

Distributed Generation Owner/Operator Forum – meeting notes

14:00-16.00, 24 May 2023, TLT Offices - Bristol

[Forum Webpage](#)

[Generation Portal](#)

Delegate List

Aaron Thompson	Innova
Alec Minter	Amberside Energy
Cain Flynn	Stern Energy Ltd
Chris Grainger	Thrive Renewables
Christian Davies	Ventient Energy
Evan Stuber	Energy & Power Tech LTD
Flavio Camacho Sousa	Low carbon limited
George Charalanbous	Lightsource bp
Grant Rogers	Aura Power
Harriet Henderson	Stern Energy Ltd
James Ford	Low carbon limited
James Hodgkinson	Schroders Greencoat LLP
James Whitley	RWE Renewables
Josh Jordan	Lightsource bp
Kate Teubner	Low Carbon
Mark Degg	CoGen
Matthew Green	RES
Paul Munday	Ethical Power
Richard Beecroft	Infinis Energy
Richard Khan	Stern Energy
Robert Cook	Infinis
Rumesh Chauhan	Lightsource bp
Stephen John Rogers	DNV
Valerio Scupola	Schroders Greencoat
Vicki Andrews	Lightsource bp
Vicky Simmons	Lightsource bp

Agenda Item	Questions, responses / actions
<p>Improving industry and NGED communications to address outages and constraints & Generation Portal update</p> <p>Danielle Greedy – outage planner, NGED</p>	<p>With the Generation Portal soon to be transitioning onto a new platform, now is a good time to feedback to NDEG on new features/ improvements:</p> <p><i>A way to get more than one notification of changes to site from the portal. E.g. to manager but also site owner?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NGED to clarify <p><i>Can portal provide longer term notifications?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dependant on information received from NGET, potential future item with NGET outages. <p><i>Could a generators own outages be uploaded onto the portal, for consideration when outage planning is done?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not currently possible, NGED to consider this functionality <p><i>More detail on the exact times of outages within the day would be useful.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operationally difficult to predict exact times of outage and restoration, though potential for improvements on current practice – to be considered for the updated portal. <p><i>The ability for engineers to update the portal once an outage has ended / a link between the outage management system and the generator portal.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NGED to investigate the possibility, though linking with the outage management system would be hard (a highly secure system) <p><i>Improved ability to opt-out of non-essential letters requested of the new portal.</i></p>
<p>DSO activities and flexible power procurement</p> <p>Joe Davey, DSO energy management engineer, NGED</p>	<p><i>The presentation talked through the process and decision making conducted by the DSO when it decides whether to go ahead with reinforcement or procure flexibility, or both.</i></p> <p><i>NGED is currently procuring mainly for demand driven constraint, there has been some generation turn down procured.</i></p> <p><i>By no means a saturated market, NGED are very open to procuring additional flexibility from generators and are interested in individual cases. Opportunities are developing and batteries will be a key technology.</i></p> <p>Visit https://www.flexiblepower.co.uk/national-grid-electricity-distribution, or contact the NGED Commercial team.</p>
<p>The G99 process and implication for repowering sites</p>	<p><i>The main issue discussed is that sites looking to repower have to go through the G99 process in the same way as new connections. If anything beyond a like-for-like replacement, they are placed at the back of the connections queue.</i></p>

<p>Will Topping, Primary System Design Engineer, NGED</p>	<p><i>Over the next few years there is likely to be a flood of sites seeking re-powering, as the large number of sites developed under the FiT are now approaching 10 year lives</i></p> <p><i>Attendees felt that upgrades to technology onsite that didn't have an impact on export or connection agreement should be subject to a much shorter process than G99. There is an opportunity to streamline the process for existing sites.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NGED note they are not currently considering this issue and will look to have a discussion internally to solve this. They may raise the issue with other networks. - Opportunity to consider the interpretation of regulations, any change to G99 itself will need to be worked though the ENA. <p><i>Is there clarity on when G99 triggers a statement of works? Examples where BTM installations are triggering SOW – event if there isn't a big change or any export.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NGED noted that G100 scheme could limit the output but they would explore what the conditions were for SOW. Currently a 1 MW limit in NGED areas, but this could change. <p><i>Are there any plans to change connection agreement to align with G99? Currently have to wait for both to be signed before exporting. Could you start exporting when one is signed?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NGED to take away.
<p>Feedback: potential future topics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get NGET into speak about their outage planning. • A presentation by new control centre manager at NGED. • Presentation by Gwyn Jones about black start capability, the current grid code consultation; implementation at distribution level. • NGET SOW and new connections / amended connections

For specific outage queries, please contact the NGED nominated person detailed on the outage notification within the Generation Portal, for general queries use the following regional contacts:

South West

nged.swestwalesgen@nationalgrid.co.uk
02920332843

West Midlands

nged.westmidgen@nationalgrid.co.uk
08452661688

South Wales

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02920332843

East Midlands

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Date of next meeting: **TBC September, online.**