

DECC/Ofgem Smart Grid Forum Meeting 12

The meeting discussed the Vision and Routemap; SGF work stream updates; Systems Architecture; European updates	From Date and time of Meeting Location	DECC/Ofgem 23 rd January 2014 13.30-16.00 Ofgem, 9 Millbank	28 January 2014
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1. Present

- 1.1. See Appendix 1 for the list of attendees. Apologies received from Hannah Nixon.
- 1.2. Gareth Evans (GE) welcomed members and confirmed that the actions from the previous meeting had been undertaken.

2. Vision and Routemap

2.1. Adrian Butt (AB) presented a revised draft of the Vision & Routemap (V&R) document and thanked members for their time and input in its development. The members were invited to comment on the advanced draft presented. Members broadly welcomed the updated draft of the document. While noting that the document was much improved, some members commented that the document seemed to go beyond issues specific to smart grids. Sandy Sheard (SS) clarified that the V&R aims to present the SGF's vision of the future energy system landscape and then set out the route the group collectively expect to be taken within that landscape to deliver maximum smart grid benefits. Members noted that some refinement of the text, in particular the executive summary, is needed to bring this intention to the fore.

2.2. It was agreed that DECC would continue to refine the V&R document, taking into account the comments of the SGF. It was also agreed that reference to a new work stream would be removed from the document. Members were invited to submit further written comments to DECC by Thursday 30 January for inclusion in the document. DECC will circulate a final draft by mid-February with a view to publishing by the end of February.

Action

Provide any further written comments on V&R to DECC
Refine V&R document taking into account comments of the SGF

Person – By

All – 30 January
DECC – mid-February

3. WS5 - update

3.1. Gordon Graham (GG) presented the initial design for the smart grids web portal under development by work stream 5. This initial design will be passed on to a contractor who will develop the final portal. Work stream 5 proposes to initially develop a portal with limited functionality, which would bring together in one place links to the sites of the WS5 parties.¹ This option was chosen because it will be less resource intensive and lower cost than the alternative 'advanced' option. GE noted that it will be possible at a later stage to develop the site to include more advanced functionality. He suggested that the decision to do so would be based on the future availability of funds and the success and usefulness of the portal in its initial, proposed format.

3.2. Members of the SGF expressed support for the proposal. It was noted that the decision to pursue the low cost, low risk option, while keeping open the possibility for further development, was a prudent one.

¹ ENA, BEAMA, SmartGridGB, IET and HubNET. The ETI and TSB have also offered to support the initiative.

3.3. Judith Ward (JW) noted that the portal is a welcome step in ensuring the sharing of knowledge on smart grids. However, she expressed concern that smart grid funding may be being inefficiently allocated because funding bodies are unaware of duplication and knowledge gaps. GE stated that Ofgem takes this issue seriously. JW expressed the view that a small proportion of the total funding should be used to extract and disseminate learning on a meta level. It was noted that the Low Carbon Innovation Coordination Group also looks closely at how smart grid funding is allocated.

4. WS6 - update

4.1. Mark Askew (MA) updated the group on recent developments in work stream 6. The group is currently looking at the specific data, communications and billing requirements of the Demand Side Response (DSR) options identified in previous stages of work. The group aims to define at a high level the roles and responsibilities of parties throughout the value chain in delivering different forms of DSR. Work stream 6 will provide an update to the April forum summarising this work and the next steps.

4.2. MA also informed the group that Ofgem's smarter markets programme has joined work stream 6, following a consultation which indicated strong industry support for a DSR framework. This aligns with the activities of work stream 6. The deliverables of work stream 6 will then feed back into the smarter markets programme, which plans to implement a DSR framework during the course of 2015.

4.3. Members of the SGF expressed support for closer collaboration between the smarter markets programme and work stream 6. The members were also reassured that other relevant industry groups, such as the ENA's DSR Network Forum (formerly Shared Services Forum), have the opportunity provide input to work stream six.

5. WS7 - update

5.1. Steve Johnson (SJ) updated the group on the procurement process being undertaken by work stream 7. There were 22 respondents to the call for information. A workshop was held with potential suppliers to discuss the objectives and requirements of the group. SJ noted the importance of giving very clear and precise information in the invitation to tender and commented that those in attendance at the workshop considered that it was successful in allowing a useful exchange of ideas between the interested parties. While, work stream 7 hopes to be able to report the outcome of the tender process to the SGF at the next meeting, SJ noted that the group will take more time to complete the process if it is needed. However, it is expected this this will be a matter of weeks rather than months.

