

Distributed Generation Owner/Operator Forum

13.30-16.30, 25 April 2019

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 April 2019 meeting are set out below.

There is now a dedicated webpage for the forum here. The generator portal for outage information is available here.

Date of next meeting: 18th July 2019

Attendees:

First Name	Surname	Company
Nicholas	Burridge	Bluefield Services
Roberto	Anastasia	Bluefield Services
Wendy	Matthews	Bridge Wind
Alex	Hume	Bright Renewables
Anna	Benson	BSR
Natalie	White	BSR
Temi	Gocheva	DNV GL
Thibault	Delouvrie	DNV GL
John	Hill	Ecotricity
Helen	Hardaker	Green Nation
Graham	Bone	Infinis Energy Services
Simon	Maddams	Infinis Energy Services
Sarah Jane	Smith	Lightsource BP
Konstantinos	Triantafyllou	PSH Operations
Olly	Frankland	Regen
Kerry	Hayes	Regen
Matthew	Green	RES
Wesley	Robinson	Vogt Solar
Dan	Godwin	Welsh Power
Theo	Drijver	Welsh Power
Magda	Paluch	Western Power Distribution
Will	Topping	Western Power Distribution
Gwyn	Jones	Western Power Distribution
Joe	Davey	Western Power Distribution
Andy	Hood	Western Power Distribution





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Stephen	Ransome	Western Power Distribution
David	de Ulibarri	WiseEnergy

Key action areas	Views	Actions
WPD generator portal	 Members of the forum are aware of and happy with the WPD outage portal. Some improvements have been delayed due to a new WPD website provider. 	WPD will update on timeframes for changes to the WPD generator portal at the next forum.
Outage notifications	 Members are happy with the frequency and detail received in outage notifications and post outage reports and would like this to continue. Members raised that in certain situations it would be useful to specify where their notification letters are sent, rather than use the default site addresses. 	 Members should use the outage portal to update contact details for their sites. WPD to look at specifying different addresses to sent letters and feedback at next forum.
Outage impact assessment report	 An outage impact assessment for wind and solar sites connected to the WPD distribution area is available for 2018. The data shows that in 2018, lost generation due to outages was 0.65% of total generation. Available on the WPD forum webpage here. An outage impact assessment for Q1 2019 will be published on the website shortly. 	 Forum members can view and provide feedback on the report at the next meeting. WPD to publish the Q1 2019 report on the forum webpage.
Additional points of isolation	 A member raised an intention to install an additional point of isolation. For relatively little cost, it may be worth some members considering the installation of additional switches to enable improved flexibility. Offering even greater flexibility is the installation of a ringed solution. This in many cases would reduce or negate the need for constraint. The WPD design teams will need to carefully consider such requests, and Connection Agreements may need to be altered accordingly. 	Members to contact Stephen Ransome to arrange an assessment of your sites. sransome@westernpower.co.uk
Connect and Manage	 The Connect and Manage project is a potential new revenue stream for generators. It uses the same communication system as Active Network Management (ANM) to help manage transmission network constraints using distribution connected assets in the south west distribution area. To qualify, generators must: Be above 1 MW capacity Not be connected to the LV network Be located in the south west distribution area 	We have circulated slides available here. Further information on the expected revenue may be available from National Grid – contact email: commercial.operation@nationalgrid.com





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	There may be cost for generators (potentially up to £10,000) to install hardware depending on systems already in place.	
Loss of mains protection	 As previously discussed in April 2018 forum there is move towards changing connected DG sites to Rate of Change of Frequency (RoCoF) from vector shift loss of mains protection. National Grid has provided funding to help with the cost of these changes previously. A larger programme of loss of mains protection change is being planned and consulted on. 	Members to refer to further details on the ENA webpage here.
EREC G98 and G99	 New G98 and G99 performance requirements come into effect on the 27th April 2019 and will apply to all new connections and significant changes to existing sites (e.g. inverter replacement). The purpose of the new requirements is to make the electricity network more resilient. Requirements differ depending on generator size: Type A: 800 W – 1 MW Type B: 1 – 10 MW Type C: 10 – 50 MW Type D: above 50 MW and anything connected on 132 kV and above is considered type D. 	 WPD to get clarity over what constitutes a 'significant change'. Andy Hood from WPD will attend the next forum to provide an update. For background information on the G98/G98 changes use the WPD webpage here. The latest version of EREC G99 is available here. Sign up on the Distribution Code website to be notified of consultations here.
AOB		Meeting notes and slides can be found on WPD's Distributed Generation owner/operator forum webpage here .

