ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

DECC working group on community energy grid connections

Welcome and introduction from the Chair

Sarah Harrison, Senior Partner, Ofgem

23/01/2014

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

The working group

- Discuss issues around grid connections that are currently being faced by community energy projects, and identify the actions that can make a real difference to future projects.
- Focus on issues not currently being progressed by other fora.

Proposed work plan

23 January	**1st working group meeting** – identify priority issues and the parties and/or fora best placed to develop possible solutions
February/March	Possible solutions developed by identified parties/fora
27 March	**2nd working group meeting** – discussion on emerging solutions
April/May	Further work on possible solutions by identified parties/fora
4 June (indicative)	**3rd working group meeting** – discuss and agree recommendations
Summer 2014	Final recommendations sent to DECC SoS

3

Today's agenda

Welcome	**10.00 - 10.05**
Presentations	**10.05 - 11.20**
The Government's Community Energy Strategy, DECC	
RIIO incentives and connections charging policies, Ofgem	
Grid issues affecting community energy projects, Community Energy Scotland	
A DNO perspective, Electricity North West	
Break - tea and coffee	**11.20 - 11.30**
Agree Terms of Reference	**11.30 - 11.45**
Break out discussions	**11.45 - 13:05**
Priorities, possible solutions and fora for further work (50 minutes)	
Feedback and next steps (30 minutes)	
Lunch	**13.05 - 13.25**
Closing remarks	**13:25 - 13.30**

4

Department of Energy & Climate Change

The Government's Community Energy Strategy

A presentation to the working group on community energy grid connections

23rd January 2014

Department of Energy & Climate Change

Overview of presentation

- An overview of what we mean by community energy
- International examples
- What has the Government been doing in the UK
- The community energy working groups
- Thoughts on how this working group can help

Department of Energy & Climate Change

An overview of what we mean by community energy

Department of Energy & Climate Change

Community Energy in the UK

What is Community Energy?

- DECC has been using the following working definition, which was put together through discussion with stakeholders from the community energy sector:

"Community projects or initiatives focused on the four strands of reducing energy use, managing energy better, generating energy or purchasing energy. This includes communities of place and communities of interest. These projects or initiatives share an emphasis on community ownership, leadership or control where the community benefits."

- This definition includes supporting on-going energy related activities.

Department of Energy & Climate Change

Community Energy in the UK

Why a Community Energy Strategy now?

- The advent of micro-generation has provided an opportunity for a variety of groups, including communities, to become active in the energy eco-system.
- For communities the Government recognised this in the coalition agreement:

"We will encourage community-owned renewable energy schemes where local people benefit from the power produced."

- Community energy has a large number of strands and we would like to help this sector to meet its full potential, and to help communities take more control of their energy they use.

Department of Energy & Climate Change

Case Study: Aston Hayes

- Ashton Hayes is a village of around 1000 people near Chester, in Cheshire.
- In 2006, it launched 'Ashton Hayes Going Carbon Neutral (AHGCN)', aiming to make the village of just over 400 homes carbon neutral.
- Domestic energy consumption has fallen by 20.9%, and carbon emissions overall (including homes and transport) by 23% - up to £300 per household.
- AHGCN has also installed community owned solar PV arrays on public buildings.
- Through the Ofgem Low Carbon Networks Fund (LCNF), Ashton Hayes has partnered with SP Energy Networks for the Ashton Hayes Smart Village project.
- More information about the project is available in a short video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wTG9M5_tnDU

Department of Energy & Climate Change

International Examples

Department of Energy & Climate Change

Community Energy in Germany

- By the end of 2010, 'community' energy made up 40% of Germany's total renewable energy capacity, largely through private citizens investing in energy cooperatives.
- A further 11% was owned by farmers and 14% by project developers.
- The 'Big Four' utility companies – E.ON, RWE, EnBW and Vattenfall - only controlled a 13.5% share of the market.
- Important to remember there are difference in the structure of the German system when compared to the UK.

Department of Energy & Climate Change

Community Energy in Denmark

- The majority of wind turbines are wholly or jointly owned by citizens, communities, landowners and farmers.
- 150,000 households in Denmark owned or held shares in wind farm projects as far back as 2001.
- 29% of Denmark's total electricity generation capacity in 2010 was provided by wind turbines.
- In recent years the industry has become more 'professionalised' with the development of larger, more expensive turbines.
- Factors that led to Denmark's success include: a strong domestic market underpinned by incentives provided through feed-in regulation; capital support for early-stage projects; standardised rules for grid-connection; and tax advantages.

