

1st September 2020

Renewables Grid Liaison Group

Minutes of Meeting No 34

Attendees	
Utility Regulator	Roisin McLaughlin (RML) Kenny McPartland (KMP) Jody O'Boyle (JO'B) Tim Steele (TS)
NIRIG	Steven Agnew (SA) (NIRIG) Rory Mullan (RM) (NIRIG)
NIE Networks	Sinead Ferris (SF) Karen O'Doherty (KOD) Ailish McLaughlin (AML) David Hill (DH) Brian Moorhead (BM)
SONI	Helen Gallagher (HG)
Department for the Economy - Energy Decarbonisation Division	No attendee
NISTA	No attendee
Offshore Representative	No attendee
Ulster Farmers Union	John Watt (JW)
Energy Storage Representative	No attendee
DP Energy	No attendee
Energia	No attendee
Amber Green Energy	Neil O'Brien (NOB)
Department for Economy	Paul Rose (PR)
Supplier	Kevin O'Kane – Budget Energy (KOK)

No	Item	Action			
1	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Ciaran Donnelly (CD) (ENERGIA) Aidan Girvan (AG) M Harper (MP) Gary Hawkes (GH) (UFU) Niall McClements (NMC) Andy McCrea (AMcC) (NIRIG) Ronan Kernan (RK) Raymond Smyth (RS) (SONI) Chris Osborne (CO)</p>				
2	<p>Minutes/Updates from last meeting</p> <p>Minutes approved</p> <p>Actions from previous meeting</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="264 920 1401 1025"> <tr> <td data-bbox="264 920 331 1025">1</td> <td data-bbox="331 920 1217 1025">Investigate developing “Energy Dashboard” <i>Ongoing</i></td> <td data-bbox="1217 920 1401 1025">NIE Networks / SONI</td> </tr> </table>	1	Investigate developing “Energy Dashboard” <i>Ongoing</i>	NIE Networks / SONI	
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3	<p>Renewables Status Update</p> <p>AMcL presented and confirmed that 1,684MW of renewables has been connected to date and a further 303MW committed. Confirmed these figures include all voltage levels of connecting generation.</p>	NIE Networks			
4	<p>Update on Transmission Applications</p> <p>HG presented slides on the status of current applications – the list remains similar to the last meeting with Kilroot GT 8 & 9 and Belfast Power added.</p>	SONI			
5	<p>CIWG - Consultation Update</p> <p>KO'D provided an update on the non-firm consultation and the NIE Networks/SONI minded to position was discussed. This would be an interim process for now and the process would create a level of risk for NIE Networks as there could be an influx of applications, potential for disputes etc. The Statement of Connection Charges will need updated. Request to UR was submitted to ask for derogation to licence</p>	SONI & NIE Networks			

No	Item	Action
	requirement. UR stated this query was with their legal team to review. RM noted industry are glad this process was moving forward.	
6	<p>UR – Clean Energy Package Update</p> <p>JO'B presented slides on the Clean Energy Package</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changing how EU works particularly around renewables - Governed under union law - New rules aim to make it easier to store/sell electricity - Two Thirds of the CEP requires new policy to be developed but Brexit is taking precedence - Heavily linked to the Energy Strategy 	
7	<p>DfE – Energy Strategy Update</p> <p>PR advised the aim is to get the Policy options paper to the Minister in September 2020, go out to consultation in March 2021 following which the Energy Strategy will be developed and published in November 2021. The Clean Energy Package will feed in to this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Noted the Electricity Regs are not currently compliant - Electricity Directive to be updated on 31st December - Number of issues to be considered and these are being addressed through various working groups 	DFE
8	<p>NIRIG – Dispatch Down WG Update</p> <p>RM provided an update and presented slides on current analysis. Working Group established – NIRIG members account for 84% of operating Wind Farms and this allows dispatch down issues to be monitored and tracked. Mullan Grid helps to do the analysis. Noted that NI Windfarms are not at full output due to constraints but the set point is set in the south based on NW winds. Constraints are higher in the North than the South and this is due to lack of N/S interconnector – Network investment required in the West of the province.</p> <p>BM asked is there any thoughts on new projects? RM advised this Working Group is focused on looking at what is happening today but another working group has been established to look at future constraints analysis.</p> <p>JW enquired about corporations building windfarms such as Amazon, Facebook etc. RM advised an Irish grant has been provided for renewable support schemes, encouraging PPA's to help data centres, etc.</p>	NIRIG
9	<p>Network Development/ATR Update</p> <p>HG advised Network Development 2020 – 2029 drafted – aim to be published end of September 2020. Includes Kells-Rasharkin and Carnmoney – Castlereagh etc.</p> <p>The 2020 Final Scenarios Report was published. The System Needs Report is due to be published in October.</p>	SONI

No	Item	Action
	RM asked was the System Needs report showing the appendix of overload i.e. similar format to report previous. HG advised yes but would confirm.	
10	Tomorrow Energy Scenarios Update No update provided	SONI
11	Operational Update No update required	NIE NETWORKS
12	AOB HG to work with SF on Dashboard	N/A
13	Dates of 2020 Meetings 3 rd December 2020 via Zoom	

Summary of New Actions

Action No.	Action Description	To be Actioned by
1	None	

Summary of Carried Actions

Action No.	Action Description	To be Actioned by
1	Investigate developing "Energy Dashboard" (ongoing)	NIE Networks / SONI
2	Develop Quarterly Reports	SONI