

1. Executive Report

Assessment outcome:

The first surveillance visit was completed against the PAS55 certification of EDF Energy Network Branch. The visit demonstrated that the Asset Management processes demonstrated at certification are still effective and are generally being applied therefore continued certification is recommended.

System effectiveness and continual improvement:

Since the last visit the major change is that Project SAS has successfully been delivered although not yet fully implemented. Project SAS and the introduction of Ellipse were presented during the certification visit as providing the solution to a number of issues identified at that time.

During this visit it was clear that much of the progress made by the organisation is as a direct result of the successful introduction, implementation and use of Ellipse and associated tools and reporting systems.

Using Ellipse many of the operational activities were shown to have better visibility, better understanding of priorities and better delivery. The management teams were able to demonstrate that Ellipse has been the basis for identifying their plans for future performance improvement. The success of Ellipse and its effective use to date has provided enthusiasm to staff across all parts of the organisation. At this early stage of introduction the prospect for further improvements is very positive.

Progress in areas not directly linked to Project SAS is also evident. Improvements to Asset Management processes and their effectiveness have improved and overall this provided the opportunity to close three Minor Non-conformances, two LR Prompts and one Scope For Improvement as a result.

During the Surveillance Visit the improvements demonstrated have highlighted opportunities for further improvement. This together with the commitment from EDF Energy Management and enthusiasm demonstrated by staff provide EDF Energy with a sound base from which to demonstrate continual improvement in the future.

Areas for management attention:

EDF Energy have achieved some major changes to date. Due to the scale of these changes it has not been possible to close all of the findings from the certification visit. As a result one Minor Non-conformance, one Scope For Improvement and four LR Prompts remain open. Delivery of existing plans and initiatives should, in the main, provide the opportunity to close these items at the next visit.

Data quality issues were raised as a Minor Non-conformance at the previous visit and although progress has been made, it is not yet sufficient to close the deficiency. During the current visit it was explained that asset information deficiencies for the SPN and LPN areas may not be quantified or addressed for two or three years as they are linked to the planned roll-out of ENMAC in those areas. The potential risk to assets the organisation is not currently managing due to deficiencies in the Asset Information Systems is currently unknown. The failure to take timely Corrective Action for this situation raises an additional Minor Non-conformance, in this case, against clause 4.5.2 of PAS 55-1.

EDF Energy should address this and the other deficiencies and take appropriate corrective/preventative action which will be verified at the next surveillance visit.