

CiC Group Meeting

Notes from the meeting held 3rd April 2019 at WPD's Gloucester office

Present:

Simon Dawson - GTC
Nathan Smith – GTC
Richard Shearer – Greenfrog
Trevor Lowen – Amey
James Barker – Electrical Testing

Simon Pett – WPD Network Services Manager
Paul Jewell – WPD Policy Manager
Richard Allcock – WPD Connection Policy Engineer
Vanessa Buxton – WPD Connection Policy Co-ordinator

1. Introduction

Simon Pett introduced the agenda for the day.

2. Purpose of the Group

The Terms of Reference have been emailed out prior to the meeting. If you require a new copy, it can be obtained from our website [here](#).

The objectives of the group will be to:

- Update on progress
- Identify improvement areas
- Share ideas and options for improvements
- Develop agreed action

3. Update

Simon gave a high level update on issues previously raised in relation to CiC activities. One stakeholder advised UKPN provide more detailed information post acceptance on hot/cold sites. A tool used by UKPN, developed by Rena, could potentially be used by other DNOs.

Simon advised that a previous internally available map has now been published externally. Telephone numbers are excluded as we prefer to capture queries via our contact centre in the first instance. Once directed to the correct manager, however, they will provide their direct contact details.

A discussion was held regarding previous request for self-completion of agreements, such as Bilateral Connection Agreements. Stakeholder advised that they would prefer to be in control of this due to timing issues and efficiency.

Simon provided an update on CiC interaction –see slide pack for findings.

Actions for WPD:

- WPD to look into the request for more detailed hot/cold site information further, including the option of using a standard tool.
- Provide link to the contact names map.
 - Please visit www.westernpower.co.uk/our-network/network-plans-and-information and click the second link which will download three regional maps, Midlands, South Wales and South West. Each map includes the names of the Network Service Manager, Distribution Manager and Team Manager for each area.
- Richard Allcock to discuss further the request for self-completion of agreements.

4. Engineering Policy

Paul Jewell provided an update including earthing policy, electric vehicles, future innovation projects and targeted commitments for 2019/20. We have updated high level policy to take account of the ENA Earthing document recently published and Standard Technique updates are underway. We only received 5 survey responses out of a request to over 80 stakeholders.

Stakeholder query received on who the senior manager contact is for Greenfrog Connect.

Stakeholder query on superchargers, does the 35kWh include those? Paul confirmed the rules applied when considering whether the existing network can accommodate EV relate to domestic level, what's in the home, not equipment at fuel station.

Stakeholder query on whether we assume a larger ADMD to account for EV. Paul confirmed we currently don't, however we know that not everyone charges on the same night.

Stakeholder query on any whether WPD have given consideration of hydrogen solutions and whether this will impact development for EV. Paul advised we haven't seen it develop in the UK to the same level as other countries. There are some hydrogen and dual fuel with hydrogen vehicles in South Wales and there is potential it may become a solution for commercial fleets. Our vans in Wales, under a trial run by the University of Swansea, use a hydrogen filling station.

Paul also advised our 3 phase trial in Wales is with a green builder. Traditional builders are continuing to take the traditional gas heated approach for new build sites.

Actions for WPD:

- Confirm the senior manager contact for Greenfrog Connect

5. Connection Policy

Vanessa Buxton provided an update on our capacity allocation and reservation consultation and the subsequent decision document, the new ICP Portal and allowable changes.

6. Summary and AOB

Simon summarised the meeting and asked if there were further points the attendees wished to raise.

It was noted that some DNO's are developing asset data into GIS systems, e.g. loading information, will WPD be looking into this? Richard Allcock advised there are works underway to improve Data Portal 2 but we do not currently have any detail on what is going to be changing. However, demand capacities at the primary are already available on our capacity maps in addition to generation information. Simon Pett further advised that the availability of information to ICP's is no different to WPD planning teams. Our internal systems are separate – Crown holds information such as loadings and maintenance requirements whilst EMU contains the linear assets.

One stakeholder advised that information at 132kV is sparse when compared to the information available at 33kV level to assist with design. Can 132kV information be refreshed in line with G81? Simon agreed to look into this further.

One stakeholder asked if we use Webex. We have delivered webinars and published recordings on our website afterwards which is useful for disseminating information but for two way conversations.

One stakeholder advised inconsistency in approach when changing from WPD connection to ICP self-connection. We agreed to communicate internally to ensure all teams are aware of the requirement to raise a variation for the change.

One stakeholder queried whether or not they could carry out signal injection themselves as they do in other DNO regions. We agreed to look into this.

Discussion held on the frequency of these meetings. In line with the feedback in the survey responses, agreed to amend frequency to twice a year. In addition, these will be sent as place holders but we will check if there is anything to discuss or present prior to proceeding with the meeting.

Actions for WPD:

- Investigate the level of information available at 132kV
- Disseminate internally the requirement to create a variation to the connection offer when an ICP wishes to change from WPD completing the connecting joint to an ICP self-connect option
- Investigate the ability for ICP's to carry out own signal injection

7. Future Meetings

Future CiC Group meetings:

	Suggested areas for discussion
13 th November	TBA