Department of Energy & Climate Change

What has the Government been doing in the UK?

Department of Energy & Climate Change

Examples of what Government has already done to help the sector

- Feed-in Tariffs
- Competitions such as the Local Energy Assessment Fund (LEAF) and the Low Carbon Community Challenge (LCCC)
- The Rural Community Energy Fund (launched June 2013)
- Green Deal Communities
- Training 5,000 community organisers by 2015
- Renewable Heat Premium Payment (RHPP) Communities Scheme
- Supporting oil buying groups and backing the Buy Oil Early campaign
- Green Open Homes network

Department of Energy & Climate Change

Specifically related to the forthcoming Community Energy Strategy

- Community Energy Call for Evidence ran from June to August 2013 with over 300 responses
- Meeting with a range of stakeholders, including the Community Energy Contact Group and the Community Energy Coalition
- Community energy finance round-table
- Setting up 3 community energy working groups
- Additional activities to be announced within the strategy document
- Community energy planning & regulation round-table

Department of Energy & Climate Change

The community energy working groups

Department of Energy & Climate Change

The working groups

Micro-Hydropower

- Chaired by Barbara Hammond of Low Carbon Hub.

Planning & Permitting

- Chaired by Hugh Ellis of the Town & Country Planning Association (TPCA)

Grid Connections (electricity network connections)

- Chaired by Sarah Harrison of Ofgem

Department of Energy & Climate Change

Thoughts on how this working group can help

Department of Energy & Climate Change

A need for dialogue

Unpicking the problems

- There are clearly issues for community groups that relate to grid connections.
- But which of these issues are 'general issues' and which are issues due to community groups being involved?
- How can DNOs and the community energy sector better work together going forward?
  - A good starting point may be the report *Overcoming grid connection issues for community energy project* by Cornwall Energy for Co-operatives UK and The Co-operative Group
- But DECC do not want to be prescriptive to any of the working groups so we will leave it to the chairs and the groups to decide how to take things forward.

Department of Energy & Climate Change

What DECC would like from this group

- At the Planning & Regulation round-table the Secretary of State, when suggesting he working groups, requested that the report back to him with proposals to address the problems community groups face.
- We are asking that the groups report back by July 2014.
- If there is a cost involved, we would like to understand what these costs are.
- DECC will consider all the proposals and work with the working groups to understand which can be taken forward.

Department of Energy & Climate Change

Any questions?

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

Community Energy Working Group

RIIO incentives and connection charging policies

James Veaney, Head of Distribution Policy
23/1/2014

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

Our role

Our principal duty is to protect the interests of consumers, both present and future.

- promoting value for money
- promoting security of supply and sustainability, for present and future generations of consumers
- the supervision and development of markets and competition
- regulation and the delivery of Government schemes.

Tools	Outcomes
POLICIES	•Charging for network connections & use of distribution system
ENGINEERING RECOMMENDATIONS	P2/6, G83 & G59 to ensure the integrity of the network
LICENCE CONDITIONS	•Requirement to offer a connection •Timescales for issuing quotes •Ability to recover costs for connection and Use of System •Requirement to have charging methodologies
PRICE CONTROLS	•DPCR5 (2010 – 2015) •RIIO-ED1 (2015 – 2023)

24

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

Background

- Recent growth in DG has highlighted difficulties in connecting to the network

Process & Service
-Lengthy and requires a lot of information/technical knowledge
-Not designed around customer needs

Provision of Information
-Provision of network data would help developers know where to connect

Charges
-Connection costs too high
-Not transparent
-Lack of strategic investment to release grid constraints
-Requirement for upfront payment for full cost

Innovation
- Lack of creative thinking and willingness to explore alternative approaches

25

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

Our response

- Alongside licence conditions, industry codes, charging methodologies we introduced range of measures at DPCR5 to improve performance

- **Guaranteed Standards of Performance (GSOP) in connections**. Maximum timescales for stages in the connection process, from issuing quotations through to energisation. Where a DNO fails to meet the standard it must make a payment to the affected customer.
- **A broad measure of customer service** that includes a customer satisfaction survey with connections customers. A DNO stands to receive financial penalties or rewards based on their performance.
- **Obligations on the DNOs** to produce a connection guide for distributed generation customers and publish Long Term Development Statements
- Incentives to open up connections market to **Competition**

