

Meeting Minutes

Gate 3 Liaison Group Meeting #12

CER Office, 22nd February, 2010

Attendance by Liaison Group Members or Approved Substitute

Name	Present	Company / Organisation	Member (M) or Substitute (S)
Cathy Mannion	N	CER	M
Paul Brandon	Y	CER	M
John Lynch	Y	CER	M
Simon Grimes	N	EirGrid	M
Shane Maher	Y	EirGrid	M
Tony Hearne	Y	ESB Networks	M
Paul Hickey	Y	ESB Networks	M
Caitriona Diviney	Y	IWEA	M
Pat Blount	N	Meitheal na Gaoithe	M
Seamus McCabe	Y	NOW Ireland	M
Erik O'Donovan	N	IBEC	M
Peter Coyle	N	Marine Renewables Industry Assoc.	M
Grainne O'Shea	Y	ESB Power Generation	M
Brian Linton	Y	Viridian Power and Energy	M
Peter Hynes	N	Local Authority Representative	M
Carole Devlin	Y	Endesa Ireland	S
Fergal McParland	N	EirGrid	M
Fiona O'Donnell	N	ESB Networks	M

Additional Attendees

Name	Company / Organisation
Derek Lawler	EirGrid
Aidan Corcoran(for Grid 25 presentation only)	EirGrid

Introduction and Approval of Minutes

Paul Brandon, acting as chairperson in the absence of Cathy Mannion, opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees. The minutes for Gate 3 Liaison Group meeting #11, 19th January 2010, were approved, subject to minor clarifications.

The progress on open action items from the previous Group meeting (#11) was reviewed. Action items from meeting #11 which are completed / closed are listed in Appendix 1.

These minutes, for meeting #12, now record new action items raised during meeting #12 and any decisions made, as well as ongoing action items from previous meetings.

A. Standing Action Items

The following are standing action items which apply to each meeting:

No.	Actions:	Owner
1.	Agenda: CER to circulate the agenda, together with the SOs' Monthly Project Status Report prior to each meeting.	CER
2.	Final Meeting Minutes: Distribute the final approved minutes of the previous month's meeting within 5 business days of the current meeting	CER
3.	Draft Meeting Minutes (for meeting on 22nd February 2010): Distribute the draft unapproved minutes of the meeting within 5 business days of the meeting.	CER
4.	Action Items: Review the action items as detailed in the draft minutes of the previous meeting.	All
5.	Gate 3 Project Status: Monthly project status report to be provided by the SOs to CER in advance of the distribution of the agenda.	SOs
6.	CER Workstreams: CER will arrange for regular information updates to be provided at the Group meetings on CER workstreams which inter-relate to the Gate 3 offer programme.	CER

B. Update on Gate 3 Offer Project

An update on the project status and progress, up to 22nd February 2010, was outlined by the System Operators (SOs) and the Commission. The details of this update are recorded in the Monthly Gate 3 Project Status Update. Further details on the progress of specific tasks relating to the project are published in the updated plan for the Gate 3 offer project. Both of these are published on the Commission's website and are also distributed to the Gate 3 Liaison Group members with these draft minutes.

Some of the key project updates are:

- the invoices for the fees for renewable which have received or will receive an offer in 2010 and conventional projects have been issued (refer to the note which follows);
- the firm access quantities (FAQs), as computed by the audited ITC programme, for years 2010-2023 were [published](#) by EirGrid on schedule on 29th January;

- the issuance of all Gate 3 offers for area K (3 offers in Waterford area) was completed on schedule;
- the next round of offers, which are for Area D (11 DSO offers in Ennis area) are on-track to issue from TSO to DSO by the 5th March and for DSO to issue to connection offers to applicants by 2nd April, as scheduled;
- constraint studies are completing on schedule and the first reports are due for area K (Waterford area) on 19th March; and,
- the remaining offers for Areas H2,H1,B, E,J,F,A,G,C and I are scheduled to issue before July 2011.

