

Distributed Generation Owner/Operator Forum – meeting notes

13:00-15.00, 30 November 2021

Introduction

Western Power Distribution established a forum in July 2016 for Distributed Generation (DG) owner/operators to discuss issues in relation to outages and constraints under its Incentive on Connections Engagement (ICE) work plans.

The attendee list and meeting notes for the November 2021 meeting are set out below.

There is a dedicated webpage for the forum [here](#).

The generation portal for outage information is available [here](#).

[Slides from last meeting in Aug 2021](#)

[Notes from the last meeting in Aug 2021](#)

For day-to-day outage queries, please contact the WPD nominated person detailed on the 4-week generator report or via the following emails:

- South Wales and South West: wpdswwestwalesgen@westernpower.co.uk
- East Midlands: wpdeastmidgen@westernpower.co.uk
- West Midlands: wpdwestmidgen@westernpower.co.uk

Date of next meeting: 10 February 2022

Delegate List:

First name	Last name	Organisation
Alexa	Belsham	Ventient Energy
Awais	Lodhi	RWE Renewables
Chiara	Guiducci	Lightsourcebp
Dale	King	Anesco Ltd
David	Harris	Bright Renewables
Gary	Bell	Imerys
Hamish	Ellen	Vector Renewables
Harriet	Henderson	Stern Energy Ltd
Hayley	Muir	Belltown Power
Ieuan	Spencer	toucan energy
James	Whitley	RWE Renewables
James	Wylie	Neuville Grid Data
Jamie	Grayson	BayWa re
Matthew	Green	RES

Michael	Graham	Bluefield Services Ltd
Nicholas	Burridge	Bluefield Services Ltd
Nicolo	Paschetto	NextEnergy Capital
Tony	Whittaker	Quintas Energy
Wendy	Matthews	Good Energy
Hannah	Stanley	Regen
Olly	Frankland	Regen
Shaz	Alibhai	WPD
Gwyn	Jones	WPD
Andrew	Akani	WPD
Howard	Thomas	WPD
Ian		WPD

Key action areas	Views	Actions
<p>Improving industry and WPD communications to address outages and constraints</p> <p>Gwyn Jones – control room manager, Western Power Distribution</p> <p>Stephen Ransome – outage planning manager, Western Power Distribution</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storm Arwen – northerly wind direction made the amount of damage larger than expected. 285,000 customers were off supply at some point. Monday 29 November 2021 – there was a firewall issue with WPD IT infrastructure in the control room that meant that some customers were curtailed unexpectedly. The issue has been resolved. Generation portal – currently running an amended version of the portal with some updates to assess the new functionality. This will then be rolled out as a soft launch in next few weeks. National Grid ET outage plan due shortly and there will be updates on the planned outages. The 132kV plans will be completed by end of January 2022. The 33kV and 66kV plans will be completed by end of February. There will be provisionally approved outages added to the portal after these plans are completed – February/March 2022, which will be confirmed 6 to 8 weeks ahead of the outage. WPD will try to minimise and combine outages where possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers to logon to the WPD generation portal and check the contact details displayed. If they are incorrect, please email the general regional email addresses on page 1 or use the portal access system. Customers to contact WPD if they have any queries regarding upcoming planned outages that will be added for 2022 using the general regional email addresses.
<p>Data and digitisation update</p> <p>Howard Thomas – data science analyst,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WPD has a unified data and digitisation team. WPD has published a digitisation strategy that outlines their principles of improved data management, increased network insight and operator, and presumed open data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers to review the WPD Connected data portal, WPD network capacity map and Embedded capacity register.

<p>Wester Power Distribution</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some data is personally and commercially sensitive. There is a process to review before any datasets are released. Cyber security is a growing team and WPD has a strong focus on this area. 	
<p>Accelerated Loss of Mains Change Programme (ALoMCP) update Andrew Akani – Primary System Design Manager, WPD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project is focused on funding the update to the LoM settings of sites connected before 1 February 2018 (pre G59/3-3). This may require changes to the relays and the inverters. Further details here: https://www.ena-eng.org/ALoMCP/ Applies to any DG project with greater than 3.68kW single phase and 11 kW three phase. WPD reminded customers there is only limited time left before the final application deadline - 10 May 2022. Funding is still available. Tapered payments are due to be implemented, 80% in Q1 2022, 70% in Q2 2022 and so on. All existing distributed generators need to comply by 31 August 2022. Inverters may contain G59 settings that need to be changed or disabled. Guidance available on ENA website: https://www.ena-eng.org/ALoMCP/mankb 2,335 applications and close to 5.02 GW (out of approx. 8.6 GW). 1,747 sites where works have been completed. Declared compliance declarations of around 2 GW of capacity. Virtual sample site visits for compliance have been carried out under lockdown. 260 completed so far. Evidence of compliance with G59/3 LoM settings needs to be provided even if customers have not engaged with programme. A compliance form will be sent to them by WPD and needs to be filled in to be compliant. Enforcement is likely to follow shortly after the 31 August 2022 deadline. Customers raised issues sourcing the correct relays for older sites and extended delivery timeframes. Customers also raised the delays in getting resources to sites that need physical changes due to COVID-19 and supply chain delays. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customers should update their contact details on the WPD generation portal and engage with the ALoMCP programme to update their sites if they have not done so already. Checking relays, inverters and other aspects of the site are compliant. WPD contact email for ALoMCP: ALoMCP@westernpower.co.uk and freephone 0800 0328880 Evidence of compliance with the G59/3 LoM settings is required even if customers have not engaged with the ALoMCP. Customers need to fill in and return the compliance form provided by WPD or via the ENA portal below. <p>Further details are available on the ENA portal: https://www.ena-eng.org/ALoMCP/</p> <p>For a list of registered contractors see the WPD webpage: https://www.westernpower.co.uk/our-network/loss-of-mains</p> <p>Future proof your power – new national ALoMCP website has been created as an engagement tool.</p>