

## Distributed Generation Owner/Operator Forum – meeting notes

13.30-16.30, 23 January 2020

### 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 January 2020 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 emails:

- South Wales and South West: [wpdswwestwalesgen@westernpower.co.uk](mailto:wpdswwestwalesgen@westernpower.co.uk)
- East Midlands: [wpdeastmidgen@westernpower.co.uk](mailto:wpdeastmidgen@westernpower.co.uk)
- West Midlands: [wpdwestmidgen@westernpower.co.uk](mailto:wpdwestmidgen@westernpower.co.uk)

Date of next meeting: 23 April 2020

First name	Surname	Organisation
Hayley	Muir	Belltown Power
Taha	bin Tariq	Bluefield Services
Guilherme	Castro	Bright Renewables
Peter	Roberts	BSR O&M
Mark	Degg	Cogen
Thibault	Delouvrie	DNV GL
Bethan	Lawson	Good Energy
Helen	Hardaker	Green Nation
Gary	Bell	Imerys
David	Magor	Imerys
Sarah-Jane	Smith	Lightsource BP
Justin	Thesiger	Low Carbon
Derek	Hand	Quintas Energy
Olly	Frankland	Regen
Ben	Robertson	Regen
Matthew	Green	RES
James	Whitley	RWE Renewables
Dan	Godwin	Welsh Power

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Shaz	Alibhai	Western Power Distribution
Peter	Aston	Western Power Distribution
Danielle	Greedy	Western Power Distribution
Neil	Mansell	Western Power Distribution
Stephen	Ransome	Western Power Distribution
Simon	Apps	Western Power Distribution

Key action areas	Views	Actions
WPD generation portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customers should use the generation portal to change details if the owner/asset manager/O&amp;M company changes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customers to send an accompanying email to WPD when they change details on the generation portal.</li> <li>Customers to alert WPD if the portal does not update saved changes to site contact details.</li> </ul>
Outage notifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incredibly positive comments shared from several customers in the room around WPD outage notifications and general communications.</li> <li>Any 'provisional' outages will now show up in the generation portal. Provisional status: outages that WPD have a reasonable certainty of several months ahead of time but could be subject to change. This addition is designed to help customers and potentially allow them to align their maintenance schedules.</li> <li>Customers were reminded that outage notification letters need to be sent to landowners and landlords. Customers can request additional letters to be sent to them if required.</li> <li>Customers expressed concerns on the lack of detail in the 4-week generator report but were reassured by WPD that all the detail is provided.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customers can request letters detailing outages to be sent to additional addresses if required.</li> </ul>
Options for reducing outage impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customers were reminded that WPD offer options for reducing the impact of outages on their sites which are dependent on the local network characteristics.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customers to contact WPD if they are interested in investigating options on their sites. The available solutions were covered by WPD at the forum in October 2019 – slides <a href="#">here</a></li> </ul>
Sharing or trading capacity between customers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customers raised interest in investigating shared capacity arrangements.</li> <li>WPD can make introductions between generators if both parties agree but cannot be involved in negotiations. Any contract negotiations must be done between customers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customers interested in capacity trading were introduced to those with experience in the room from the Isle of Wight case study.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Isle of Wight example in SSEN south was raised as the best case study available.</li> </ul>	
<p>Accelerated Loss of Mains Change Programme (ALoMCP)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All new connections since 1 Feb 2018 must have Rate of Change of Frequency (RoCoF) loss of mains protection settings. All remaining connections must be on G59/3 by 31 Aug 2022.</li> <li>National Grid ESO has introduced an ALoMCP to pay customers to change relay settings or replace relays (if required) before the 2022 deadline. The total funding pot available is £175 million with up to £4,000 per site available:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- £1,500 for the first setting change</li> <li>- £500 for next five setting changes</li> </ul> </li> <li>Where an application is not from the site owner, WPD will require a letter of authority from the site owner.</li> <li>The success of applications is not dependent on the size of generator. However, this may change over time. Customers are advised to apply early if they have a smaller asset (e.g. 5 MW solar farm).</li> <li>Customers can also apply for retrospective payments if changes to sites have already been made by proactive owner/operators.</li> <li>All works require witnessing from a registered contractor/engineer. Current list of WPD recognised contractors for works <a href="#">here</a> (NB the ENA also publish a list of contractors but not all of them are recognised by WPD).</li> <li>WPD have a limited number of witnessing engineers available. Customers were advised to plan ahead of time so there needs.</li> <li>Customers' in-house O&amp;M team can be set up as a registered contractor if required.</li> <li>The ALoMCP is delivered in rounds. If current window full or missed, customers will be contacted in next window.</li> <li>Customers suggested that a wider information email from WPD about the scheme to the DG community would be beneficial.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information and application through the ENA portal at: <a href="http://www.ena-eng.org/ALoMCP/">http://www.ena-eng.org/ALoMCP/</a>.</li> <li>There is a dedicated WPD email address <a href="mailto:ALoMCP@westernpower.co.uk">ALoMCP@westernpower.co.uk</a> and webpage <a href="https://www.westernpower.co.uk/our-network/loss-of-mains">https://www.westernpower.co.uk/our-network/loss-of-mains</a></li> <li>WPD to send a wider email to customers on the Accelerated Loss of Mains Change Programme.</li> </ul>
<p>Local flexibility tenders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further WPD local flexibility tenders are planned for 2020. Use the WPD Flexible Power portal to check if your site is included in an area.</li> <li>Use the Piclo Flex portal for non-WPD assets.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customers interested in WPD local flexibility tenders should access: <a href="http://www.flexiblepower.co.uk">www.flexiblepower.co.uk</a></li> <li>WPD and other DNO tenders are published on the Picloflex platform <a href="https://picloflex.com">https://picloflex.com</a></li> </ul>

<p>Network charging changes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Customers were reminded that significant network charging changes are underway that will have an impact on connected assets.</li> <li>• Recent changes to embedded benefits could result in a loss of value for renewable energy assets (£2.50-5/MWh).</li> <li>• Customers were encouraged to engage and stay informed on the network charging changes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Customers to investigate network charging changes. A number of sources are available including:            Charging Futures forum  <a href="http://www.chargingfutures.com/">http://www.chargingfutures.com/</a>            Ofgem publication  <a href="https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications-and-updates/access-and-forward-looking-charges-significant-code-review-winter-2019-working-paper">https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications-and-updates/access-and-forward-looking-charges-significant-code-review-winter-2019-working-paper</a>            Regen webinar  <a href="https://www.regen.co.uk/event/network-charging-an-emerging-picture/">https://www.regen.co.uk/event/network-charging-an-emerging-picture/</a> </li> </ul>
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