6. System Architecture

6.1. John Scott presented the Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET) paper 'Electricity networks – handling a shock to the system'. The IET formed an expert group to address concerns about how the challenges posed by a changing electricity system, such as inertia and voltage rise, are accounted for in system modelling. The paper emphasises the importance of interactions between parties across the system and the consequent need for a whole system approach. Drawing comparisons with other sectors, the paper suggests that there is a 'system architect' role to be filled in the electricity sector. JS noted that the precise nature of this role in the electricity sector would be up for discussion. He further noted the intention, following the publication of the paper, to undertake some evidence building (potentially funded by the Technology Strategy Board) based on best practise elsewhere.

6.2. JS requested that the SGF agree to act as a point of contact for the IET's work in this area to ensure that its ideas and findings are effectively disseminated. The members

agreed that this would be beneficial and decided that the IET work could feed into the SGF through work stream 7.

6.3. John Scott (JS) presented the Smart Grid Architecture Model (SGAM). The SGAM is intended to provide a common language with which to discuss the integration of smart grid solutions in the electricity system. It comprises the following layers of information: Component, Communications, Information, Function and Business. The SGAM could be used to provide a logical order to the operation of smart grids. JS posed the question; does the SGF think that this is something of value that we should explore?

6.4. Duncan Botting (DB) noted that the use of SGAM closely relates to the activities of work stream 4. He sought the member's approval to carry forward work on the model within WS4. DB further noted that there is still an opportunity to influence the final form of the model as not all the layers have been populated by the European working group. The members of the SGF expressed interest in the potential utility of the model and noted the model's potential importance. However, the members also noted that more information is needed before deciding how to take it forward within the SGF. GE suggested that interested members should attend the next work stream 4 meeting to discuss how to explore the model further. David Openshaw (DO), Stewart Reid (SR), and Ashley Pocock (AP) volunteered to help populate the model using LCNF and other data.

Action

Populate SGAM model to assist WS4 in assessing its potential

Person - By

DB/DO/SR/AP –
further report to
next SGF

7. European/International update

7.1. Keavy Larkin (KL) drew the member's attention to four European activities:

- The Commission has set the work programme for Expert Group 3 (Regulatory Recommendations for Smart Grid Deployment) of its Smart Grid Task Force. EG3 will produce regulatory recommendations in three areas: flexibility, incentives and commercial arrangements. Dora Guzeleva (DG) of Ofgem is the co-rapporteur for the chapter on flexibility but will also provide input to the other strands. The final EG3 report will include a chapter on each topic in which it will present conclusions and make clear regulatory recommendations.
- The Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER) DSO group will input into the CEER/ ACER 2025 green paper. The paper seeks to address whether the framework of regulation, as it is currently being developed, will be robust to the changes which are likely to occur, and if not, in which areas it needs to be developed, and in which ways. The UK has offered to draft on a number of areas, including flexibility and losses. The report will be published in September.
- CEER has approved and will shortly publish the report on its survey of smart grids across the member states. This work was led by Ofgem and updates the status review CEER conducted in 2011. It seeks to gather evidence and analysis about the regulatory approaches to the demonstration and deployment of smart grids.
- A revised text of Requirements for Generators (RFG) was released on 16 January to Member States. DECC and Ofgem are collecting views from stakeholders on key issues, which can then be raised via DECC on a Cross Boarder Committee on 28 January. RFG will be progressed to comitology in March or April. A revised text of the Demand Connection Code (DCC) will be released for comment to Member States at the end of February.

8. Any other business

8.1. There was no other business. The next meeting will be hosted by DECC on Tuesday 22 April 2014.

8.2. The dates for the remaining meetings in 2014 are as follows:

- Tuesday 22 July
- Tuesday 28 October

Appendix 1

Attendees:

Gareth Evans (Chair)	Ofgem
Sandy Sheard	DECC
Mike Calviou	National Grid
Jonathan Graham	CHPA
Dave Openshaw	UK Power Networks
Phil Swift	WPD
Phil Jones	Northern Powergrid
Stewart Reid	SSE
Ashley Pocock	EDF Energy
Yselkla Farmer	BEAMA
Chris Welby	Good Energy
John Mulcahy	British Gas
Gavin Jones	Electralink
Judith Ward	Sustainability First
John Scott	Chiltern Power
Duncan Botting	GST
Nick Jenkins	Cardiff University
Ben Davison	OLEV
Martin Hill	Scottish Power
Steve Johnson	ENWL
Sara Bell	Demand Response Coalition
Paul Fidler	ENA
Gordon Graham	Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET)

DECC: Adrian Butt, Robert Kinnaird

Ofgem: Mark Askew, Keavy Larkin, Andrew White