

Distributed Generation Owner/Operator Forum – meeting notes

14:00-16.00, 3 August 2021

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 August 2021 meeting are set out below.

There is a dedicated webpage for the forum [here](#).

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: 30 November 2021

Delegate List:

First name	Last name	Organisation
Dale	King	Anesco Ltd
Greg	Booth	BayWa r.e.
Hayley	Muir	Belltown Power
Michael	Graham	Bluefield Services Ltd
Taha	Bin Tariq	Bluefield Services Ltd
David	Harris	Bright Renewables
Saga	Carle	Bright Renewables
Charlotte	Anderson	British Solar Renewables
Christie	Sims	BSR Energy
Phil	Jenner	Ecotricity
Clara	Perez	Foresight Group
Tom	Taylor	Foresight Group
Wendy	Matthews	Good Energy
Helen	Hardaker	Green Nation
Gary	Bell	Imerys
Chiara	Guiducci	Lightsource BP

Chris	Thom	Low Carbon
Clarke	Simmons	Neuville Grid Data
Matthew	Hanley	Neuville Grid Data
Alexis	Hadjivassiliou	PSH operations
Elena	Burguet	PSH Operations
Nicola	Waters	PSH Operations
Tony	Whittaker	Quintas Energy
Olly	Frankland	Regen
Awais	Lodhi	RWE Renewables
James	Whitley	RWE Renewables
Harriet	Henderson	Stern Energy Ltd
Andrea	Muncivi	Stern Energy Ltd.
Otis	Harrison	Thrive Renewables
Hamish	Ellen	Vector Renewables UK Ltd
Stuart	Hastie	Ventient Energy
Andrew	Akani	Western Power Distribution
Danielle	Greedy	Western Power Distribution
Gwyn	Jones	Western Power Distribution
Helen	Sawdon	Western Power Distribution
Matt	Watson	Western Power Distribution
Michael	Nash	Wise Energy

Key action areas	Views	Actions
<p>Improving industry and WPD communications to address outages/constraints</p> <p>Danielle Greedy – Outage Planning Engineer, WPD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of WPD DG support assistant has been split between two WPD control room assistants from 4 May 2021 onwards. Customers should use the regional generation email addresses provided on page 1 and the forum webpage. • WPD are working to add an email notification system for any additions, changes, and updates to the planned outages for your sites on the WPD generation portal. This will apply to all 132, 66, 33 kV outages. Soft launch is planned with wider coverage in Q3 2021. Customers need to add and update their email addresses using the portal to make use of this new notification system. • Customers raised some concerns of contact details data being overwritten on the generation portal. WPD will investigate this with the website developers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customers to use general relevant generation email addresses for queries, rather than emailing Neil Mansell directly. • If customers have any queries regarding planned outages, contact the WPD representative responsible for the outage by using details provided on the portal. Or the general regional email addresses on page 1. • Customers to email Danielle Greedy with any examples of data being overwritten on the generation portal dgreedy@westernpower.co.uk • WPD to investigate contact details being overwritten and work with the website developer to resolve the issues. • WPD to provide confirmation emails when contact details are updated.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers asked for a confirmation email from WPD for any contact details changes they make for sites on the generation portal. 	
<p>Flexible Power procurement and market update Helen Sawdon – Flexible Power commercial officer, Western Power Distribution</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 55% of participants were aware of distribution flexibility, but not yet participating and 40% didn't have a good enough understanding of distribution flexibility. The market is in its infancy but to date WPD has contracted 456.5 MW of flexible capacity. Flexible Power are procuring flexibility on a six-month cycle, published two years ahead. WPD in their tenth procurement cycle. There aren't any penalties for non-delivery of the flexibility services. You just don't get paid for the service. Current tender window opens from 2 August to 10 September 2021. Helen was happy to have any questions sent to her directly via wpdflexiblepower@westernpower.co.uk or hsawdon@westernpower.co.uk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers to review their sites for the potential to bid for flexibility under Flexible Power. <p>Register to join our purchasing register: https://rfxp.westernpower.co.uk/ECE View the CMZ locations and download supporting information: www.flexiblepower.co.uk/locations/western-power-distribution/map-application Check if your site is within a CMZ: www.flexiblepower.co.uk/locations/western-power-distribution/postcode-checker Estimate your sites potential earnings: http://www.flexiblepower.co.uk/location/s/western-power-distribution/value-calculator Documents and information including; procurement dates out to 2024, procurement results from previous tenders, month ahead forecasting, and much more: www.flexiblepower.co.uk/locations/western-power-distribution/tools-and-documents . We signpost our requirements up to five years across our network on the WPD website: www.westernpower.co.uk/network-flexibility-map</p>
<p>Deep Connect and Manage update Matt Watson – Network Strategy Engineer, Western Power Distribution</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Come out of work in the Regional Development Programmes between DNOs and National Grid ESO. The South West example for WPD and other areas for UK Power Networks. The Deep Connect and Manage (or Visibility and Commercial control) and specifications have been included in new connection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers can engage with design of the MW dispatch service over the next few months. More detail is available on the National Grid ESO website: https://www.nationalgrideso.com/research-publications/regional-development-programmes and



