

12th September 2023
Renewables Grid Liaison Group
Minutes of Meeting No 43

| Attendees | |
|---|--|
| Utility Regulator | Roisin McLaughlin (RMcL) Emma Todd (ET) |
| Renewable NI | Steven Agnew (SA) Rory Mullan (RM) |
| NIE Networks | Karen O'Doherty (KO'D) Lisa O'Neill (LO'N) John Heywood (JH) |
| SONI | Ronan Kernan (RDK) Helen Gallagher (HG) |
| Department for the Economy – Energy Decarbonisation Division | Koichi Samuels (KS) Zoe Crowe (ZC) |
| NISTA | No attendee |
| Offshore Representative | No attendee |
| Ulster Farmers Union | Chris Osborne (CO) |
| Energy Storage Representative | No Attendee |
| DP Energy | No attendee |
| Energia | No attendee |
| Amber Green Energy | Neil O'Brien (NO'B) |
| Supplier | No Attendee |

| No | Item | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---------------------------|---|--|------|---|---|-----|---|---|----------------------|---|--|--------------|---|--|--------------|---|--|---------------------------|---|---|--------------|---|--|-------|---|--|------|
| 1 | Apologies | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | <p>Minutes/Updates from last meeting Minutes approved</p> <p>Actions from previous meeting</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="277 734 1385 1839"> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="277 734 344 837">1</td> <td data-bbox="344 734 1203 837">SONI to confirm status of Kilroot Battery - 10MW</td> <td data-bbox="1203 734 1385 837">SONI</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="277 837 344 972">2</td> <td data-bbox="344 837 1203 972">DfE to consider if we should consider if all interconnectors are good for NI.</td> <td data-bbox="1203 837 1385 972">DfE</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="277 972 344 1093">3</td> <td data-bbox="344 972 1203 1093">Renewable NI and UFU to determine the expected levels of application NIE Networks may see when export opens</td> <td data-bbox="1203 972 1385 1093">Renewable NI and UFU</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="277 1093 344 1214">4</td> <td data-bbox="344 1093 1203 1214">Renewable NI to present on Dispatch down – Covered in todays meeting</td> <td data-bbox="1203 1093 1385 1214">Renewable NI</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="277 1214 344 1335">5</td> <td data-bbox="344 1214 1203 1335">Renewable NI to send through battery report to DfE covered in todays meeting</td> <td data-bbox="1203 1214 1385 1335">Renewable NI</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="277 1335 344 1469">6</td> <td data-bbox="344 1335 1203 1469">Renewable NI/Energy Storage Ireland and NIE Networks to set up a working group on ongoing P28 issues for battery connections</td> <td data-bbox="1203 1335 1385 1469">Renewable NI/NIE Networks</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="277 1469 344 1581">7</td> <td data-bbox="344 1469 1203 1581">Renewable NI to present on their latest report on NI pipeline</td> <td data-bbox="1203 1469 1385 1581">Renewable NI</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="277 1581 344 1715">8</td> <td data-bbox="344 1581 1203 1715">Combine CIWG and RGLG discussion – for further discussion within RGLG to determine how to progress. RNI take action to progress between meetings for agreement next meeting.</td> <td data-bbox="1203 1581 1385 1715">Group</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="277 1715 344 1839">9</td> <td data-bbox="344 1715 1203 1839">SONI to confirm status of Kilroot Battery - 10MW</td> <td data-bbox="1203 1715 1385 1839">SONI</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="277 1872 1086 1939">1. HG – Confirmed facilitated through SOS GT2 arrangement. RMcL – Proposed closing and agreed</p> | | 1 | SONI to confirm status of Kilroot Battery - 10MW | SONI | 2 | DfE to consider if we should consider if all interconnectors are good for NI. | DfE | 3 | Renewable NI and UFU to determine the expected levels of application NIE Networks may see when export opens | Renewable NI and UFU | 4 | Renewable NI to present on Dispatch down – Covered in todays meeting | Renewable NI | 5 | Renewable NI to send through battery report to DfE covered in todays meeting | Renewable NI | 6 | Renewable NI/Energy Storage Ireland and NIE Networks to set up a working group on ongoing P28 issues for battery connections | Renewable NI/NIE Networks | 7 | Renewable NI to present on their latest report on NI pipeline | Renewable NI | 8 | Combine CIWG and RGLG discussion – for further discussion within RGLG to determine how to progress. RNI take action to progress between meetings for agreement next meeting. | Group | 9 | SONI to confirm status of Kilroot Battery - 10MW | SONI |
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| | <p>2. KS – Considering procuring Research into interconnected, not gone forward as of yet. More information at next meeting. - Ongoing</p> <p>3. SA - Meeting with NIE re: SSG to be arranged with RNI LON – JH has taken over as Generation manager CO – Advised no numbers as yet re: SSG RM – 20-40 expected from Bio-Methane CHP units LON – Advised extensions will be required depending on number of jobs</p> <p>4. RMcL – proposed to close as on todays agenda - agreed</p> <p>5. SA – RNI to send through to LON. RMcL – proposed to close - agreed.</p> <p>6. LON – Working group set up and has kicked off.</p> <p>7. RMcL – proposed to close as on todays agenda - agreed</p> <p>8. LON – For further discussion with the group and to be determined within the RGLG. HG & KO'D – Confirmed this was what was agreed. SA – Important from RNI POV. RGLG would be main grou with various working groups reporting in. Suggested take off line and progress to be agreed at next RGLG. HG – Appeared to be a lot of overlap between RGLG and CIWG SA – Happy to bring forward from what WG RNI would be useful to sit under RGLG. Suggested have smaller meetings in between and circulate to RGLG group.</p> <p>9. HG – Confirmed facilitated through SOS GT2 arrangement. RMcL – Proposed closing and agreed</p> |
| <p>3</p> | <p>Renewables Status Update</p> <p>LON – Presented Slides Renewable Status Quarter 2 2023 and Storage status Quarter 2 2023. Improvement but will need to do more to meet our targets of 80% by 2030. Batteries – 210MW connected – 68MW committed A lot of contact from BESS developers.</p> <p>SA – In terms of timelines when is that 610MW expected to be connected?</p> <p>LON – Over the next probably 2-3 years. Some of that is connected to Cam cluster which could be 3-4 years away and the majority of it will be probably 2 years away. Most of the LSG offers went out mid-2022. With regards SSG Last year for example we issued 10 MW of export & 10 MW of zero export for small scale generation.</p> <p>SA – Customer queried connection in 2030, was that likely CAM</p> <p>LON – connections into newly formed S/S are likely to be this timescale. Timescales for new transmission assets have been extended and this is having an effect on delivery timelines.</p> |