Note: The System Operators requested that the Liaison Group reminds applicants that projects whose application fees, as invoiced, are not received by the due date will be excluded from Gate 3.

IWEA again questioned the “Green” status of the CER Workstream (as indicated on the traffic light status indication in the monthly status report, as distributed/published with these minutes) stating that acceptance of offers is contingent on the outcome of certain CER Gate 3 interrelated workstreams. For example publication of final constraints reports depend on the outcome of the Scheduling and Dispatch workstream. Accordingly, IWEA consider that the vast majority of offers are not executable in the meantime. In reply the CER reiterated that the scope of the Gate 3 Offer Project is the delivery of Gate 3 connection offers. However, the Commission committed to reviewing the status.

No.	Actions:	Owner
7.	Project Status: CER to consider the designation of the overall (traffic light) status of the “CER” activities relating to the Gate 3 offer project.	CER
8.	Constraint Report Template: EirGrid to consider if it is possible to provide a sample template of a typical constraint report to illustrate possible future content to the Liaison Group before the issuance of the first constraint report. EirGrid also to consider how the reports may be relevant to Gate 1 and Gate 2 non-firm applicants.	EirGrid
9.	Terms of Reference IWEA suggested that the Terms of Reference for the Gate 3 Liaison Group should be reviewed with a view to including (Gate 3) post-offer. IWEA to make proposal at the 23 rd March meeting.	IWEA

C. Temporary Connections

A rule-set is needed for temporary connections for Gate 3 generators. Issues relating to this topic were presented¹ and initial discussions were held at the 19th January meeting. For background refer to the minutes.

¹ Refer to the presentation slide “[Temporary Connections- Gate 3](#)” as distributed and published in association with the minutes of meeting # 11 on 19th January 2010. Also refer to the minutes of the same meeting.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
10.	Temporary Connections Develop rules/principles to cater for Gate 3 temporary connections. Refer to minutes of meeting #11 and to slides from meeting #11. Further discussion and progress is contingent on the outcome of the Scheduling & Dispatch workstream.	SOs & CER	open
11.	Temporary Connections Industry representatives were invited to provide comment or suggestions on the way forward.	Industry Reps	open
12.	Contestability SOs to examine the possible impact of the Distribution Contestability paper on the offer schedule as this may have an impact on transmission contestability. The (revised) due date for the decision paper from the Commission is late-March ² .	SOs	open

D. Transmission Works and Connection Offers

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
13.	Gate 1,2&3 Reinforcements System Operators are looking into what arrangements will apply in relation to the communication of the confidential details of the inter-dependence of reinforcements with Gate 1,2&3 projects and how to tie them in with offers. SOs to engage with Industry and to present an outline roadmap at the next meeting.	SOs	open
14.	Extensions of the Offer Validity Period Brian Linton (Viridian) requested that general extensions of the offer validity period be considered in light of CER/NIAUR workstreams; especially the medium term review of the Capacity Payment Mechanism. CER requested that a formal proposal be submitted to CER for consideration.	Industry Reps	new

E. Application Fees and Staged Payments

This item was dealt with as a separate agenda item. The System Operators reminded members that projects whose application fees, as invoiced, are not received by the due date will be excluded from Gate 3.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
15.	Application Fees	CER	open

² Confirmed after the meeting.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
	<p>System Operators and CER were previously requested to undertake a review of application fees in light of the economic downturn. Invoices (for 2010) were issued by SOs in January 2010 to be based on 2009 fees. Any over/under recovery for Gate 3 projects from 1st January 2010 to be refunded/charged once the review is complete.</p> <p>SOs very recently submitted proposals for some reduction in fees to CER. CER will assess the proposals whilst taking into consideration any possible exposure to the TUoS/DUoS customers.</p>		

F. Capacity Relocation

The issue of the relocation of capacity was discussed. This occurs when a developer seeks to change the location of a project and/or sell the project to another developer in a different location. IWEA confirmed that this can often be as a result of difficulties with planning. This has been dealt with on a case-by-case basis to-date. Existing rules for modifications include:

