

Distributed Generation Owner/Operator Forum – meeting notes

14:00-16.00, 23 April 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 April 2020 meeting are set out below.

There is a 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
- East Midlands: wpdeastmidgen@westernpower.co.uk
- West Midlands: wpdwestmidgen@westernpower.co.uk

Date of next meeting: 23 July 2020 (webinar)

First name	Surname	Organisation
Matthew	Margot	Anesco
Daniel	Burke	Arenko Group
Helen	Robinson	Armstrong Capital
Matthew	Black	Armstrong Energy
Jamie	Grayson	Baywa RE
Sam	Hamilton	Baywa RE
Bill	Primarolo	Belltown Power
Hayley	Muir	Belltown Power
Wendy	Matthews	BRIDGE Wind Management
Peter	Roberts	BSR
Mark	Degg	CoGen
Temi	Gocheva	DNV GL
Ines	Burgos	Foresight Group
Jose	Zambrano	Foresight Group
Tom	Taylor	Foresight Group
Lorenzo	Pergolotti	Good Energy
Juan	Perez	Greencoat Capital



Gary	Bell	Imerys
Graham	Bone	Infinis Energy Services Ltd.
Simon	Maddams	Infinis Energy Services Ltd.
James	Whitley	innogy
Jonathan	Henderson	innogy
Chiara	Guiducci	LightsourceBP
Justin	Thesiger	Low Carbon
Matthew	Hanley	Neuville Grid Data
Hannah	Stanley	Regen
Merlin	Hyman	Regen
Matthew	Green	RES
Jonathan	Bensted	SSWUK
David	de Ulibarri	WiseEnergy
Ben	Godfrey	WPD
Danielle	Greedy	WPD
Gwyn	Jones	WPD
Oli	Bright	WPD
Peter	Aston	WPD
Shaz	Alibhai	WPD
Simon	Apps	WPD

Key action areas	Views	Actions
Communication and COVID-19 impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPD are doing emergency and essential works only, although this is not limited to fault work. Outages are likely to be disrupted so it is important for customers to contact the person doing the works to check that they are still going ahead. Customers raised concerns that they are unsure whether COVID-19 implications will disrupt their planned maintenance works, which require isolation by WPD. Positive feedback from customers regarding the continuation of planned outages in line with notifications. Customers raised concern that the COVID-19 will cause extension to planned outages, and therefore increase their lost generation. WPD confirmed that this may take longer due to personal protective measures (check with the staff doing the works). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers with a planned outage should send an email to the engineer undertaking planned outages prior to the works to check that they are still going ahead. Customers who need to undertake maintenance work which require isolation by WPD to contact WPD stating what the works are (via relevant email on first pages) so that they can try and fit them in. Customers that are concerned about extensions to outages due to COVID-19 should contact the staff doing the works directly to understand how they plan to proceed and how long the works will take.

<p>New connections and COVID-19 impact</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers can still put new applications in for new connection works. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers to contact Peter (paston@westernpower.co.uk) or project engineer if they have questions regarding connections work.
<p>DG community Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers were happy with the KPIs shown, and there were no objections. Customers suggested that managing expectation for planned and actual outage length would be useful, and a retrospective report detailing how long the works took would be useful for generation loss prediction. Customers reported intermittent power trips causing significant loss of generation, which is not recorded on the online portal, and hence not captured within the lost generation KPI. Customers asked if there is a way to capture these in the portal or allow manual input. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPD to talk to team members to discuss how they are approaching trying to meet timescales of works and to discuss how they might better notify customers of start and finish times of outages. Customers with loss of generation outage issues that are not visible on the portal to provide examples of where trips have happened and WPD will endeavour to take appropriate action. WPD cannot commit to adding a manual request form in the portal to capture trips. Customers to feedback any further comments/thoughts on the KPIs presented.
<p>Accelerated Loss of Mains Change Programme (ALoMCP) update from Peter Aston – Primary system design manager, WPD.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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"> - £1,500 for the first setting change - £500 for next five setting changes Or it's £4,000 for a relay change. Where an application is not from the site owner, WPD will require a letter of authority from the site owner. 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). Customers can also apply for retrospective payments if changes to sites have already been made by proactive owner/operators. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information and application through the ENA portal at: http://www.ena-eng.org/ALoMCP/. There is a dedicated WPD email address ALoMCP@westernpower.co.uk and webpage https://www.westernpower.co.uk/our-network/loss-of-mains Customers to pass on information regarding inverters which need settings changes so that WPD can update the list of devices on the portal. Customers to alert WPD regarding relay/settings changes even if funding is not sought.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All works require witnessing from a registered contractor/engineer. Current list of WPD recognised contractors for works here (NB the ENA also publish a list of contractors but not all of them are recognised by WPD). • Customers’ in-house O&M team can be set up as a registered contractor if required. • The ALoMCP is delivered in rounds. If current window full or missed, customers will be contacted in next window. • Programme has been deemed high priority so is to continue during the Covid-19 pandemic. DNO witnessing is likely to be carried out via video call with contractor on site. Please consider restrictions and apply with suitable lead time. • PROGRESS UPDATE (24/04): 1250 applications received, 280 sites completed works, 25 sites paid. Three sites have had a virtual sample site visit, completion dates spanning all of 2020 and into Q1 2021. Plenty of funding left – please apply! • Customers want to know if they can invoice WPD for additional costs, however as National Grid set the funding limits this will not be possible. • If customers carry out relay changes that do not incur any additional costs and they do not want funding, they will still need to notify WPD of the changes to the G59 settings on the relay. • The ALoMCP includes any tech that works with G59 settings, including some inverters which will also need settings changes covered by funding. • Only the inverter connected sites with G59 settings will need a relay/settings change. There is no longer funding for changing relays unless there are G59 settings which need changing. • A customer raised concern that it was not clear what evidence is required to receive payment from WPD. Full requirements can be found on the ENA portal. 	
<p>Update on Flexible Power tenders and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lots of growth in contracted flexibility since 2018 – made up of mostly generator flexibility, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customers to ensure their organisations are aware of the



<p>future flexibility services from Ben Godfrey – network strategies manager, WPD</p>	<p>but also from demand turn down and energy storage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 29 reinforcement works have been assessed by WPD and 3 have been deferred due to flexibility. 122 substations have flexibility sought. £26.4m saved from deferred reinforcement due to flexibility, whilst the cost of flexibility was only £547,000. • Where WPD has called on contracted assets to provide flexibility 92% have responded – a positive outcome. • Flexibility providers report 100% satisfaction with the WPD programme, due to simple tenders, straightforward contracts, team responsiveness and the extra revenue streams that the program opens up. • In future, WPD plan to perform platform improvements, provide a greater level of standardisation across DNOs, add marketplace integration tools, add generation turn down/demand turn up markets and add reactive power markets. • Overall, providing flexibility can be a good income source, not just in the short term. 	<p>flexibility offerings from WPD that offer extra revenue streams.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customers to feedback to WPD if they are aware of reasons they might not respond to a service where WPD can pay for them to turn down/off generation. • Customers interested in WPD local flexibility tenders should access: www.flexiblepower.co.uk • WPD and other DNO tenders are published on the Picloflex platform https://picloflex.com
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