

Distributed Generation Owner/Operator Forum

13.30-16.30, 8 October 2019

Introduction

Western Power Distribution established a forum in July 2016 for Distributed Generation (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 October 2019 meeting are set out below.

There is a refreshed dedicated webpage for the forum [here](#) (updated link).
The generation portal for outage information is available [here](#).

For day to day outage queries, please contact the WPD nominated person detailed on the 4-week generator report or via the following email in boxes:

- South Wales and South West: wpdswwestwalesgen@westernpower.co.uk
- East Midlands: wpdeastmidgen@westernpower.co.uk
- West Midlands: wpdwestmidgen@westernpower.co.uk

Date of next meeting: 23 January 2020

Name	Surname	Organisation
Matthew	King	Amberside Energy
Ben	Atkinson	Arlington Energy
Helen	Robinson	Armstrong Capital
Hayley	Muir	Belltown Power
Bill	Primarolo	Belltown Power
Roberto	Anastasia	Bluefield Services
Wendy	Matthews	Bridge Wind
Guilherme	Castro	Bright Renewables
Peter	Roberts	BSR Group
Don	Weston	Chelwood Community Energy
Temi	Gocheva	DNV GL
Jose	Zambrano	Foresight Group
Helen	Hardaker	Green Nation
Simon	Maddams	Infinis
Awais	Lodhi	Innogy
Martin	O'Rourke	Lightsource BP
Sarah-Jane	Smith	Lightsource BP

Merlin	Carnegie	Low Carbon
Clarke	Simmons	Neuville Group
Edward	Muriel	Next Energy Capital
Nicolo	Paschetto	Next Energy Capital
Olly	Frankland	Regen
Joe	Noble	Regen
Matthew	Green	RES Group
Wesley	Robinson	Vogt Solar
Peter	Aston	Western Power Distribution
Gwyn	Jones	Western Power Distribution
Danielle	Greedy	Western Power Distribution
Stephen	Ransome	Western Power Distribution

Key action areas	Views	Actions
WPD generation portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers praised recent communications and the outage portal from WPD. Customers have had problems where they lost data when updating and refreshing their contact details on the portal. Customers raised inconsistencies in outage communications from WPD, relating to different information being provided by local engineers and through the outage notification processes. Customers mentioned that UKPN's portal requires Letter of Authority before allowing access to their portal which prevents unwanted access. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPD to check website functionality with regards to updating contact details and refreshing the site. WPD to look at individual communication inconsistencies and report back on remedial action. WPD to consider further authentication to prevent unwanted access to the portal.
Notifications (letters)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers shared examples of letters still being sent to landowners and landlords after updating site contact details on the portal. WPD advised that this is mandatory, and that owners and operators can request additional letters to be sent to them if required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers to request letters detailing outages to be sent to extra addresses if required.
WPD potential options for reduction of planned outages.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPD presented options for simple network modifications (at cost to the customer) that can reduce the impact of outages on customer sites. Full details are available in the slides. WPD noted that it is important to consider that landowners may present problems with consent and that they are not applicable to every customer site. Customers questioned the process to request the alignment of WPD and customer-planned outages. If customers want to plan an outage, they can liaise with WPD to synchronise maintenance works. WPD need to consider landowners needs when outages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers that are interested in making changes to their connection to contact WPD for site specific support and quotes. Contact WPD for further information on maintenance schedules relating to individual sites. Customers interested in aligning maintenance with a planned outage should contact

	<p>are planned. National Grid can also move outages with limited notice periods. Outages/constraints will be finalised by the end of February for the year ahead.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers were also interested in understanding the maintenance schedule associated with network assets that relate to their site. 	<p>WPD via email addresses found at: http://yourpowerfuture.westernpower.co.uk/distributed-generation-owner-operator-forum</p>
Accelerated Loss of mains (ALoM) change programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All new connections since 1 Feb 2018 must have RoCoF loss of mains protection. All remaining connections must be on G59/3 by 31 Aug 2022. NGESO has introduced an accelerated loss of mains program to pay customers to change relay settings or replace relays (if required) before the 2022 deadline. The total funding pot available is £175m with up to £4,000 per site available. Customers ascertain and complete the required settings modification or relay replacement works. All works require witnessing from a registered contractor or WPD. An initial list of registered contractors can be found below. Customer should check with WPD that their selected contractors are suitable: http://www.energynetworks.org/assets/files/LoM%20Protection%20Support%20Organizations%20confirmed.pdf Customers' in-house O&M team can be set up as a registered contractor if required. The ALoM scheme is delivered in rounds. If current window full or missed, customers will be contacted in next window. Customers can receive funding for changes to Loss of Mains protections settings they have already made to their sites using the same application process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information and application through the ENA Portal at: http://www.energynetworks.org/electricity/engineering/accelerated-loss-of-mains-change-programme.html. There is a dedicated WPD email address: ALoMCP@westernpower.co.uk WPD to respond to questions raised by customers regarding the programme.
Local flexibility tenders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPD Flexible Power website has all information (postcode checker, maps etc.) for WPD local flexibility tenders. However, tenders for this round have just closed and results are being posted in a fortnight. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers interested in WPD local flexibility tenders should access www.flexiblepower.co.uk WPD and other DNO tenders are published on the picoflex platform https://picoflex.com
Incentive on Connections and Engagement (ICE) workplan 2019/2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPD are in the process of updating the ICE workplan for 2019/2020. Customers raised interest in publication of more frequent summary reports for the lost generation due to outages (wind and solar PV above 33kV). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers to provide options for next year's ICE workplan. WPD to investigate producing more frequent summary reports for lost generation.