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| | <p>Efforts are being made to negotiate quicker delivery timescales with manufacturers.</p> | <p>SONI</p> |
| <p>4</p> | <p>Update on Transmission Applications</p> <p>HG presented update on transmission Applications.</p> <p>HG – No significant changes from last update GT West Issued</p> <p>Limited change but Increase in BESS applications – Ballyvallagh, Ballylumford, Limavady. Increase in capacity from 50MW - 150MW</p> <p>Sync-Comp – applications to connect which will have minimal impact on existing offers.</p> <p>RDK –</p> <p>NS interconnector – 2026, likely to be 2027 with construction in 2024 Mid-Antrim – progressing well, on track for completion 2029 Omagh – Dromore uprate– Ongoing – Finished in next few weeks Drumnakelly – Tamnamore uprate – TNPP submitted. Completion 2029. Moyle Reinforcement – Acces full 500MW – submitted to UR – 2027 completion.</p> <p>Cam extension TNPP SOP Submission being drafted, to be submitted in coming months.</p> <p>Feeny cluster officially undesignated. SONI have ongoing investigations due to large number of potential connections. Could be a driver for Transmission cluster. Not likely delivered by 2030. Connections coming in over 50MW and therefore beyond NIE cluster methodology</p> <p>Mid Tyrone reinforcement – proposed Tamnamore – Dromore 110kV circuit. All bays at Tamnamore committed, needs to be extended to the north. TNPP required to purchase land, drafting TNPP at the moment.</p> <p>Larne & Limavady – Tx upgrades as fully subscribed. TNPP may be required at Limavady. Larne likely to proceed imminently.</p> <p>SA – Timelines go one direction. RNI published report looking to accelerate renewable connections. How can this be changed?</p> | |

