

Meeting Minutes

Liaison Group Meeting #37

CER Office, 01 April 2014

Attendance by Liaison Group Members or Approved Substitute

Name	Company / Organisation	Member (M) or
Denis Cagney	CER	M
Paul Brandon	CER	M
Deirdre Bell	CER	M
Marie Hayden	EirGrid	M
Shane Maher	EirGrid	M
Fiona O'Donnell	ESB Networks	M
Ivan Codd	ESB Networks	M
Tom Burton	IRBEA	M
Mary Doorly	IWEA	M
Pat Blount	Meitheal na Gaoithe	M
Brian Linton	Energia	M
Donal Smith	Bord Gáis Energy	M

Additional Attendees

Name	Company / Organisation

Apologies

Name	Company / Organisation
Anne-Marie Kean	ESB Networks
Enda Casey	Mayo Co Council
Caitriona Diviney	IWEA

1 Introduction and Approval of Minutes

The CER opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees. The minutes for meeting #36 were discussed. CER clarified the wording of the CER update in the minutes. It was noted that the minutes should read “a consultation paper on the high level design of the new wholesale electricity market was agreed at the last SEMC and would be published shortly.”

2 SO Update

The SOs gave an update on Gate 3 offer acceptance to date. The update is published alongside these minutes.

3 CER Update

The CER gave an update on current work streams including DS3 System Services and ROCOF. The CER highlighted that DS3 is a priority project for the CER and the SEMC. CER noted that consultants had provided draft supply side analysis and a report on contractual arrangements is expected shortly. A detailed submission was to be sent to the SEMC on 24 April. CER noted that the timeline to have the consultation in May and publish a decision paper in September is a challenging timeline. CER noted that as the DS3 project has potential interactions with the I-SEM high level design it adds to the complexity of the project. The CER noted that the ROCOF decision paper would be published at the end of the week.

4 Industry Update

Industry noted that with increasing curtailment DS3 is a priority for industry also.

Industry noted dissatisfaction with the delay in SEM OC approval of the standard curtailment report. CER noted that oversight committee had to delay reviewing the report until mid-April due to the volume of work. Industry noted that report was of limited use if it was not supplied in a timely manner and that quarterly reports would be of more use. The CER noted the comments regarding the timeframe and suggested that industry write to the SEMC requesting a change to the review procedure for the curtailment report. Industry noted that it was particularly important that they receive timely information on curtailments if DS3 is delayed.

Industry commented that it was difficult to find documents on the new CER website and would prefer to have a navigation system as well as a search function on the website.

5 Standard Charges for Transmission

The TSO is undertaking a complete review of standard charges for transmission. The TSO expect to submit the charges for CER approval by the end of June 2014.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
1.	TSO to undertake complete review of standard charges for transmission and submit to CER for approval. Submission before end June 2014.	CER/TSO	Open

6 Short Circuit Updates

A presentation on Short Circuits was given by TSO at meeting #35 and meeting #36. The presentation provided an update to industry following on from the presentation given at meeting # 35. The presentation outlined the TSO's intention to communicate the revised short circuit associations to generators by end April 2014. TSO will also include the status of short circuits in the quarterly ATR update commencing in April 2014. TSO intends to consult on aspects of policy and process with respect to short circuits.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
2.	TSO to add status of short circuit uprate projects to quarterly ATR projects status updates. This action to be completed once short circuit project in completed in Q1 2014.	TSO	Open
3.	Note to be published on mechanism for advising parties if they can connect in advance of Short Circuit uprates being completed.	TSO/DSO	Open
4.	The SO's to notify generators of revised short circuit associations by end April 2014.	TSO/DSO	Open

7 Impact of Grid Optimisation

EirGrid submitted a paper on Grid Optimisation to the CER for review. The CER has asked the TSO to re-examine the paper to ensure it is still relevant following the recent update of Gate 3 offers and the emerging view on likely grid re-optimisations to connect contracted generators. At #37 TSO confirmed that no revisions are required and it would resubmit the original paper to the CER for review.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
5.	EirGrid to submit Grid Optimisation paper to CER for review. CER to review paper.	TSO/CER	Open

8 COPP: Installed Capacity

At meeting #31 industry gave a presentation on installed capacity and highlighted their view that the limit should be re-considered. At the time the TSO advised that one of the considerations originally outlined relating to curtailment may change as part of the Tie Breaks decision therefore it would not be unreasonable to re-examine the cap. CER confirmed that it was open to reviewing the cap on increases to installed capacity which is outlined in COPP.

The CER published a consultation paper on installed capacity in Q3 2013. At meeting #35 CER agreed that if it was decided that further modelling was required, they would seek the views of industry to agree the assumptions to be used. CER discussed the need for further modelling with TSO and received a note from EirGrid which was considered in the preparation of the decision paper.

