

5th February 2019

Renewables Grid Liaison Group

Minutes of Meeting No28

FINAL

Attendees	
Utility Regulator	Roisin McLaughlin (RML) Aidan Girvan (AG) Jody O'Boyle (JO'B) Orla Gray (OG)
NIRIG	Meabh Cormacain (MC) Rory Mullan (RM) Andy McCrea (AMcC) – Via Phone
NIE Networks	Brian Moorhead (BM) Mark McAleer (MM) David McDonald (DMcD) Lisa O'Neill (LO'N) – Via Phone David Hill (DH)
SONI	Helen Gallagher (HG) Louis Fisher (LF) Ronan Kernan (RK)
Department for the Economy - Energy Decarbonisation Division	Kelly McKenna (KMK)
NISTA	No attendee
Offshore Representative	No attendee
Ulster Farmers Union	John Watt (JW) Gary Hawkes (GH)
Energy Storage Representative	No attendee
DP Energy	Sara Armstrong (SA)
Energia	No attendee
Amber Green Energy	Neil O'Brien (NO'B)

No	Item	Action
1	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Tanya Hedley - UR Chris Osbourne – UFU Kelly McKenna – DfE Raymond Smyth - SONI Karen O’Doherty - SONI</p>	
2	<p>Minutes/Updates from last meeting</p> <p>DMcD – Update from DfE included in 2nd Draft of minutes.</p> <p>Actions from previous meeting</p> <p>Action 1 Provide an update on 2018 generation connected and committed slide</p> <p><i>Complete – Quarterly update required</i></p> <p>Action 2 Further update on the changes being introduced to NI due to the adoption of G98 and G99 standards once the new processes are implemented in D Code</p> <p><i>Complete – Update required at next meeting</i></p> <p>Action 3 Arrange a meeting between NIE Networks and the UFU to discuss the SCADA enforcement process</p> <p><i>Complete</i></p> <p>Action 4 Give an update on the progress of the meeting between NIE Networks and the SCADA sub-group of the UFU concerning the SCADA enforcement process at the next RGLG meeting</p> <p><i>Complete</i></p> <p>Action 5 Undertake a review of all currently existing groups to consider where there is overlap in their Terms of References</p> <p><i>Complete – Group members decided by current members.</i></p> <p>Action 6 Discuss with Queens University and Energy Suppliers the prospect of joining the RGLG group.</p> <p><i>Ongoing – Terms of reference shared with energy suppliers, multi suppliers. One supplier rep TBC.</i></p> <p>Action 7 Queens University to be contacted to discuss their inclusion in group.</p> <p><i>Ongoing - Queens University and UUJ to be invited to present but not as members.</i></p>	<p>NIE Networks</p> <p>NIE Networks</p> <p>NIE Networks/UFU</p> <p>NIE Networks/UFU</p> <p>UR</p> <p>UR</p> <p>UR</p>

No	Item	Action
	<p>Action 8 Investigate developing “Energy Dashboard”</p> <p><i>Ongoing – NIE Networks capacity map in the test environment.</i></p> <p>Action 9 An update on the access to Generation information.</p> <p><i>Ongoing - NIE Networks and UR have had some interactions – Looking at amending the licence conditions for NIE Networks to provide information.</i></p> <p>Action 10 UR and SONI to publish SONI sensitivities result on achieving the 40% RES target</p> <p><i>Ongoing – SONI identifying assumptions</i></p> <p>Action 11 Updated ToR for CIWG to be presented to RGLG</p> <p><i>Complete</i></p> <p>Action 12 RGLG invitations to be sent out for 2019</p>	<p>NIE Networks/ SONI</p> <p>NIE Networks/ UR</p> <p>UR/SONI</p> <p>NIE Networks/ SONI</p> <p>UR/ NIE Networks</p>
3	<p>Renewables Status Update</p> <p>Presentation (Slide 2) by DMcD.</p> <p>DMcD - As things are a little more settled this is being provided every quarter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1651MW now connected, and split as outlined. Some increase in mix technology schemes. • 207MW to connect. These will be in relation to the Kells and Agivey clusters and some smaller connections. • This will take us to 1858MW. Still some movement in this space. <p>GH – Asked for SONI’s view on the mix and how would they likely to see things moving on. LF – SONI have to be careful to be technology neutral. They can’t say they prefer one technology over another. Non Synchronous is a challenge but the DS3 programme is all about managing to operate with those high levels of generators coming through converters.</p> <p>MC – Asked if the charts are being broken down by scale as well. DMcD – Can provide that breakdown. LO’N – Been working on a ghost chart showing the breakdown of LSG, SSG and micro but not the technology.</p> <p>DH – Regarding small scale, there is total of just under 400MW of SSG connected. Wind has 180MW, Solar 110 MW and the rest is split across anaerobic, biogas, CHP and small hydro. (Solar is domestic level solar).</p>	