- Gap remained in understanding. We instigated DG Forum events – customers/DNOs to discuss issues and how to improve arrangements

26

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

Outcomes

- Each DNO has developed (with customers), published and is delivering a workplan of improvements

- Already yielding results:
  - DNOs focussing more on specific needs of DG
  - Better information/guidance
  - Dedicated resource
  - Online database of wind turbines
  - Online capacity maps
  - Access to network diagrams & design standards
  - 'Fair' terms for deposits
  - More detail in connection offers
  - Simplified & standardised processes

- Starting to identify what's possible. This is an ongoing process – vital to understand what represents best practice?

27

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

Our work

- For the next price control (**RIIO-ED1, 2015-2023**) we will strengthen these arrangements. Introduce new mechanism to address customer issues -

  Incentive of Connections Engagement. This will require DNOs to -
  - submit evidence of how they have identified, engaged with and responded to the needs of their customers
  - develop a forward-looking work plan of actions to improve performance (with associated delivery dates)
  - demonstrate performance against their relevant performance indicators and progress against their work plan of actions
  - A DNO that does not engage or respond to the needs of its customers will be subject to **financial penalties**

- Embedding DG Forum approach into regulatory framework – with focus on outcomes

28

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

Connection Charging Policy

- Policy is that an up-front charge (that reflects the cost of making that connection) is made to any customer connecting to the network – energy users AND energy producers
- All customers pay ongoing charges for use of system (20% of energy bill)
- Recognise that for new connections the most significant issue is cost – particularly where reinforcement is required
  - Why are connection costs so high?
  - Why can't the costs be spread over longer time period
  - Why doesn't the DNO provide more network in anticipation of my needs?

29

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

Connection Charging Policy

- No silver bullet. Costs incurred need to be recovered and we have to protect interests of all customers
- Changes to arrangements might deliver benefits for new connections but have ramifications for others

Shallow connection boundary	Reinforcement for new connections recovered from other users (higher energy bills) & no incentive to connect where it is least expensive
Spread connection costs over life of asset	Other users carry the risk of project defaulting

Investing ahead of need

- Yes, if it delivers net benefits to all customers
- Investing for new connections creates risk of stranded assets (and higher charges)
  - Imperfect knowledge (1 in 5 offers are accepted)
  - Changes in technologies, govt. policy etc
  - New capacity created consumed by others

30

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

Connection Charging Policies

- There are options – we expect DNOs to explore alternate arrangements that reduce connection costs

- We've invested over £30m of customer money funding innovative projects to release capacity/improve connections for generation

Flexible Plug and Play (UKPN)
Low carbon hub (WPD)
Active Network Management (SSE)
Real time thermal rating (NPG)
Accelerating Renewable Connections (ARC) (SP)
FlexDGrid (WPD)
Capacity to Customers (ENWL)

- Industry has mechanisms to propose changes to charging arrangements which we approve or reject - changes have to better meet relevant objectives
  - Development, maintenance and operation of efficient, co-ordinated, and economical networks
  - The facilitation of effective competition
  - The efficient discharge obligations imposed in Licences
  - The promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of this Agreement
  - Compliance with relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators.

31

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

Ofgem is the Office of Gas and Electricity Markets.

Our priority is to protect and to make a positive difference for all energy consumers. We work to promote value for money, security of supply and sustainability for present and future generations. We do this through the supervision and development of markets, regulation and the delivery of government schemes.

We work effectively with, but independently of, government, the energy industry and other stakeholders. We do so within a legal framework determined by the UK government and the European Union.

www.ofgem.gov.uk

Grid issues and potential solutions- A Community Energy perspective

Presentation to DECC Community Grid Working Group

Felix Wight
Community Energy Scotland

January 2014

Outline

- Who we are
- Grid issues faced by communities
- Potential solutions
- Work underway
- Contacts

