


Contestability Working Group - Conf Call		 UTILITY REGULATOR ELECTRICITY GAS WATER	
Subject: Contestability Working Group		Date: 14/06/21	Time: 12:30
Attendees:	Title	Representing	
Aidan Gunning	AG	EW	
Chris Kingston	CK	EW	
Owen McGuckin	OMG	EW	
Kenny McPartland	KMP	UR	
Jody O'Boyle	JOB	UR	
Roisin McLaughlin	RML	UR	
Sinead Ferris	SF	NIEN	
Nigel Crawford	NC	NIEN	
Carl Hashim	CH	NIEN	
Nigel Watkin	NW	NIEN	
Graham Caldwell	GC	NIEN	
Sarah Friedel	SF	SONI	
Nicola McMahon	NMM	SONI	
Conan Hodgkinson	CH	SONI	
Les Thomas	LT	Lloyd's Register	
Colin Towers	CT	Glenelly	
Killian Halpin	KH	RenewableNI	
Apologies:			
Circulation: External			

Item	Main discussion points
1	<p>Agenda</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recap of last meeting 2. NIEN to run through scope of contestability 3. Decide scope for phases of contestability 4. Next steps <p>-----</p> <p>KMP – Welcomes the group and recaps the previous CWG from May 2021. KMP states one of the actions from the previous meeting was for CWG members to provide an update in relation to any comments on the scope, risks, mitigations or timelines in relation to the draft 'Next Steps' Paper.</p> <p>KMP notes that UR had one response and we will be continuing with looking at establishing LV final connections contestability first.</p> <p>KMP hands over to NIEN to run through the LV final connections scope document. (Attached below 'Copy of LV final connection').</p>

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	<p>GC runs through the PDF document- There are 3 main categories (Overhead, Plant/Substations and Cables). Within each category, there is a list of what NIEN foresee as the different types of connection. GC highlights the various types of connections within each.</p> <p>JOB asks if Electricity Worx thinks there is anything from the list that may be added in to the final connections? Electricity Worx feel everything is covered.</p> <p>KMP- Asks the group to define what scope will be introduced in the first phase.</p> <p>NC- There is a wide range of activities. NIEN would like an agreement to narrow down the scope to allow for a quicker implementation of LV contestability.</p> <p>NC asks ICPs what scope would be best to progress with.</p> <p>AG- Highlights any activity with a joint hang connect and the work associated with LWC (Limited Work Certificate)</p> <p>NC asks if ICPs have the authorised staff to do this with NIEN? Electricity Worx state they do.</p> <p>It is explained that 'LWC' is when there is a risk to the network, a written document has to be given to the team on site with instructions as to how they limit their work activity to perform the work safely. (The NERS scheme will ensure these procedures are in place)</p> <p>LT Is there anything that the Network Owner would find too difficult to introduce quickly in relation to contestability?</p> <p>NC - Most challenging element will be working on existing substations. This will require getting access to the substations and outages in associated with installing cables. Another difficult situation includes where customer notifications are needed where outages are required. How will customers receive these notifications?</p> <p>JOB there is also a requirement for NIEN under the guaranteed standards for notifications, so it will have to be linked back to this also.</p> <p>NC states the easiest to begin with is live connections with the most difficult being connections where the line needs to be isolated.</p> <p>GC runs through the Plant section of the PDF. LV Cabinets and LV feeder frames are both found in substations, so therefore would be outside of the scope of phase 1. Times when working on mini pillars with no shrouding in place, you</p>

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	<p>would need an isolation for this. Isolation also needed in relation to leaking mini pillars.</p> <p>It is agreed amongst the group, mini pillars will be placed in the second phase along with cable jointing, excluding mini pillars with No shrouding in place and Leaking, which will go into phase 3. (Edit: After this CWG meeting it was decided with NIEN and Electricity Worx that all mini pillars in the scope document will be part of Phase 3 of contestability)</p> <p>Phase 1 'Overhead' section is included in phase 1 and will include jobs that need LWC's or outages.</p> <p>Phase 2 Underground/cabling/mini pillars (Shrouding in place and Compound units will only be included in phase 2) (Edit: After this CWG meeting it was decided with NIEN and Electricity Worx that all mini pillars in the scope document will be part of Phase 3 of contestability)</p> <p>Phase 3 The rest of 'Plant' (Substation work) section will be included in phase 3 including mini pillars with No shrouding in place and Leaking. (Edit: After this CWG meeting it was decided with NIEN and Electricity Worx that all mini pillars in the scope document will be part of Phase 3 of contestability)</p> <p>In relation to PNB earthing (Phase 1), in the overhead line section. The group agree that this will be part of the existing asset and will be non-contestable. ('JHC LV cable at HV pole >12 ft from ground at TX with existing PNB earthing that is to be upgraded to PME').</p> <p>In relation to phase 1 and LWC's, NW explains that prior to the work starting LWC needs to be issued by a senior authorised person to the team on site to permit the work. Two different people will get into the process, the senior authorised person would act on behalf of the ICP, authorised by NIEN.</p> <p>KMP asks LT, to speak from a Lloyds perspective in relation to accreditations, authorisations, training and how they relate to timelines.</p> <p>LT- Existing scopes will have their competency frameworks in place, there will then be scope extensions, whereby a submission of procedures and protocols, dealing with the authorisations process, approvals process of individuals and then of setting people to work for the new set of scope. Lloyds have the existing UK document that covers all this.</p> <p>Lloyds would need to look at the NI version of the NERS requirements document and amend out the necessary parts of this into a new version of the document.</p> <p>This revised document will be submitted to the CWG for review before the next meeting.</p>

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	<p>KMP explains UR want to get the 'Next Steps' paper published ASAP (next few weeks).</p> <p>RML- Useful to update the PDF scope table updating with our discussions today with the phases of scope. Then we need to timetable what needs to be done next, NIEN will be taking this action. Once this is complete, the CWG will reconvene to discuss this timetable.</p>
2	<p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UR to get the Next Steps paper published in next few weeks - NIEN to provide an updated version of the LV Scope document which breaks the scope into the phases of when LV final connections will be made contestable - Lloyds to update the NERS to reflect NI changes to contestability and send a draft document around the group - NIEN to look at more detailed timelines once the next steps paper has been published. Once drafted the CWG group will reconvene
3	<p>Attachments</p>