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4	<p>Update on Transmission Applications</p> <p>Presentation (Slides 8-9) by HG</p> <p>Current Applications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50MW large scale battery application being processed <p>Offers Issued</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100MW Battery • 100MW Data Centre • Agivey Section S • 42MW Wind Farm • 138.6MW Wind Farm • 489.6MW Belfast Power Limited • 2x50MW Battery <p>MC – Asked if these issued offers have been accepted.</p> <p>HG – There’s a number of them having issues around planning permission being granted. SONI can’t accept offer until planning is approved.</p>	
5	<p>Consultation Update</p> <p>Presentation (Slide 5) by DMcD.</p> <p>DMcD – The date has been confirmed as Thursday 29th Feb to firm up on terms of reference. Looking at the potential of non firm offers for distribution offers. When NIE Networks had large queues they had 1800MW in the pipe line, however this would have had a big impact on constraint and curtailment. NIE Networks are working through this with industry. May have a consultation off the back of this.</p> <p>LF – Stated there’s no limit on transmission applications. This will impact on constraints. All these things should be considered.</p> <p>MC – Suggested meetings for the whole year are scheduled. LF – Dates will be agreed at the first meeting.</p>	
6	<p>DfE – General Update</p> <p>KMK – In terms of the NIRO DfE are continuing to work with UR and OFGEM to investigate the media allegations into AD. The northern Ireland audit office is going to carry out a fact finding investigation into the NIRO. They may look at ROCs in general with a specific focus on AD. The DfE is committed to undertaking a post project review of the NIRO. The review will look at how successful the NIRO was in terms of meeting policy objectives and value for money to the consumer.</p>	

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	<p>KMK – DfE issued a tender to look at commissioning a piece of research into future renewables policy in NI. They have received a number of tenders. Hoping to award contract in the next number of days. This will help inform the energy strategy.</p> <p>JW – Asked if there was a possibility the ROCs will be cut. KMK – Replied that they won't as the NIRO is closed. The review will look at how successful the NIRO has been.</p> <p>NO'B – The price of ROCs has increased by about 20% in the last 2 years. It will be interesting to see how the audits take on the investigation. No malpractice that they can see.</p> <p>KMK – One of the media allegations was that the ROCs were set 4 times than in GB for AD. Looking back when it was set, it was the same as the FIT tariff at the time. It so happens they progressed the deployment levels a lot earlier, so they cut the tariff whereas the NIRO closed.</p>	
7	<p>Contestability Update</p> <p>Distribution</p> <p>Presentation (Slide 6) by BM</p> <p>BM – There are 20 connections built and adopted. Another 60 in the pipeline.</p> <p>JW – Asked how many ICPs can do work in NI. BM – There's about 30 registered for NI. You can see the list on the NERS website.</p> <p>MC – Asked for an assessment into whether connection costs have reduced as a result of contestability. BM – You would need a sufficient body of data. 20 may not be enough atm.</p> <p>JO'B – We will have to engage with the ICPs. RML – Would be useful to do.</p> <p>JW – Some members were annoyed that contestability opened around the same time the NIRO closed. DMcD – Not everything is contestable. A lot of the SSG jobs were line upgrade. The only bit that was contestable is the line to the turbine. NIE Networks still carry out the refurb of the existing network.</p> <p>JO'B – It is UR's intention to review after a number of years. There may be further elements that may become contestable, but only when the market matures.</p>	

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	<p>Transmission</p> <p>LF – Contestability is open, but it is impractical at the moment. Both NIE Networks and SONI have made a commitment to reach an agreement by April.</p>	
8	<p>Network Development/ATR Update</p> <p>Presentation (Slides 7-10) by RK.</p> <p>RK gave a presentation on Transmission Development Plan (TDP) 2018 – 2027 and the Northwest Phase Angle Issue.</p> <p>RK – Consultation ended last Thursday, received 10 responses, 3 of which were on the environmental side. SONI Can't go into detail on responses now, but will publish them all and respond themselves. SONI will liaise with UR on next steps.</p> <p>RK - Starting on next round of TDP.</p> <p>JO'B – As soon as UR get the recommendation report from SONI they will also be issuing a consultation.</p> <p>RM – Asked if there was an opportunity to have the consultations at the same time. JOB – Stated they we're looking at this.</p> <p>RK – SONI produced a report which they are finalising regarding the North West phase angle issue. They will share this with UR and department shortly. It will highlight the expected magnitude of the problem and potential mitigation.</p>	
9	<p>Operational Update</p> <p>RoCoF Update</p> <p>Presentation (Slides 11-19) by DH.</p> <p><u>Large Scale Generation</u></p> <p>DH – All LSG connections have been compliant from mid December. This equates to 1120MW of generation. Total of 68 LSG sites.</p> <p><u>Small scale generation</u></p> <p>DH - Letters went out 1st June 2018. SSG owners are required to make changes by 30th September this year. c1500 letters sent out. As of today NIE Networks have 1185 acknowledgements, however c285 still to acknowledge either letter.</p> <p>DH – Progress has levelled off around January. Total to date completed is 288 (21.1%). There may be a few putting it off to nearer the deadline date.</p> <p>KMK – Asked if the cost is holding owners back. DH – Been told cost can be in and around £500-£1,000.</p> <p>JW – UFU will put an advertisement in the local farming press. May be a factor that with the wind picking up they may not want to go off. People he has been talking to are booked in.</p> <p>GH – Has booked in but there is a 3 month waiting list. UFU will be</p>	