The requested modification should not:

- change the connection to the assigned node on the grid (meshed node)
- interfere with future network development
- materially disadvantage other parties connected, contracted or being processed as part of the current Gate

These rules would have to be observed at a minimum. However, wider consideration is required for the basic principles of capacity allocation and potential impact on other parties.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
16.	<p>Capacity Relocation Consultation SOs to consider this issue in further detail and provide some suggestions to the CER on possible principles. CER to consider the possibility of including this issue in a forthcoming consultation on Connection Policy (e.g. Joint pricing principles) or via some other mechanism.</p>	SOs/ CER	open
17.	<p>Capacity Relocation Issue – Interim Measures SOs to advise CER of the number and nature of requests being considered by the SOs and to advise the CER of the SOs' views.</p> <p>CER will then consider whether any interim action can be taken for these projects in the short term in advance of a possible consultation being undertaken.</p>	SOs & CER	open

G. Other

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
18.	Ongoing Quarterly Offer Modification Metrics Modification processing (timeline) statistics to be provided by System Operators every quarter. The next update is due at end April 2010.	SOs	open
19.	Grid25 Update Grid25 update provided by Aidan Corcoran. EirGrid stressed the strategic long term nature of the project that will depend hugely on the industry being prepared to back the infrastructure being advanced by EirGrid. EirGrid referred to the 400kV application currently under review by the planning authorities that would benefit from letters of support from the industry. EirGrid to propose the appropriate forum and period for continued periodic updates on Grid25 – this will be considered in the context of action 9 above	EirGrid	open

H. Documents Distributed with these Minutes

The following documents are distributed with these draft minutes of meeting number 12:

- Approved minutes of Meeting #11;
- Monthly Gate 3 Offer Project Status Report including Gate 3 inter-related CER workstreams;
- Project Plan showing project status on 17th February 2010;
- Developing the Grid - Grid 25

All of the aforementioned documents will also be published on the Commission's [Gate 3 Liaison Group webpages](#).

I. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday 23rd March 2010 at 14:15 at the CER office. The following is an initial proposal for the agenda:

- Review of open action items;
- Gate 3 monthly project status update to be provided by the SOs;
- CER to provide updates on CER workstreams which relate to the Gate 3 offer programme;
- Discuss Terms of Reference of the Gate 3 Liaison Group; and,
- Proposal on Gates 1,2 & 3 reinforcements

The CER will send the formal proposed meeting agenda to the Group members at least ten days before the next meeting (as per the Liaison Group Terms of Reference) at which time additional agenda items can be considered.

Appendix 1: Closed Action Items

The following is the list of action items which have been resolved (**closed**) since they were actioned in the previous Group meeting (number 10), held on 19th January 2010.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
a)	<p>Grid25 Update EirGrid to confirm than a Grid25 update can be provided for the next meeting (22 February 2010) including an update on the status of the Grid25 plan. Outcome: EirGrid presented an update on Grid25. Refer to the slides entitled “Developing the Grid - Grid 25” as distributed with the draft minutes and published on CER’s Gate 3 webpages.</p>	EirGrid	closed
b)	<p>Quarterly Offer Modification Metrics to Jan 2010 Modification processing (timeline) statistics to be provided by System Operators every quarter. Outcome: ESB Networks and EirGrid have separately published on their respective web sites a quarterly update with metrics on the time taken for the processing of pre-Gate 3 modification updates. These are available on the following links:</p> <p>ESN Networks (Distribution Connection offers): http://www.esb.ie/esbnetworks/generator_connections/Modifications_processed_since_beginning_2009_as_of_010210.pdf</p> <p>EirGrid (Transmission Connection Offers): http://www.eirgrid.com/media/Modifications%20Processed%20since%20beginning%202009%20as%20issued%2002%20Feb%2010.pdf</p>	SOs	closed