Community representatives

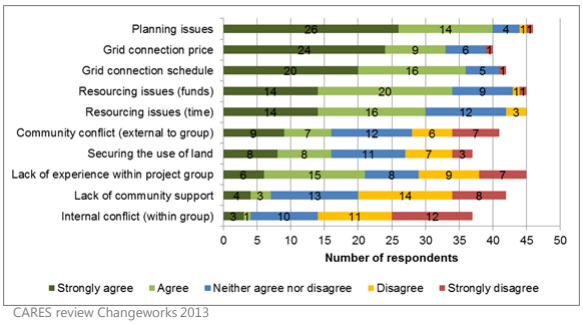
Energy4All

regensw delivering sustainable energy

Bath & West Community Energy
Generating Local Energy

Community Energy Scotland
Empowering Communities

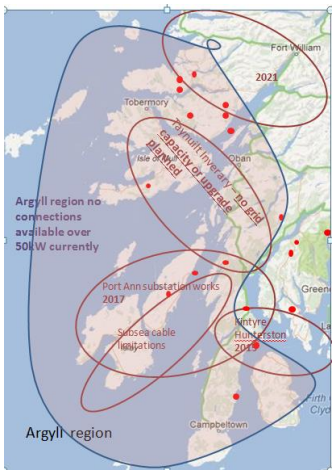
The scale of the problem



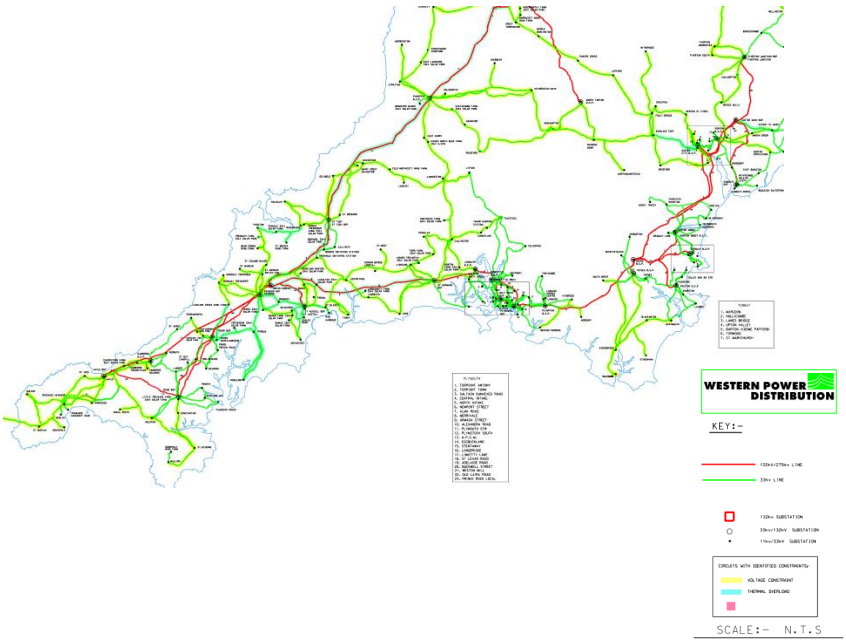
CARES review Changeworks 2013

•Community groups frequently struggling with grid connection (both price 66% and schedule 77%)

The Connection Crunch



- In many parts of the UK the grid is technically 'full'
- Multiple constraints at both D and T level
- Largely reactive investment process for distribution infrastructure means delays are inevitable



Connection costs

Project	Area	Size of project (MW)	Cost of connection feasibility (ex VAT)	£/MW connection feasibility stage	Connection timescale
1	West Highland	0.182	£ 950,000	£ 5,219,780	2020
2	North Highland	2.7	£ 500,000	£ 185,185	2020
3	SW Scotland	0.5	£ 1,300,000	£ 2,600,000	-
4	West Highland	2	£ 5,250,000	£ 2,625,000	2018
5	West Highland	0.9		£	- 2020
6	West Highland	0.9		£498,782	2018
7	Argyll	0.3	£ 200,000	£ 666,667	2015
8	Argyll	0.9	£ 230,000	£ 255,556	2015
9	Argyll	1.8	£ 320,000	£ 177,778	2015
10	Argyll	0.1	£ 100,000	£ 1,000,000	2017
11	Argyll	0.5	£ 3,720,000	£ 7,440,000	2017
12	Argyll	0.9	£ 3,730,000	£ 4,144,444	2017

Customer service

- Many community energy projects connecting for first time; processes not straightforward for non-specialists
- No dedicated point of contact within DNO connection teams for community applicants
- Many communities have experienced slow/inconsistent communication from DNO's- but good examples too!

