

4th September 2018

Renewables Grid Liaison Group

Minutes of Meeting No26

Attendees	
Utility Regulator	Tanya Hedley (TH) Aidan Girvan (AG)
NIRIG	Meabh Cormacain (MC) Rory Mullan (RM) Andy McCrea (AMcC)
NIE Networks	Brian Moorhead (BM) Mark McAleer (MM) David McDonald (DMcD) Lisa O'Neill (LO'N) Ian Craig (IC)
SONI	Helen Gallagher (HG) Louis Fisher (LF) Ronan Kernan (RK) Raymond Smyth (RS) Karen O'Doherty (KO'D)
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 (NO'B)

No	Item	Action
1	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Chris Osbourne – UFU Kelly McKenna – DfE</p>	
2	<p>Minutes/Updates from last meeting</p> <p>TH suggested as the DfE were not present the draft minutes would approved subject to Departmental review.</p> <p>Actions from previous meeting</p> <p>Action 1 Circulate presentation slides from the 25th RGLG meeting to the RGLG mailing list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Complete</i> <p>Action 2 Forward new NIE Networks Export Limitation Policy (based on G100) to RGLG mailing list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Complete</i> <p>Action 3 Present 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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Update for next meeting with view to a further presentation once complete</i> <p>Action 4 Arrange a meeting between NIE Networks and the UFU to discuss the SCADA enforcement process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ongoing</i> <p>Action 5 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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ongoing</i> <p>Action 6 Provide an update on liability issues in contestability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Complete – Covered in Agenda</i> <p>Action 7 Provide a link to the slide deck used at the Battery Storage Workshop on the 15th May 2018 to the RGLG mailing list</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Complete</i> <p>Action 8 Circulate a new department organisational structure once all new team members have joined the Department</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ongoing</i> <p>Action 9 Undertake a review of all currently existing groups to consider where there is overlap in their Terms of References</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ongoing</i> 	<p>DfE</p> <p>NIE Networks</p> <p>NIEN/UFU</p> <p>NIEN/UFU</p> <p>SONI DfE</p> <p>UR</p>

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	<p>Action 10 Send a list of companies asking to join the RGLG to the mailing list. Anyone with objections or comments on any of the companies should respond within a given timeline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>No responses received</i> <p>TH had spoken to Joanne Quinn (Phoenix Gas) and it was agreed that their inclusion wouldn't add any value. UR is considering holding a workshop for interested parties in relation to bio-gas developments. Most likely to happen early next year. Queens University haven't been approached yet. TH will engage with Patrick Keatley (UUJ) directly, before the next meeting, to discuss their inclusion. UR are going to approach supply companies via ongoing forums to determine whether it would be appropriate to be included.</p> <p>MC – is there a timeframe for reviewing existing groups and could NIRIG offer any assistance. TH will engage with NIRIG as part of the process and try to set up a meeting in October.</p>	UR
3	<p>Renewables Status Update</p> <p>Presentation (Slides 3-4) by LO'N.</p> <p>The figures presented were collated for the 31st August 2018</p> <p>c1638MW of renewable generation has been connected.</p> <p>c158MW committed to connect.</p> <p>c1796MW of renewable generation is connected and committed to connect.</p> <p>Presentation (Slides 5-6) by LF.</p> <p>Assuming all technologies shown are connected and operate at expected capacity factors an output of 4244GWhs is predicted. This will exceed 40% of the predicted energy requirement (9170GWhs). The output figure assumes a curtailment/constraint level of 5%.</p> <p>A discussion was had around the difference in figures produced by SONI, NIE Networks and DfE. SONI stated they could introduce a sensitivity factor that took into account only connected projects. These figures would not be for general release as they could be misleading if the sensitivity factor was misunderstood or ignored.</p> <p>MC gave a specific example where a review of local council development plans where some references are being made to the achieving and in one case achieved the 40% target. This could impact planning decisions at council level.</p> <p>It was agreed that it was important to ensure that any published figures from all parties were conveying a consistent message. It was also agreed the importance of not taking a single year in isolation.</p> <p>SONI agreed, in light of the data now available, to reconsider the capacity factors being used for each technology.</p> <p>JW stated that a high number of UFU members are asking about battery storage and he was enquiring as to NIE Networks position.</p>	SONI