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	<p>informing their members that this is an ASAP job and that there is a waiting list for the work.</p> <p>DMcD – Asked if there was any way we would know that people have booked their work. DH – We did have a loose forward working plan. Did give comfort that those that acknowledged letters had booked their contractors.</p> <p>DH – 3rd letter sent to those that haven't acknowledged. There will be letters out to other 900 who have acknowledged but haven't settings done yet.</p> <p>RMG – Recommended asking them in the letter whether they've a contractor booked.</p> <p>DH – 4 information evenings have been organised. These will be provided to the generators – UFU will also publish it on the farmers press.</p> <p>SSG SCADA Update</p> <p>DH – Still continuing to work through application of small-scale SCADA. Certainly not pushing it as much as the ROCOF has taken precedence.</p> <p>JW – Requested a SCADA specific meeting with the UFU as per action 3 above.</p>	
10	<p>General Update and Membership</p> <p>JO'B - Under the review of the existing groups there are gaps in terms of representatives. Group members are decided by members of the group. JO'B asked members whether there are further members they would like to invite. Suggested that we could bring Universities in to give a presentation to the group as it may not be beneficial to have them as full time attendees.</p> <p>JO'B – ERIG asked about the group and terms of reference. They were pointed to previous minutes. Multiple suppliers were interested. One rep would be enough as table is quite full. It's back with them to see who they want to represent on the board.</p>	
11	<p>EU Network Codes</p> <p>Presentation (Slides 20-28) by DH.</p> <p>DH – EU introduced 8 network codes, impacting all aspects of the industry, with a view of trying to align all requirements across all member states. 3 member codes directly impact system operators.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requirements for generators. • Demand connection code. • System operation guidelines. <p>DH – 27th April 2019 is when RFG must be complied with both by system operators and generators connecting. Any generator connecting after the 27th April this year must comply with RFG, which is now EU law.</p>	

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	<p>DH – NIE Networks and SONI went out to consultation last year to consult on parameters. Was approved by UR on 16th November 2018. These parameters have been updated into new documents NIE Networks have produced for Generators connecting into the network. (G98/NI, G99/NI, D Code and PPM setting schedule documents.) These documents are subject to a public consultation which closes 15th Feb 2019. Hoping to have approved documents in for 27th April.</p> <p>DH – Important to note, RFG only impacts new generators connecting after 27th April.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G98/NI replaces G83 • G99/NI replaces G59/1/NI • D-code legal text changes required to take account of RFG. <p>DMcD – Connections looking into G99 fast track.</p>	
12	<p>AOB</p> <p>DMcD – Proposes to reduce the circulation list just to attendees as the minutes are published on the website.</p>	
13	<p>Dates of 2019 Meetings</p> <p>First Tuesday of May, September and December at 10 o'clock</p>	

Summary of Actions

Action No.	Action Description	To be Actioned by
1	Provide update on 2018 generation connected and committed slide. <i>On May meeting agenda</i>	NIE Networks
2	Further update on the changes being introduced to NI due to the adoption of G98 and G99 standards once the new processes are implemented in D Code. <i>Presentation once complete for next meeting</i>	NIE Networks
3	Discuss with Energy Suppliers the prospect of joining the RGLG group.	UR
4	Universities to be contacted to discuss presenting to the group.	UR
5	Sensitivity analysis on current figures to be circulated within group	SONI
6	Investigate developing "Energy Dashboard"	NIEN/SONI
7	An update on the access to Generation information.	NIE Networks/UR
8	A timeline on the answer to access to Generation information.	NIEN/UR
9	Updated ToR for CIWG to be presented to RGLG <i>On May meeting agenda</i>	NIE Networks/SONI
10	RGLG invitations to be sent out for 2019	UR/NIE Networks