Application process

- Lack of dialogue/ optioneering when requesting connections
- Lack of detailed publicly available information on grid capacity/ contracted generators
- Free connection application/ paid for feasibility encourages speculative applications

Distribution connected generators

- Vast majority of community projects are connected at distribution level; however DG cannot request non-firm access to the transmission network
- DG does not currently benefit from the improved cashflow offered by CMP192 by staggering payments for transmission level reinforcement
- DG is currently acknowledged to reduce some DNO costs through 'embedded benefits'- however these are under review by NG and new charging arrangements likely to increase costs

Barriers to grid innovation

- FiT generators on export constrained connections cannot become fully commissioned without on-site load
- FiT generators can only accredit as either off grid or on-grid; this rules out innovative hybrid solutions
- Public funding for innovative technical and commercial solutions to grid constraints is available- however lack of clarity on FiT eligibility of grant funding for energy storage and private wire networks

Potential solutions

Issue	Solutions	Lead
Connection timeframes	'Use it or lose it' clauses; Seasonal connection offers; ANM; **Strategic investment**;	Ofgem DG/DNO working group
Connection costs	**Clustering/consortia**; 'Pay as you Go' cost recovery post commissioning	DG/DNO working group
Application process	'Quote Plus'; heat maps; **fair deposits**; queue transparency	DG/DNO working group
Customer service	Community energy **DNO lead contact**; community engagement strategy	DNO's
DN/TN boundary	ANM for exporting GSP's; Amendment to CMP 192	DG/DNO working group
FiT issues impacting grid access	Amend/ **clarify FiT guidance** for innovation projects	Ofgem FiT's team
Access to funding for innovation projects	Increase the emphasis on **community participation in LCNF** projects	Ofgem; DNO's
Access to finance for application and deposit costs	Lender of last resort (e.g. REIF in Scotland)	DECC

....Aren't we already doing all this?

- To an extent- but needs to be speeded up
- Many of the issues are the same for commercial DG, but communities particularly impacted- locational and financial constraints
- Impact on local economies is significant; this is a social issue as well as an energy one

Changing the relationship

•DNO's and community energy projects have a lot to offer each other: customer engagement, change management, technical advice

•How can that relationship be strengthened, in recognition of the specific needs of community customers and the Government's ambitions for community energy?

•How ambitious can we be in putting communities at the heart of network development and innovation?

Contacts

Felix Wight

Merlin Hyman

Pete Capener

John Malone

Agenda

electricity north west
Bringing energy to your door

- This presentation intended to give a flavour of the work DNOs have been doing over the last year or so
- It uses slides presented to the DG Fora held in 2013 to
  - Describe the collective approach taken by DNOs
  - An example of what one DNO has done, but all DNOs have good examples of progress made
- It starts with a reminder of two of the obligations that shape some of our approaches...

49

Two key obligations...

electricity north west
Bringing energy to your door

Electricity Act 1989

9 General duties of licence holders

1. It shall be the duty of an electricity distributor—
   a) to develop and maintain an efficient, co-ordinated and economical system of electricity distribution;
   b) to facilitate competition in the supply and generation of electricity.

Standard conditions of the Electricity Distribution Licence

Condition 19. Prohibition of discrimination under Chapters 4 and 5

Chapter 4: Use of System and connection

- 19.1 The licensee must not discriminate between any person or class or classes of persons**:**
- (a) in providing Use of System;
- (b) in carrying out works for the purposes of connection to the licensee's Distribution System; or
- (c) in providing for a modification to or the retention of an existing connection to that system.
- 19.2 Without prejudice to paragraph 19.1, and subject to standard condition 14 (Charges for Use of System and connection), the licensee must not make charges for providing Use of System to any person or class or classes of persons which differ from the charges for such provision to any other person or any other class or classes of persons, except insofar as such differences reasonably reflect differences in the costs associated with such provision.

The Voice of the Networks

Energy Networks Association

Review of progress

Name Brian Hoy
Position Chair DG/DNO Steering Group
Date 17 October 2013

Context

- DG Forum
  - Ofgem held the first series of DG Fora during 2011
  - These were mainly explanations on how to get connected etc
  - Ofgem repeated the Fora again during 2012
    - London - 22 October 2012
    - Cardiff - 30 October 2012
    - Glasgow – 12 November 2012
  - These were focused on DNOs reporting back on the progress they had made since the previous years Fora

ofgem

Promoting choice and value for all gas and electricity customers

Direct Dial: 020 7901 3879
Email: olivia.powis@ofgem.gov.uk

Date: 6 September 2012

Dear Colleagues

Re: Ofgem's Distributed Generation (DG) Forum 2012.