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	<p>DMcD commented that the technology was in its infancy with regards to energy storage on the network. This has been reflected in that there have been numerous enquiries but to date no applications have been made. However, NIEN have been doing internal work in preparation for any change to this situation and are very keen to assist the industry as the technology develops.</p> <p>KO'D explained battery technology wasn't considered at the start of DS3 (2011/2012).</p> <p>Post Meeting Note: Battery storage is considered a proven technology for some DS3 System Services, a full list of proven technologies can be found at www.eirgridgroup.com/site-files/library/EirGrid/DS3-System-Services-Proven-Technology-Types.pdf</p> <p>NO'B explained in the ROI there was a c€4000 grant available for residential connections that install a battery system along side the solar installation. This was only announced in August so the full impact isn't yet known.</p> <p>RM asked if NIEN and SONI could develop a "customer friendly" energy dashboard.</p>	<p>NIEN/SONI</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Update on Transmission Applications</p> <p>Current Applications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 large scale battery (30MW) – at application check stage • 1 large scale wind farm (140MW) - with NIEN pending Construction Offer • 1 large scale conventional plant (489MW) - with NIEN pending Construction Offer <p>Offers Issued</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100MW Battery • Modification to Wind Farm • 100MW Data Centre • 42MW Wind Farm • Kells Cluster Section S • Agivey Section S 	
<p>5</p>	<p>Consultation Update</p> <p>Presentation (Slides 8-10) by LO'N.</p> <p>The <i>Next Steps</i> paper was issued by NIEN on 29th June 2018. The main output was the formation of a Connections Innovation Working Group. Expression of interest called for on 27th July 2018. This closed on 7th September 2018 (received 10 responses). Membership to be announced in the coming week – make up to be 3 NIEN, 3 SONI, 6 Industry, IUR, 1</p>	

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	<p>DfE. Kick-off meeting pencilled in for end September.</p> <p>The question on who could have access to Generation information was still being discussed between NIEN and the UR. A timeline to be produced for next meeting.</p> <p>The Connections Innovation Working Group was not going to cover rebates. There is an ongoing process between NIEN/SONI and UR.</p> <p>MC – stated that NIRIG had been in communication with DfE and are asking that be a review of the legislation to enable more flexible policy making. Rebates are a good example as this was first raised in 2012.</p>	<p>NIEN/UR</p> <p>NIEN/UR</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>DfE – General Update</p> <p>No representative was available to attend and sent through the following note.</p> <p><i>Ongoing restructuring within Energy Division has resulted in the creation of three new Energy Divisions covering Energy Strategy and Clean Energy Package (Joe Reynolds); Infrastructure, Renewables and Energy Efficiency (Thomas Byrne); and, EU Exit (June Ingram). Revised organisation charts can be provided when vacancies have been filled.</i></p> <p><i>Noel Lavery, Permanent Secretary of DfE, is keen that the current hiatus on Energy Strategy is brought to a close. As such, Departmental officials will be speaking at two upcoming energy events in September - the University of Ulster Northern Ireland Future Energy Systems Event on 20 September and NI Energy Forum 2018 on 27 September. Following this the Department will increase its stakeholder engagement to help inform a future strategy</i></p> <p>TH stated that it was the URs understanding Noel Lavery was intending to speak on 20th September which is seen as a very positive indication. Jenny Pyper would also be speaking at the same event.</p> <p>Kevin Shields will be speaking at the NI Energy Forum.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>Contestability Update</p> <p>Distribution</p> <p>BM – contestability now live for distribution connections as of 28th March 2018.</p> <p>c20 projects have now been opted to be undertaken by ICPs. c27 ICPs are now registered to operate in NI.</p> <p>ICP portal is on-line. Have had good feedback so far from users.</p> <p>TH – asked that the UR be informed of the first contestable connection to</p>	<p>NIEN</p>

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	<p>be energised. BM – stated that it is expected by the end of September.</p> <p>AMcC asked if, in time, there would a saving in time and money. TH suggested that the UR would carry out a review of contestability in NI at an appropriate time.</p> <p>RM – asked whether timelines would be tracked. BM confirmed that data was being recorded that would allow this analysis. TH stated that the results on how contestability is performing would eventually be published.</p> <p>Transmission</p> <p>HG – NIEN have shared a draft of the transmission guidelines and SONI are working through those at present. SONI to respond shortly.</p> <p>On TIA issues SONI and NIEN have been working together on those. Next step is to have a meeting with NIEN, SONI and UR. Still to be arranged. There will be a public consultation on the remaining outstanding issues. TH stated that it was hoped to be published by end October.</p>	
8	<p>Network Development/ATR Update</p> <p>Presentation (Slides 12-17) by RK.</p> <p>RK gave a presentation on Transmission Development Plan (TDP) 2018 – 2027 and the Northwest Phase Angle Issue.</p> <p>Both the draft TDP and the draft Strategic Environmental Assessment are due to be published for consultation this month and will be available on the SONI website.</p> <p>Ongoing dynamic studies are been conducted to confirm that a 20 degree phase angle is the safe limit. Latest analyses of the phase angle studies anticipate an issue 2% of time in 2025, depending on certain variable factors. RK/RS talked through a number of scenarios and how these would affect the security of supply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability of reserve post fault • Re-Dispatch of generation • High wind speeds / faults • Constraints on wind generation • Weather conditions • Run back / Spinning reserve • “Must Run” conditions <p>SONI confirmed that the analysis would form part of the kick-off meeting of the Connections Innovation Working Group.</p> <p>MC asked what link was between the draft TDP and any future scenarios work and when considering last years EirGrid future scenarios study that didn't include NI but proposed it would NI in the next iteration. RS said it was hoped that the energy scenarios for Northern Ireland would be in place for consultation in the summer of 2019 but that these would not be</p>	

