

Distributed Generation Owner/Operator Forum

13.30-16.30 pm, 27 April 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 April 2017 meeting are set out below.

Date of next meeting

11 July 2017, Bristol

Email ofrankland@regensw.co.uk to confirm attendance.

Attendees:

First name	Last name	Company
Andrew	Willis	Arenko Cleantech Limited
Neda	Todorova	Belltown Power Limited
Roberto	Anastasia	Bluefield Services
Helen	Hardaker	British Solar Renewables
Natalie	White	British Solar Renewables
James	Parrott	Everoze
Matthew	Black	Foresight Group
Maurizio	Geroli	Greencoat
Nigel	Davie	Green Nation
Federica	Rappoli	Lightsource
Aidan	Morris	Lightsource
Jane	Whitcombe	Osborne Clarke
Kate	Hughes	Osborne Clarke
Greg	Felix	PS Renewables
Anika	Rafferty	Push Energy
Ollly	Frankland	Regen
Merlin	Hyman	Regen
Philip	Santi	Renewable Energy Systems Ltd
David	Broome	UK Power Reserve
Iain	Davidson	Solar Century
Gary	Fowles	Solar Century
Sonya	Bedford	Stephens Scown
Sean	Sullivan	Western Power Distribution



Joe	Davey	Western Power Distribution
Peter	Aston	Western Power Distribution
Vicki	Ramsden	Wise Energy

Meeting notes:

Key action areas	Views	Actions
Generator portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPD confirmed the portal is now live and went through its capabilities Outage information and contact details for 33kV and above. Only able to update contact details for 11kV sites (no outage information). Members felt there was three key parties to be represented on portal – owner, asset manager and O&M provider. Asset owners will be responsible for managing who has access to the portal (e.g. for a change in O&M contractor) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forum members need to register for web portal by emailing wpdswestwalesgen@westernpower.co.uk Forum members to trial portal – generation.westernpower.co.uk Provide feedback on portal to Joe jdavey@westernpower.co.uk
Incentive on Connections Engagement (ICE) 2017/18 priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPD ran through the ICE priorities that relate to the forum (see slides) Members of the forum broadly agreed with the set of priorities Additional priorities on the “just-in-time” flowchart and longer term outage forecasts were mentioned and agreed by WPD. Some members were keen to extend outage work outside of the daylight-saving months. WPD said this may be possible in the long term. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPD to add additional ICE priorities mentioned to plan for 2017/18 Forum members to send through any other feedback on ICE priorities direct to Sean sgsullivan@westernpower.co.uk
Single point of contact for outages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPD have made a specific person available to cover DG outage issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stephen Ransome is new WPD single point of contact for outages Contact Details Email sransome@westernpower.co.uk Tel No. 02920 535801
Maintenance schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPD presented on maintenance schedule for different assets (see slides) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPD to work to include outage information on the portal as soon as requested by its engineers and to notify DG owner/operators when the status of

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPD have formalised the planned maintenance scheduling at 33 and 66kV level – providing more long term visibility on outages. This will feed into the outage information on the portal enabling longer term than the four week notification. 	<p>the outage changes to planned and then confirmed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPD to provide generic details of the maintenance frequencies for different asset types
<p>Reducing impact of outages</p> <p>“Just-in-time” approach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matt from Foresight went through “Just-in-time” flowchart produced with WPD (see flowchart) Generator would be included in general WPD switching process Members felt there was a need for a defined process, but not a formal agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forum members to feedback on flowchart – direct to Sean sgsullivan@westernpower.co.uk WPD will then circulate the flowchart internally and confirm progress at the next forum
<p>Consortium option to reduce outage impact</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Could be issues with different technologies preferring specific outage times/seasons There is a need to agree a set of thresholds/trigger points for a consortium to be investigated WPD happy to support but not lead consortium work, probably in a separate meeting/subgroup A number of forum members voiced their interest in moving this forward The portal could provide a method of forming consortia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regen to organise separate meeting to discuss consortium option with those members that showed interest and WPD representative in attendance If members did not attend and are interested in participating, please email ofrankland@regensw.co.uk
<p>Power factor trial</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peter Aston from WPD presented on the trial being conducted on power factors and the letters sent out to generators (see slides) Purpose was to identify worst offenders – those generation sites that are deviating furthest away from their export and import power factor operating limits, set out in the connection agreement. Most sites contacted have made the changes necessary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forum members should review their portfolio to understand if their sites are meeting the power factor requirements in their connection agreements Contact Peter Aston paston@westernpower.co.uk if you have any questions or need some advice on solutions WPD to investigate potential for leeway in certain circumstances



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This trial is likely to become business as usual for WPD in the future • Members asked if there was any leeway/buffer available as meeting the requirement at all times can be very challenging and costly. 	
<p>Outage impact assessment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WPD have confirmed in their ICE priorities they will provide an assessment of outage impact on generation • Data is easily available on the duration of outages, but members were keen to get to the MWh lost and the financial impact associated • Forum members could provide information on financial impact if required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WPD to continue investigating methods for delivering outage impact assessment