

12th March 2013

Renewables Grid Liaison Group

Minutes of Meeting

Attendees	
Utility Regulator	Tanya Hedley (TH), Sarah Friedel (SF), Kevin O'Neill(KON), Brian ?
NIRIG	Michael Harper (MH), Meabh Cormacain (MC), Donogh O'Brien (DOB), Andy McCrea (AMC)
NIE	Robert Wasson (RW), David de Casseres(DdC), Gerry Hodgkinson (GH), Michael Atkinson (MA), Lisa McClean (LMC)
SONI	Dick Lewis (DL)
Apologies	See below

No	Item	Action
1	<p>Apologies Mervyn Adams sent his apologies for not being able to attend, however Andy McCrea attended in his place.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes from meeting on 23rd January It was confirmed by all that the minutes from the meeting on 23rd January were in order.</p> <p>Actions from meeting on 23rd January All actions were reviewed and a number of them were discussed further during the meeting. Any actions still ongoing were kept on the action list.</p>	
3	<p>Cluster Charging Update It was agreed that NIE should move forward to submit the SOC to the UR by 22 March. UR stated that the approval process could then be progressed by 29 March. NIE will continue to engage in parallel with NIRIG to see if there are any alternative solutions to resolve a concern raised by the industry around payment security. Once SOC is approved NIE to work towards getting requotes for 10 wind farms out.</p>	NIE
4	<p>Generation Connection – FAQ process The FAQ paper is now out for consultation and is due to close on the 12th of April. It was agreed that this should remain on the agenda for the meeting in May</p>	
5	<p>Fund 3/ MTP Utility Regulator Decision Paper There has been approval for a portion of the MTP. There has been no published response on Fund UR has requested that NIE produce an indicative programme timeline for each project within 'Fund 3' similar to what EirGrid produced for CER. UR plan to publish this on their website. This should be sent to SONI and UR for approval before circulation.</p>	NIE
6	<p>Offshore Consultation Offshore consultation paper has been issued by the UR for a 3 month consultation. The UR stated that however that some points may need further consultation. Both NIE and NIRIG have not yet been able to review the paper in detail. It was agreed that a 2hour meeting should be set up in Mid/End of April to</p>	UR

No	Item	Action
	provide a forum for discussion on the consultation.	
7	<p>Small Scale Generation – 11kV Network Access</p> <p>NIE confirmed to the group that, whilst it will continue with consideration of alternative connection options for generators, this is likely to take some time to progress and should not be considered as a ‘quick fix’ solution. NIE confirmed that updates had been issued to the industry in February and March to this effect; with these updates available on the NIE website.</p> <p>NIE confirmed further that it was not able to facilitate an arrangement whereby applications were “parked” whilst alternative connection options were being considered. NIE will however endeavour to identify at an early stage if an applicant connection cost will be excessive and will alert applicants if this is the case.</p> <p>NIE noted that a workshop was being arranged for April and an expectation that this workshop would have both technical and strategic representatives. It was also felt that the UR and DETI should to be involved so that any roadmap to consider alternatives would take on board the UR and DETI views in order to make an informed decision.</p> <p>NIRIG asked NIE to consider an approach adopted in Scotland. NIE indicted their belief that there were different context factors in Northern Ireland but would consider further.</p> <p>The UR informed NIE that a company had been in contact with them as they had some issues with NIE connection processes and costs. NIE stated that they would be happy to discuss these issues with the company. UR to pass details of company and their concerns after getting their agreement, to NIE.</p>	UR/NIE
8	<p>Rebate policy extending beyond domestic customers</p> <p>UR in discussion with DETI. No timelines committed to yet.</p> <p>UR to provide timelines for this by next meeting.</p>	UR
9	<p>AOB</p> <p><u>Renewable Level Report Format</u></p> <p>SONI and NIE provided an updated renewable level report for the group’s consideration.</p> <p>The following was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should include previous and projected future year’s renewable levels in the form of a graph • It was agreed that there is better visibility both past and future of large scale generation than small scale generation • Only projects in construction or with planning approval should be projected • Demand figures within the SONI’s Seven Year Generation Statement should be used to estimate future renewable generation as a percentage achieved. • Two additional rows should be added to Projected Generation connections table i.e. known offshore generation levels and others (i.e. small scale) • A footnote should be added to explain that certain figures are 	SONI/NIE

No	Item	Action
	<p>cumulative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to ensure that the figures quoted agree with DETI figures • NIE to circulate updated report in two weeks. The Group to review this within a week. Once agreement is reached it should be published on UR website. <p><u>DETI Request to RGLG Group</u></p> <p>DETI have asked the UR if they could have an observer role within the RGLG.</p> <p>It was agreed by the group that the UR should invite DETI to be either an observer or member of the RGLG group. DETI should indicate which role they wish to take up in their response.</p> <p><u>Ulster Farmers</u></p> <p>Ulster Farmers have requested to the UR to become a member of the RGLG group, however the UR has not yet received this request formally.</p> <p>NIE have no objections to this, NIRIG to contact the Ulster Farmers.</p> <p>The UR to wait until they have received a formal request.</p> <p><u>Timing of Minutes</u></p> <p>NIRIG requested that minutes are published within 2 weeks of the meeting as TOR. NIE apologies for the lateness of last months minutes and agreed that the minutes should be published within 2 weeks.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>UR</p> <p>NIRIG</p> <p>NIE</p>
10	<p>Dates for next meetings</p> <p>Dates agreed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 14th May 2013 ▪ 9th July 2013 ▪ 10th Sept 2013 ▪ 12 Nov 2013 	

No	Item	Action
1.	Provide some worked examples which indicate when payment securities are required	NIE
2.	Submit SOC to UR by 22 March	NIE
3.	SOC to be approved by UR by 29 March	UR
4.	Consideration of alternative solution to address payment security issue	NIRIG
5.	Once methodology is approved, work towards getting re-quotes for 10 wind farms out	NIE
6.	UR to pass details of company that raised concerns regarding NIE generation connection processes and charges to NIE	UR
7.	NIE to get in contact with above company regarding these issues	NIE
8.	Provide timelines for rebate policy by next meeting	UR
9.	Make suggested amendments to Renewable Level Table before circulating to group for approval	SON/NIE
10.	Group to review updated Renewable Level Table and provide feedback within one week	NIRIG/UR
11.	Publish Renewable Level Table on UR website once it is approved	UR
12.	UR to invite DETI to be either an observer or member of the RGLG group. UR to indicate that DETI should state which role they wish to take up in their response	UR
13.	NIRIG to contact Ulster Farmers	NIRIG
14.	Minutes to be issued within 2 weeks of RGLG meeting	NIE
15.	UR to raise the issue that ROC information provided is out of date with the relevant people	UR
16.	Produce a report setting out status of renewables projects in the same format as EIRGRIDs report	NIE