	<p>offers in certain Grid Supply Points (GSPs) since 2018. Assets that have connected using these terms and conditions are the focus of the development of a new transmission constraint management service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are particular network constraints in the South West in Spring and Summer sunny days, as well as windy days, where there is low demand. • Main way of providing commercial services, as well as visibility and control to National Grid ESO, is to sign up to and access the Balancing Mechanism. However, this is complex and only works for larger users at the moment. • A new commercial service, called “MW dispatch”, is being designed to help manage transmission constraints in the South West, at periods of high generation and low demand, using connected assets on the WPD network. The MW dispatch service is still being designed and the following parameters are being discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Contracting with the National Grid ESO and instruction via existing WPD connection control panel (SCADA) to help keep costs low. ○ Utilisation payments only (e.g. based on registered capacity) and a continuous service that you can opt out of with prices re-submitted regularly (uncapped). ○ Service will instruct site to reduce export capacity to 0 MW for a min 5 minutes up to maximum of 89 mins. ○ Response time would be within 2 minutes. • Soft launch of service planned for Spring 2022. 	<p>contact email: box.WholeElectricitySystem@nationalgrideso.com</p>
<p>Accelerated Loss of Mains Change Programme (ALoMCP) update Andrew Akani – Primary System</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project is focused on funding the update to the LoM settings of sites connected before 1 February 2018 (pre G59/3-3). This may require changes to the relays and the inverters. Further details here: https://www.ena-eng.org/ALoMCP/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customers should engage with the ALoMCP programme to update their sites if they have not done so already. Checking relays, inverters and other aspects of the site are compliant. WPD contact email for ALoMCP:



<p>Design Manager, WPD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applies to any DG project with greater than 3.68kW single phase and 11 kW three phase. • WPD reminded customers there is only limited time left before the final deadline (31 August 2022) for Loss of Mains (LoM) changes to be made to DG site. Funding is still available. Tapered payments are due to be implemented. 80% in Q1 2022, 70% in Q2 2022 and so on. • Inverters may contain G59 settings that need to be changed or disabled. Guidance available on ENA website: https://www.ena-eng.org/ALoMCP/mankb • 2,140 applications and close to 4.84 GW (out of 8.6 GW). 1,555 sites where works have been completed. • Virtual sample site visits for compliance have been carried out under lockdown. • Evidence of compliance with G59/3 LoM settings needs to be provided even if customers have not engaged with programme. A compliance form will be sent to them by WPD and needs to be filled in. • More engagement is underway including through electricity suppliers. • A customer mentioned that inverter settings changes may not be covered under the ALoMCP funding. • A customer also raised the point that the administration costs of self-declaration separate to the ALoMCP are not covered. • A customer questioned what happens when a site that hasn't made the LoM settings changes trips off. Questioning whether they will be re-energised or not. WPD confirmed that after 31 August 2022 there may be some enforcement, but details are yet to be confirmed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALoMCP@westernpower.co.uk and freephone 0800 0328880 • Evidence of compliance with the G59/3 LoM settings is required even if customers haven't engaged with the ALoMCP. Customers need to fill in and return the compliance form provided by WPD or via the ENA portal below. <p>Further details are available on the ENA portal: https://www.ena-eng.org/ALoMCP/</p> <p>For a list of registered contractors see the WPD webpage: https://www.westernpower.co.uk/our-network/loss-of-mains</p>
<p>Network charging Andrew Akani – Primary System Design Manager, WPD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Significant Code Review has a consultation with minded-to positions provided by Ofgem. • Distribution network connection reinforcement charges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customers to respond to the consultation directly to Ofgem. Details here: https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/publications/access-and-forward-looking-charges-significant-code-review-consultation-minded-positions



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Upstream reinforcement costs to be removed for demand connections ○ Shallower for generation connections (only for connection voltage level, not above) ○ High-Cost Cap for reinforcement charges (£200/kW) may be retained for generation connections and there are options for this to be at the same voltage level as connection or the same and one above. ● Access rights – more options for level of firmness (more than a single circuit connection), such as time-profiled access. ● Transmission network charges (TNUoS) will be introduced for DG above 1 MW capacity (previously only above 100 MW). This could be a credit or payment depending on your location (Scottish sites likely to have a significant payment). ● Implementation of changes is planned for April 2023 	<p>WPD have published a guide to the network charging changes for community energy groups here: https://www.westernpower.co.uk/downloads-view-reciteme/382264</p>
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