

# Connection Customer Steering Group

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## Notes from the meeting held 20th June 2017 at WPD's Gloucester office

### Present:

Nicki Barnett – Power Systems UK  
Mark Boyce – UCSM Ltd  
Stuart Cox – TUSC Ltd  
Simon Deacon – RES Group  
Merlin Hyman – Regen SW  
Steve McElveen – SMS Ltd  
Aidan Morris – Lightsource  
Mike Smith – Morrison Utility Connections  
Hugh Taylor – Roadnight Taylor

Robert Symons – WPD Chief Executive  
Graham Halladay – WPD Network Services Manager  
Alison Sleightholm – WPD Regulation & Government Affairs Manager  
Tony Berndes – WPD Primary System Design Manager  
Matt Watson – WPD Innovation & Low Carbon Networks Engineer  
Richard Allcock – WPD Connection Policy Engineer

### 1. Introduction

Alison Sleightholm introduced the agenda for the day.

### 2. Roadnight Taylor's view of WPD

Hugh Taylor presented Roadnight Taylor's view of what WPD does well, what WPD does less well and what other DNOs are doing that they like.

WPD actions:

- WPD will review policy on export capping - both in terms of the amount that WPD will allow a transformer to export compared to its nameplate rating and also in regard to the ratio WPD require to be maintained between import/export and provide an update by the next meeting.
- UKPN have started a 'deep connect and manage' arrangement with National Grid for the management of transmission system constraints where payments are made via a market for being constrained. Hugh asked if WPD could be the first to undertake this at a distribution system level.
  - WPD are undertaking a similar approach for transmission constraints in the S.West
  - WPD to consider whether this could be undertaken at distribution system level
- WPD to investigate if the online costing tool in WPD's ICE workplan can be extended to include EHV schemes
- WPD's curtailment information for ANM connection offers is very good, can this be improved even further?

- Update: WPD are currently developing software to improve the speed and consistency in modelling the ANM curtailment information, which can be rolled out across all ANM locations. This software creates a platform for further development and improvements in the provision of this information.

## **2. Chief Executive's Update**

Robert Symons gave an update on WPD's RIIO-ED1 performance in 2016/17, WPD's ICE workplan, the transition to DSO and the outcome of the UK General Election. This was followed by a Q&A.

WPD actions:

- Robert Symons will present a session on WPD's DSO consultation at the next workshop.

## **3. Incentive on Connections Engagement Update**

Alison Sleightholm presented an update to WPD's ICE incentive report submission – how we did in 2016/17 and our workplan for 2017/18. A comparison with other DNOs' work plans was also preened and feedback was invited from the group on any initiatives in the other DNO's ICE work plans the group believe WPD should be undertaking as a priority.

WPD actions:

- Provide a session at the next CCSG workshop in October on connections for battery storage, focussing on contractual and technical policy as well as an overview of related innovation projects.
- WPD to look at mechanism which facilitates the sharing of generator names affected by outages to allow a consortium approach to the single point of contact in WPD.
- Add new category to the capacity register on the WPD website so that it shows 'awaiting offer' in addition to the offered/accepted/connected categories.

## **4. Information on Capacity Available for Generation & Demand Customers**

Graham Halladay and Tony Berndes presented on the proposed improvements to the WPD capacity map and demonstrated with a mock-up of the new functionality. CCSG members were able to try-out the tool on iPads and provide their feedback on forms provided. Additional feedback from the group resulted in the additional actions below.

WPD actions:

- Add information box to various descriptors in the tool i.e. if it states that a transformer has recorded a demand of 100kW can we state if this is the maximum or average.
  - Also investigate whether we can provide maximum and minimum values
- Investigate whether the tool can allow the user to view what BSPs are connected to what GSPs and what primaries are connected to what BSPs etc. on the geographic view and with a filter function.
- Investigate whether the tool could show reverse power flow on a transformer.
- Email out the link to the application test site with a PSD email address for feedback.

## **5. WPD Innovation**

Matt Watson presented on the WPD Innovation projects currently in progress on alternative connections for demand and on demand side response with project Entire / Flexible Power.

WPD actions:

- Investigate the potential for the control provided by project Entire (or similar) to be used for 'just-in-time' constraints so that WPD would control the generator for the purpose of commencing and resuming the planned outage.

## 6. Wrap up – Summary and Next Steps

Alison Sleightholm summarised the output from the day and the plans for future meetings.

WPD actions:

- Send out meeting dates and diary placeholders for 2018 CCSG meetings
- Send out Ofgem’s consultation on DNOs’ ICE reports when published.

Future CCSG meetings:

	Suggested breakout session topics from CCSG members:
24 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2017	- CCSG member presentation
13 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2018	- Battery storage connections
26 <sup>th</sup> Jun 2018	- Legals & consents update
16 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2018	- Milestones in offers – update on results of new milestones - DSO updates - Innovation updates