



Commission for Energy Regulation

An Coimisiún um Rialáil Fuinnimh

Generator Connections Liaison Group

Terms of Reference

Version 3

18 October 2013

1 Revision History

Version	Date	Comments
Draft	February 2009	Discussed at Liaison Group meeting on 24th February
1.0	March 2009	Inaugural terms of reference
2.0	May 2010	Revised to reflect progression of Gate 3 Project
3.0	December 2011	Revised following completion of Gate 3 Offer Issuance
4.0	October 2013	Amendments to reflect change to title of group, changes to membership and purpose of group.

2 The Generator Connection Liaison Group

“Gate 3” will be dropped from the title of the Group as the issues discussed by the Group relate to all live connection processes i.e. pre-Gate 3 generator connection, Gate 3 and will also apply to post-Gate 3 generators in the future. The groups remit will extend from offer issuance matters to offer execution. It will not be the purpose of the group to discuss pre offer issuance matters such as connection criteria or matters post generator connection. The group will now be called the ‘Generator Connections Liaison Group’.

2.1 Purpose and Scope

The purpose of the Group is to:

Discuss and facilitate the delivery of Gate 3 and issues relating to the connection process generally. Accordingly the scope of the Group shall include matters relating to Gates 1, 2 and 3, non-GPA, and post-Gate 3 connections, when policy post Gate 3 has been decided upon by the CER. Other connection process issues may also be discussed as the CER considers appropriate.

Specifically the Group will discuss:

- Offer issuance matters including preparation & issuance of constraint reports, offer modifications;
- Offer execution matters including a bi-monthly Gate 3 implementation report;
- FAQ matters including annual ITC re-run, updates on deep reinforcements and short circuit reinforcements;
- Grid25/infrastructure update; and
- Discussions on policy matters as relevant. Policy matters for discussion will be decided upon by the CER.

Any matters that are not related to the connection process are not within the scope of the Group. The Group is not a decision or policy making body. While policy issues under consideration by the CER or the SEM Committee may be discussed at the Group all such issues will be progressed outside the group under the usual regulatory process. In addition the Group is not a forum for discussing individual projects, market rules, Grid Code, DS3 or other general issues that relate more to the operational timeframe.

Where the issue has general applicability, subject to prior approval by the CER, the issue may be discussed at the Group, but without reference to the individual case. This includes offer acceptances, construction of connections in generality, connection policy matters (e.g. COPP) etc.

Where appropriate, consultations may be conducted through the Group e.g. in relation to implementation, clarifications on existing policy, where it may not be efficient to conduct an open consultation. The responsibility will be on industry participants to bring such matters to the attention of the Group.

2.2 Meetings

The Group performs a number of roles; it acts to help ensure that any policy issues or concerns are addressed in a timely manner, provides a forum for the Industry to communicate and to discuss on-going generator connection issues of interest.

2.2.1 Standing Agenda items

The standing agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. CER Introduction
2. Review actions from previous meeting
3. Updates:
 - a. SO's
 - b. CER
 - c. Industry
4. Specific items added as per the 'operating principles' below
5. AOB

2.2.2 Arrangements

Chair	CER
Secretariat	CER
Frequency	Bi-monthly (on the first Tuesday of every second month) at 10.30 concluding not later than 13.00, with additional meetings held ad hoc
Location	The CER offices, Tallaght

2.2.3 Circulation of Material

Draft agenda	Ten days ¹ before meeting
Deadline for comments on the draft agenda	Five days before meeting
Agenda	Three days before meeting
Draft minutes & presentations given at the meeting	Eight days after the meeting
Deadline for comments on the draft minutes	Four days after circulation
Final minutes	15 days after the meeting

¹ All days are business days

Publication of meeting material	20 days after the meeting
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3 Membership of the Group

The CER wishes to include the views of a wide range of stakeholders at the Group. Therefore membership will be allocated on the basis of representation of various constituencies relevant to the issues discussed at the Group.

To ensure consistency between meetings and to allow for active participation the meetings membership will be limited and approved by the CER. With the approval of the CER, members may invite additional attendees to input on specific topics. The total number of attendees should generally be between 15-20 people.

3.1 Constituencies²

Stakeholder	No of Representatives
CER	3
TSO	3
DSO	3
Non-renewable generators	2
Wind generators	4
Non-wind renewable generators	1
Local Authorities	1
Customers (end-users)	1

3.2 Members and substitutes

Member	Company / Organisation
Denis Cagney	CER
Paul Brandon	CER
Lisa Fahy	CER

² The CER will adopt a flexible approach to the limits on representatives for each constituency.

Marie Hayden	EirGrid
Shane Maher	EirGrid
Yvonne Coughlan	EirGrid
Ivan Codd	ESB Networks
Anne-Marie Kean	ESB Networks
Fiona O'Donnell	ESB Networks
Caitriona Diviney	IWEA
Pat Blount	Meitheal na Gaoithe
Séamus McCabe	Now Ireland
Erik O'Donovan	IBEC
Peter Coyle	Marine Renewables Industry Association
Grainne O'Shea	ESB Power Generation
Brian Linton	Viridian Power and Energy
Tanya Stanaway	Local Authority Representative
Tom Bruton	Non – GPA representative
Technical Advisor	Representing IWEA, Meitheal na Gaoithe and Now Ireland

Membership may be substituted throughout the course of the project, but only with prior notification and approval by the Commission. Likewise, should any of the members wish to invite other attendees this should only be done with the express consent of the Commission.

4 Operating Principles

- The Group will nominally meet on a bi-monthly basis and will be chaired and minuted by the CER. Ad-hoc meetings may also be held as required. The meetings will be held at the CER Office;
- Materials will be circulated in accordance with the timelines outlined in section 2.2.3. All documentation will be published on the CER website following each meeting. Group members should print all documentation in advance of meeting, save for documents which have not been circulated.
- The Commission will consider all comments received and will finalise the minutes. If no comments are received from the group within the aforementioned 10 day period the draft minutes are deemed to be the final minutes;
- The Commission will distribute to the group the final minutes within 12 days of the meeting; and,
- The Commission will then publish the minutes on the Commission's Gate 3 webpages as soon as possible.