

Connection Customer Steering Group

Notes from the meeting held 27th February 2019 at WPD's Gloucester office

Present:

Graham Pannell – RES Group	Helen Ewing – Severn Trent
Nicki Barnett – Power Systems UK	Mark Boyce – UCSM
Olly Frankland – Regen SW	Steve McElveen – SMS Plc
Nikki Pillinger – British Renewables	Hugh Taylor – Roadnight Taylor

Alison Sleightholm	WPD Resources and External Affairs Director
Graham Halladay	WPD Network Services Manager (DSO)
Nigel Turvey	WPD Network Strategy and Innovation Manager
Paul Jewell	WPD Policy Manager
Tim Hughes	WPD Connection Policy Manager
Bruce Pollard	WPD Consents & Wayleaves Manager
Vanessa Buxton	WPD Connection Policy Co-ordinator

1. Introduction

Alison Sleightholm introduced the agenda for the day.

2. Director's Update

Alison Sleightholm gave an update on the RIIO ED2 process. Stakeholder query on whether we are watching the ESO's and whether we believe there will be crossover to distribution. Alison advised we are watching closely and expect there to be some areas to read across to the distribution business. However, there will also be some differences such as the impact of electrification of transport on distribution networks which does not affect transmission or gas networks.

Update on the role of flexibility. One stakeholder advised there is a focus on demand: will there be a requirement to expand to generation? Nigel Turvey advised we have a security standard for demand but not generation so that is where the focus is. Ofgem will look overall at constraint areas as part of the charging review.

Update on the ICE process. Stakeholder felt that the heat pump process is more onerous within WPD. Vanessa advised we have replaced previous documents with the new ENA combined EV & Heat Pump application and commissioning documents, available on our website [here](#).

WPD Action: Investigate further to ensure consistency of approach and requirements from local teams are no more onerous than the information required on the ENA application form.

Update on Open Networks. One stakeholder asked whether there is tie in between the Smart Systems Data Taskforce and the Open Networks Work stream 1B. Nigel Turvey advised there is. Stakeholder also queried WPD procurement of information on what services stakeholders may want to offer and whether this was under no obligation – Nigel confirmed it is with no obligation. Another stakeholder advised that Piclo are looking to obtain information in the platform of the opportunities stakeholders may wish to offer.

Stakeholder query on queue management: will the focus be on promoting storage? Nigel advised this is what BEIS originally asked DNO's to look at but we've taken the view of considering other factors rather than specific technology, e.g. if there is a benefit to the network or a customer is not progressing/missing milestones.

Stakeholder asked about trading of access rights or curtailment: will this be existing connected or new connections? Nigel advised we are generally looking at existing connected customers but no reason not to look at putting into place for new connections from the outset.

3. Electric Vehicles

Paul Jewell provided an update on EV. Stakeholder query on whether there is still an issue with DC charges. Paul advised the issue is still there although customers take the supply from us at AC.

Paul updated on our proposal to install 3 phase service connections to avoid future reinforcement. Stakeholder query on whether there was feedback from other DNO's on using 3 phase services as standard. Paul advised they are watching with interest, some believe it is a good idea whilst others have concerns.

Paul advised we are not enforcing 3 phase on the housebuilder, simply installing 3 phase infrastructure which may be metered at single phase. Some builders however are showing a desire to wire the houses at 3 phase.

Stakeholder query on whether we are considering larger ADMD. Paul advised we are considering ADMD's based on findings from Electric Nation. We already revised standards for minimum size of mains cables. Also we are considering, working with Local Authorities, whether we should place more cables in the ground at the outset in preparation of future demands.

Stakeholder query on whether there is scope for DC usage within the home. Paul advised yes although behind the meter so it is for the housebuilders to develop the future of behind the meter technology.

4. G98 / G99

Tim Hughes provided an update on the changes from G83/G59 to the new G98/G99 requirements for generators. More information on the implementation of the EU Network Codes is available on our website [here](#).

5. Consents & Wayleaves

Bruce Pollard provided an update on changes made to the way in which stakeholders may monitor the progress of their schemes through the legal processes.

One stakeholder queried whether these are sent to the other sides' lawyer rather than the customer. Bruce confirmed they are as lawyers can only communicate with their own client or the other sides' lawyers. The Day 20 reports will also be sent to WPD. We will therefore forward reports to our customers. An internal reminder to our teams may be issued if stakeholders advise that this step in the process isn't happening.

Stakeholder queried whether we can implement steps which allow WPD lawyers to send directly to the customer.

WPD Action - Bruce to revisit with our lawyers to see whether it was possible to make an agreement to send direct to customers or provide a comprehensive reason on why this can't be done.

6. Connection Policy Update

Tim Hughes updated on capacity consultation from 2018 and next steps. One stakeholder asked whether EV can be deemed speculative where the requirement to allow for chargers may be known but not the specific equipment to be installed. Tim advised potentially yes, the chance is at least one of the points in the charging methodology deems it speculative, e.g. capacity requirement is unknown.

Stakeholder queried whether we are working with Local Authorities on capacity allocation. Tim confirmed we are, Las have been engaged and we remain mindful of other ongoing works, e.g. Open Networks.

Future CCSG meetings:

Date	Location
11 th June 2019	WPD, Beacon House, Long Acre, Nechells, Birmingham B7 5JJ
29 th October 2019	WPD, Saw Mills End, Corinium Avenue, Gloucester GL4 3BH