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	<p>processed in the 2019 TDPNI, which would have an earlier freeze date. If the scenarios are developed by summer 2019 it is expected that these would be taken into account in the 2020 TDPNI.</p> <p>TH stated that it was the UR's intention to engage with NIEN and SONI to look at scenario planning for NI.</p> <p>MC asked if this was as an all island approach. TH stated there was no all island approach as it was not a SEM committee matter. It was a Northern Ireland matter only.</p> <p>MC stated she had a concern that there would be two separate approaches that would not make any sense when looked at as an all island grid and market basis. TH stated that the UR does not consider it an all island grid.</p> <p>RS updated the group on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Omagh-Omagh South has now been approved and it at the functional spec stage • Ballylumford – Eden also approved, functional spec with NIEN <p>RM asked what stage the stage is the Coolkeeragh - Trillick line was at. RS stated it was under review but not expected this year.</p>	
9	<p>Operational Update</p> <p>RoCoF Update</p> <p>Presentation (Slides 18-26) by DMcD.</p> <p><u>Large Scale Generation</u></p> <p>96% of Large Scale Generation changed to new settings. 5 sites still to change and these expected before end October.</p> <p><u>Small scale generation</u></p> <p>C1500 Letters requesting changes sent out 1st June 2018.</p> <p>Changes required by 30th September 2019.</p> <p>G59 contractor technical workshop completed. Briefing sessions held with interested parties, UFU, NIRIG, RGLG. UFU to include article in the Farming Life newspaper. Further briefing sessions will be held with owners of multiple SSG sites. 20 companies own 25% of SSG capacity</p> <p>65% SSG owners have responded to say they have received the notification.</p> <p>21 sites complete</p> <p>Next step is top engage with contractors to agree programme and review those who didn't respond.</p> <p>SSG SCADA Update</p> <p>600+ sites requiring SCADA or Telemetry</p> <p>1 SCADA Site Acceptance Test certificate issued</p> <p>300+ generic 'reminder' letters issued - 7 responses</p> <p>10 Enforcement notices issued to HVCs late summer - 4 responses</p> <p>41 LV enforcement notices issued since November - 4 responses</p>	

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	<p>51 enforcement notices issued for 2017/2018(Q1)</p> <p>2018 used as a development year to bring customers and installers up to speed on SCADA requirements.</p> <p>Development year also allows NIE Networks to refine internal processes</p> <p>Process ramps up after 2018 getting all sites connected within RP6</p> <p>NIEN to update UFU as per Action 5 above.</p>	
10	<p>General Update and Membership</p> <p>Covered under Action 10 above</p>	
11	<p>AOB</p> <p>MC – Kieran O’Malley is no longer employed by Open Hydro and will not be representing Marine/Off Shore. NIRIG will discuss with its members to see if an alternative representative can be put forward.</p> <p>KO’D notified the group that SONI have published a detailed SNSP policy document and is available on the SONI web site.</p> <p>DMcD notified the group that on Friday 14th September NIEN were holding a call for evidence workshop on Greater Access to the Distribution Network in NI. Those wishing to attend can register via NIEN website.</p>	
12	<p>Dates of 2018/19 Meetings</p> <p>TBC</p>	UR

Summary of Actions

Action No.	Action Description	To be Actioned by
1	<p>Present 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>Update for next meeting with view to a further presentation once complete</i></p>	NIE Networks
2	Arrange a meeting between NIE Networks and the UFU to discuss the SCADA enforcement process	NIE Networks/UFU
3	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	NIE Networks/UFU
4	Undertake a review of all currently existing groups to consider where there is overlap in their Terms of References	UR
5	Discuss with Queens University and Energy Suppliers the prospect of joining the RGLG group.	UR
6	Queens University to be contacted to discuss their inclusion in group.	UR
7	<p>Supply companies to be engaged via ongoing forums to determine whether it would be appropriate to be included.</p> <p>UR to engage with NIRIG as part of the process and try to set up a meeting in October.</p>	UR
8	Sensitivity analysis on current figures to be circulated within group	SONI
9	Investigate developing “Energy Dashboard”	NIEN/SONI
10	A timeline on the answer to access to Generation information.	NIEN/UR
11	UR to be informed of when the first contestable connection is	NIEN

	energised	
12	Date/s of next meeting/s	UR