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| | <p>RDK – Planning is a big factor. If planning areas came together this may reduce delays, not necessarily bring dates forward.</p> <p>SONI being allowed to develop the network ASAP.</p> <p>LON - NIE/SONI working group being set-up to look to lobby for change.</p> <p>RDK – RNI pipeline has been very helpful. Has highlighted to offer connections would be extremely hard with BAU.</p> | DfE |
| <p>5</p> | <p>CIWG – Consultation Update</p> <p>LON - SSG export – GoLive Nov 7th for both export and overinstall at same time. Better experience for the customer to prevent multiple applications After customer consultations and for smoother process overall.</p> <p>Aim to issue Joint NIE/SONI Overinstall decision paper by end of September.</p> | |
| <p>6</p> | <p>RNI</p> <p>RM – Keep monitoring curtailment levels Not a lot of wind May/June, Too much wind in July. Comparison between NI & ROI shows real constraint in NI when compared to ROI.</p> <p>Learning the constraints are real in NI. Lots of renewables and looking to export and currently limited by not having NS interconnector. Question is what do we do with our renewables?</p> <p>Moyle interconnector is importing from Scotland which is causing curtailment.</p> <p>RDK – Was Omagh – Dromore Restricting contribute to the curtailments?</p> <p>RM – Yes, although upgrades are something we are going to have to deal with going forward.</p> <p>LON – We don’t want NIE to be unattractive for investment. All this contributes towards the call for evidence.</p> <p>RM – Grandfathering constraint hasn’t gone away. It will be very expensive for the NI consumer. Need a working group put forward</p> | |

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| | <p>to consider support schemes. Constraints seem to be getting worse.</p> <p>RDK – LCIS Auction coming up – strong uptake. Will help relax minimum number of sets to be online. Advised BESS interest is high in the west.</p> <p>HG – Firm Access is an issue.</p> <p>RNI – Pipeline</p> <p>SA – Onshore Wind – 1.771 GW in planning Solar - 691 MW BESS – 1.6GW</p> <p>Various weightings applied</p> <p>Of 2.5GW that could be connected, if BAU was carried on then c700MW would be connected by 2030.</p> <p>LON – Energy Dashboard would be helpful to highlight the issues in reaching 2030.</p> <p>SA – Agree that a dashboard would be useful. Taskforce required to reduce timelines e.g. planning.</p> <p>LON – Do RNI have an idea of how much is coming out per year which would be useful for justification.</p> <p>SA – Can do portal projections through Energy Pulse. RNI to share what they have with NIE/SONI. Would be useful for NIE/SONI to have access to Energy Pulse. SA happy to facilitate this.</p> <p>Clean Energy</p> <p>Agree to shelve this to next meeting</p> <p>DfE – General Update/Energy Strategy Update</p> <p>KS ZC – Support Scheme – Following recent consultation, going to play key role in potential design it is going to be published by end of year. Ties in to energy action plan.</p> |

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| | <p>Offshore – Response to consultation is imminent, waiting on finalising to publish</p> <p>SCAHRA – scoping report out in September. On schedule for June 2024.</p> <p>Flexibility support ongoing.</p> <p>ET – Consultation on installation for offshore, is it separate? KS – Part of the ORAY working group.</p> |
| 7 | <p>AOB</p> <p><u>Demand into clusters</u></p> <p>KOD – submitted draft to UR, received questions back – Latest is UR to consult on changes.</p> <p>RMcL – UR needs to consult on this. Currently drafting a consultation document. Aiming to publish by Mid-October.</p> <p>KOD – how do we close off?</p> <p>RMcL – Agreed that conversation needs to be had.</p> <p>Overinstall</p> <p>KOD - Consultation paper back with overwhelming support. Aligned with Generation connections to Golive on 7th November. A bit more detail in regards to SONI, should be published September.</p> |

Summary of New Actions

| Action No. | Action Description | To be Actioned by |
|------------|---|----------------------|
| 1 | DfE to consider if we should consider if all interconnectors are good for NI – KS - Ongoing | DfE |
| 2 | Renewable NI and UFU to determine the expected levels of application NIE Networks may see when export opens – Meeting with NIE SSG to be ar | Renewable NI and UFU |
| 3 | Combine CIWG and RGLG discussion | Group |

Summary of Carried Actions

| Action No. | Action Description | To be Actioned by |
|------------|--|---------------------|
| 1 | Investigate developing “Energy Dashboard” (ongoing) to be moved to the CWIG agenda | NIE Networks / SONI |