At meeting #37 the CER noted that a decision paper was published on 19 February 2014.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
6.	CER to consider whether additional modelling is necessary following receipt of information from TSO. If so, industry to input on modelling assumptions. CER published decision paper on 19 February 2014.	CER	Closed
7.	The COPP is to be updated to include the decision on changing the Installed Capacity provisions. The SOs propose to carry out an interim review of COPP and also update COPP to include other items which have also been determined or clarified since it was published in 2011. It was agreed that it was prudent to update for both aspects together. <i>Post meeting note:</i> SOs to revert to CER with updated document by the Autumn Liaison Group	DSO/TSO	Open

9 ESB Networks Gate 3 Delivery Presentation

At meeting #33 ESB Networks gave a presentation on the delivery of Gate 3 projects.

At meeting #36 Brian Nunan of ESB Networks presented on the Renewable Connections Work Programme Delivery 2014-2015. The presentation covered items such as difficulties in progressing work if disagreements in subgroups arise and highlighted improved workflow processes and resourcing required for delivery of the work programme. The presentation noted that ESN was committed to delivering all customer connections despite the complexity and difficulties being encountered. 2015 was highlighted as a particularly challenging year due to outage shortages.

At meeting #36 ESB Networks confirmed that the information pack was published. It was noted that the SOs plan to publish a joint consultation paper on how they propose to progress connection works when issues arise within subgroups. The SOs intend to submit the consultation paper to the CER by end of March 2014.

At meeting #37 the TSO gave an update on the Independent Pylon Review Group. It noted that EirGrid intend to progress projects in parallel to the review being undertaken by the Group. The SOs noted that they were still developing the Consultation Paper on progression of subgroups. They noted that the paper will set out a number of scenarios for subgroups and how they intend to treat them.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
8.	Information pack to be published on ESN website. This is due for publication by end 2013.	ESBN	Closed
9.	SOs to submit Joint Consultation Paper on the Progression of Sub Groups to the CER by end April 2014.	SOs	Open

10 System Harmonics

The TSO gave a presentation on system harmonics outlining some of the key issues they have identified at meeting #33. Industry raised concerns at the time over who would pay for changes to system and how the cost could be attributed to individual generators. They also noted that a pricing policy would need to be established and that meters would be necessary to differentiate between generators in areas where harmonics is a problem. Following meeting #33, the TSO published an information note on harmonics. At meeting #34 they noted that there are likely to be a series of notes rather than one with the next due later in September.

At meeting #34, the TSO gave a brief presentation on the progress to date and project timelines.

At meeting #36 the TSO noted that it will publish a consultation paper on Harmonics by the end of February pending CER approval. Industry noted that it would be useful to include an indication of the spectrum of costs in the consultation. The TSO noted while a broad spectrum would be included it is difficult to provide specific cost information until the procurement process is finalised. The issue of whether or not the data from the studies conducted by the TSO on harmonics should be published was discussed. The TSO noted that it did not intend to publish the data as it could give misleading results for developers. Industry noted that the data would be very useful to developers. The TSO noted that over 100 participants attended the harmonics workshop on 21 November 2013 and feedback on the day was positive. However, there was no further engagement from industry on any of the points that were raised at the liaison group meeting #36 at the time.

At meeting #37 TSO noted that it was reviewing CERs comments on the draft consultation paper and further discussions on the paper were required. Industry queried if any further consideration had been given to publishing the data from the studies conducted by the TSO on harmonics. TSO noted that did not intend on publishing the data and is of the opinion that it may not be used correctly. TSO noted that it would provide node specific information to generators if requested if it was available.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
10.	TSO to publish consultation paper on Harmonics at end of April pending CER approval.	TSO/CER	Open

11 Pre-energisation Data

Prior to energisation generators are contractually obliged to provide dynamic models to the SO's 12 months prior to energisation¹. These models must be grid code compliant and should enable the TSO to study the impact of the new generation on power system stability. The SO's are concerned that energisation could be delayed if this information is not provided 12 months in advance. This action is still open, paper to be published in advance of meeting #35. TSO gave an update on pre-energisation data at meeting #35 confirming that an application fee is applicable if pre energisation data is submitted late. At meeting #36 TSO confirmed that this paper would be published in advance of the next meeting.

