

Distributed Generation Owner/Operator Forum

13.30-16.30, 20 September 2017

Introduction

Western Power Distribution established a forum in July 2016 for DG owner/operators to discuss issues in relation to outages and constraints under its Incentive on Connections Engagement (ICE) work plans.

The attendee list and meeting notes for the September 2017 meeting are set out below. There is now a dedicated webpage for the forum [here](#).

Date of next meeting

25 January 2018, Bristol

Book [here](#).

Future dates for your diary

26 April 2018

19 July 2018

Attendees:

First name	Last name	Company
Roberto	Anastasia	Bluefield Services
Fernando	Casas	WiseEnergy
Joe	Davey	Western Power Distribution
Richard	Ellis	Quintas Energy
Olly	Frankland	Regen
Nick	Good	Mongoose Energy
Steve	Halsey	UK Power Networks
Helen	Hardaker	British Solar Renewables
Merlin	Hyman	Regen
Gautier	Moulin	WPO
Hayley	Muir	Belltown Power
Stephen	Ransome	Western Power Distribution
Harry	Smith	Lightsource
Sean	Sullivan	Western Power Distribution
Joel	Venn	Regen
Adrian	Warman	Thrive Renewables Plc
Donald	Weston	Chelwood Community Energy

Meeting notes:

Key action areas	Views	Actions
Generator portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The portal provides information on planned outages for 33kV connected sites and above. It can be used to manage contact details for 11kV sites but no outage information will be shown. • WPD are adding historical outage information to the portal – initially for the South West and South Wales • WPD has added provisional outages to the portal and the 4 week ahead outage notification email, as well as approved (confirmed) outages. Provisional outages give a more long-term view, but are subject to change. • More provisional planned outages will be scheduled for the year ahead in early 2018, when the full outage plan is complete. These will then be visible in the portal. • Changes to contact details on the portal will update the details held by WPD for the site in question • Members felt that the portal was very useful but were keen to add 11kV connected sites outage information • Members were also interested in confirming the cause of outage (planned or fault). If it was a fault then this can be claimed on insurance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To register for the outage portal email with details of your sites: wpdswestwalesgen@westernpower.co.uk • Forum members to contact WPD to add further sites to the portal if required • WPD to add portal information (and any updates) to the forum webpage and communicate the portal to general Distributed Generation community • WPD to confirm the categorisation of outage type and cause
Single point of contact for planned outages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen Ransome is the point of contact for WPD on outages • Members have been using Stephen to review planned outages and reduce the impact on generation. Stephen reported back on the significant amount of success so far. • Members suggested that these services were very valuable and that further resources could be paid for by generators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WPD contact information: South Wales and South West area wpdswestwalesgen@westernpower.co.uk East Midlands area wpdeastmidgen@westernpower.co.uk West Midlands area wpdwestmidgen@westernpower.co.uk • Members of the forum should use Stephen Ransome for specific outage/constraint issues and/or any dealings with local field engineers relating to outages/constraints Email: sransome@westernpower.co.uk Tel: 02920 535701

<p>Consortium option to reduce outage impact</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WPD have found it difficult to find an outage to meet the criteria for a major outage agreed at previous meeting (Stephen Ransome able to find an alternative solution in most instances) • WPD suggested alternative approach – identifying areas of the network that will experience less outages if investment was made and then forming a consortium of generators to assess options. • WPD have identified initial trial area and will be in contact with those owner/operators soon • Members liked this approach and were interested to see how this could work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WPD to contact owner/operators in identified area to discuss forming a consortium to share cost of investment to reduce the number of outages experienced
<p>Outage impact assessment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WPD have confirmed in their ICE priorities that they will provide an assessment of the impact of outages on generation for the assets connected to their network • Reference made to the work of Quintas on outage impacts as a useful start • WPD made the point that they still need an independent, large -scale, and multi-technology approach to the assessment of outage impact • Members offered to provide their data to add accuracy to the assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regen representatives will be in contact with members to discuss outage impact data provision • WPD to add field in portal to allow owner/operators to put in estimated losses per site