution if approved may need review. AP said she would update sub-group if decision delayed. LW asked CUSC Panel members to raise that Ofgem should remind people these modifications are coming after long delays. **New Action 042 and 043**.

**Please note that post this meeting, the latest Ofgem expected decision date timetable, now shows the expected date of decision for CMP298 as being 30/11/23.**

JC further raised concerned that following a two-step offer post March 2024 there would be parallel CPAs. These would be differences between pre and post March 2023 offers. JC spoke to LH and there were no plans to update all offers which have not had an expression of interest or gone through a mod-app. CG said ESO would take away **New Action 044**

GG reiterated previous point about how we report capacity freed up by TEC amnesty and what has been done with it. JC countered this and asked what is the purpose of Industry having this information? Queried point on orphaning TEC and how process works. GG said that it was from a transparency angle in regard to zombie projects. CG advised this was a discussion to be taken offline.

## Action Item Log

Latest view of action log post meeting:

ID	Description	Owner	Notes	Target Date	Status
022	Queue Management guidance document	JH	Set up session with QM workgroup members to review guidance document	24/10/23	Closed

# ESO

025	Connection applications	LH	To split out applications into new and mod apps	24/10/23	Carried Forward
027	Terms of Reference	JH	Take to CUSC panel for review	24/10/23	Closed
029	Constraint notifications	ESO	ESO to clarify what constraint data they publish in real time	24/10/23	Carried Forward
030	Queue Management	KP	Check if the guidance document will cover what has not changed	14/11/23	Closed
031	Quality of ESO public information e.g. TEC register forming part of the network data guidance note	CG	To feed this comment back into the business	14/11/23	Carried Forward
032	Non-firm participation in Markets	WKW	Update sub-group on DESNZ position on participation in Capacity Market and ESO position on participation in frequency response and reactive/stability markets.	On-going	Carried Forward
033	DNO firm not being treated as 100% firm – not clear what this means for frequency markets	CG	Take back to ESO Frequency Response team for awareness that there are many questions that sit with the ESO frequency response team that they may need to be aware of – such as the recent UKPN update on DNO non-firm.	14/11/23	C/Forward
034	Long term actions	AP	Create a list of actions which will be handed over to the ESO project team looking at the BESS non-firm process in detail.	On-going	Closed
035	CUSC mod slide	JH	Update wording on slide in pack and re-circulate to group.	14/11/23	Closed
036	TEC register	KP	When queue will form part of TEC register and the definitive position of why ESO cannot share queue positioning	19/12/23	New
037	Demand Register	KP	Will the ESO look to create a Demand register?	19/12/23	New
038	Services for firm/non-firm	CG	To confirm which services, firm and non-firm parties can participate in	19/12/23	New
039	TEC amnesty	KP	Confirm the impact of TEC amnesty – how much given up, can be reused/brought forward	19/12/23	New
040	Queue Management meetings	KP	Diarise these meetings	19/12/23	New

# ESO

041	CISG sub-group meetings	CG	Transition plan to close sub-group	19/12/23	New
042	Update on Authority Decision on CMP298	AP	Update sub-group if decision delayed	19/12/23	New
043	CMP298 Implementation Group	AP	Catch up with Paul Mott to discuss what the state of play is with the CMP298 Implementation group	19/12/23	New
044	Two-step offer process	CG	Does the ESO see any issues that post March 2024, there will be offers which contain differing CPA's for Users	19/12/23	New