¹ Although for some pre-Gate 3 generators, they may be contractually obliged to provide the detail only 6 months in advance, the SO's would still encourage a submission 12 months in advance where possible

At meeting #37 the SO's circulated a copy of the PED paper and noted that it would publish it following the Liaison Group meeting if no substantive comments were received within 2 weeks of the meeting. The Paper sets out what happens if information submitted is late, incomplete or inaccurate and highlights the importance of receiving streamlined data 12 months in advance. Industry queried if the TSOs software review would have any impact on this, TSO confirmed it would not. Industry queried if the rule set applied for all technologies. The SOs confirmed that it does and would make sure this is clear in the paper.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
11.	Joint DSO/TSO paper on pre-energisation data requirements and associated process to be published prior to next meeting.	DSO/TSO	Open

12 Modification related queries

The SOs in meeting #33 addressed the issues being encountered with modification related queries e.g. Capacity relocation, merging/splitting, cables etc. and stated that these requests must be submitted as modifications. In meeting #34 the SOs requested that industry inform them as soon as possible if they are considering a modification to their offer even if they are unsure as to what exactly the modification requested may be. They also highlighted the fact that one modification may have an impact on other in a subgroup etc.

At meeting #36 the SOs presented on this topic. The SOs reiterated the need to receive mod requests in a complete package and on time, they also noted it is useful to indicate which mods are urgent. TSO confirmed that it has published guidelines on Advanced Works Packages for transmission customers. The TSO noted that they expect to have an electronic mod application system in operation by Q3 2014. The SOs noted that if a generator requires information for a financial institution it would be dealt with on a case by case basis, rather than developing a standard template.

At meeting #37 the TSO noted it has resources based on approximately 100 applications for 2014 (mainly consisting of modifications), which is based on the actual modifications for 2013 but there is a backlog to be cleared in parallel. It noted the peaking and complex nature of modifications particularly for underground cables and/or subgroups which could cause delays. Industry noted that the deadline for REFIT 2 is driving the submission of mods by generators. It was noted that the modifications were for wind and non-wind. DSO noted that not many modifications were received for non-GPA projects. TSO noted that harmonics caused a lot of modification request delays last year, but is less likely to do so this year.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
12.	EirGrid to provide an update on the progress of the E-applications system at the next Liaison Group	TSO	Open

13 Capacity relocation

The SOs have received a high volume of queries in relation to this topic. The COPP rule set is applied but some clarity is required particularly to do with additional impacts on the system such as harmonics, evidence of need to relocate and negligible impact on the system. It should be noted that evidence must be provided to support need to relocate and to outline impacts this may have on others etc.

At meeting #35 the CER confirmed that they were reviewing the note provided by the SOs. CER agreed that they may publish a clarification on this matter, but would circulate any such paper to the group for comments before circulating to Industry.

At meeting #36 the CER confirmed that it was reviewing the note and would provide an update at the next meeting.

At meeting #37 the CER noted that it had reviewed the note prepared by the SOs. The CER confirmed that it was satisfied that that there was no requirement for a review of the policy and the COPP rule set should continue to be applied.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
13.	SOs to provide a note on capacity relocation clarifications prior to next meeting	SOs	Closed
14.	Discussion ongoing between SOs and CER. Intend to circulate paper to group for comment prior to publication. CER confirmed it does not intend to review the rule-set.	CER	Closed

14 Status of Gate 3 offers

At meeting #36 the TSO suggested removing the 'Accepted – Firm Only' column in the Gate 3 Project Status Update, as made projects easily identifiable. The TSO also suggested removing the constraints report column. The DSO also suggested adding an energisation column. All suggestions were agreed on.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
15.	SOs to update Gate 3 Status Update Template	TSO/DSO	Closed

15 TSO payment schedule

Industry requested that CER would review the TSO payment schedule with a view to harmonising with the DSO schedule. CER stated that it was unclear on the need for a review and that it may be too late in the Gate 3 process to carry out this review. Industry stated that this issue had been raised previously. CER undertook to reflect on the Industry views expressed at the meeting and to consider whether it was appropriate to harmonise the TSO schedule with the DSO schedule.

The CER will meet the SOs in the coming weeks to discuss issues around alignment and whether it is appropriate, with a view to publishing a note on this and clarifying the position. At meeting #35 the CER stated its intent to publish the paper by the end of year.

At meeting #36 the CER indicated that they are not proposing to align the payment schedules at this time and confirmed that note on this was being reviewed internally with the intention of publishing it by the end of February.

At meeting #37 the CER noted that this note was finalised and was waiting for internal approval before being published.

No.	Actions:	Owner	Status
16.	Information note to be published providing clarification on payment schedules.	CER	Open

16 AOB

The CER suggested holding meetings every quarterly instead of bi monthly. The group agreed to consider the suggestion and decide at the next meeting.

17 Documents Distributed with these Minutes

The following documents are published on the CER's website with the minutes of meeting #37:

- Agenda for Gate 3 Liaison Group #37
- SO & CER updates
- SO Pre Energisation Data Note

18 Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for 18 June 2014.