Over recent years we have witnessed a growth in the number of Distributed Generators seeking to connect to the distribution network. Accompanying this have been concerns that customers are encountering a number of difficulties in navigating their way through the connection process.

In May 2011[1] we issued an open letter asking for views on the experience of getting DG connected to the distribution network and hosted a series of regional events to explore the issues raised[2], with stakeholders.

In an effort to ensure continued improvement in addressing these issues, we are intending to repeat these events in autumn 2012.

These will be held on the following dates:

- London - 22 October 2012
- Cardiff - 30 October 2012
- Glasgow – 12 November 2012

If you are interested in attending, please signal your preferred venue in your response.

In preparation for these events, we are issuing this open letter to request feedback from the DG community on the progress made to date in improving the experience of getting connected.

Responses to the questions below should be submitted to Olivia Powis olivia.powis@ofgem.gov.uk. The closing date for responses is 28 September 2012, however we would welcome early feedback in order to ensure effective input.

Yours sincerely

James Veaney

[1] http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Networks/ElecDistr/Policy/DistGen/Documents1/DG%20Forum%20Open%20Letter_May.pdf
[2] http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Networks/ElecDistr/Policy/DistGen/Documents1/high%20level%20summary%20of%20the%20Forum_published.pdf

The Office of Gas and Electricity Markets
9 Millbank London SW1P 3GE Tel 020 7901 7000 Fax 020 7901 7066 www.ofgem.gov.uk

RenewableUK proposed Work Programme

Issue	Suggestions	By When?
Customer service	• monitor customer satisfaction • checklist of what customers can expect • account managers • recruitment of non-technical support	?
Application process	• iterative process • database of turbine specs • option for extension of validity • contestable works part of same application	?
Information provision	• information on LV network, voltage issues, and plans	?
Technical	• innovation collation and roll-out • safeguards against unnecessary works • consistency in standards interpretation • use of legacy projects and strategic developments	?
Charging	• fair deposit • itemised breakdown of costs, incl. contestable • application fee	?
Choice	• address barriers to competition	?
Feedback	• risk-free appeals process • customer feedback seminars • issues log – also to capture new issues	?

Source: Renewable UK presentation London DG Forum 22 October 2013
http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Networks/ElecDist/Policy/DistGen/Documents1/20121025_Zoltan_Zavody_RenewableUK.pdf

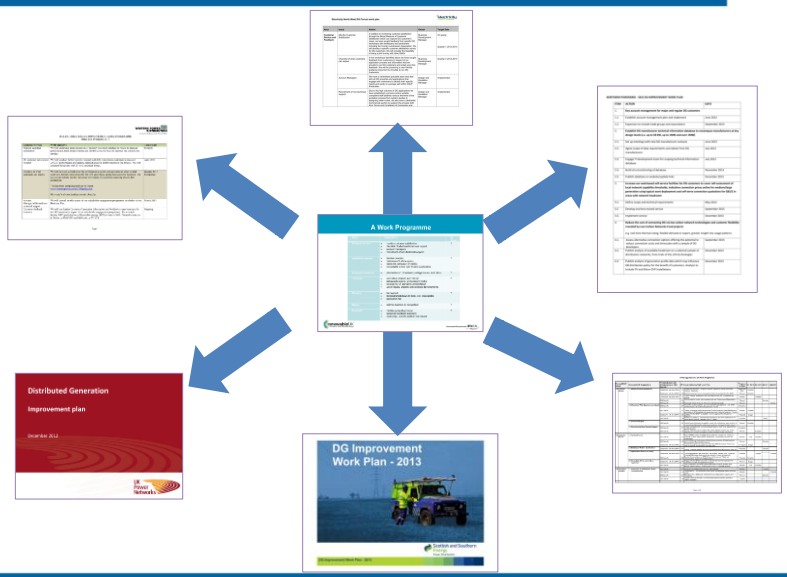
How we arrived here today

DG Fora
- At the London Forum RenewableUK spoke and set out a challenge:
- To have a "*prioritised, scheduled, co-ordinated work programme*"

Ofgem
- On 27 November 2012 Ofgem requested a work plan before Christmas
- Also requested responses to 40+ questions not answered at the DG Fora

Workshop
- Seeking to engage with customer and industry representatives
- Seeking feedback on the robustness of our plans

DNOs developed and published their plans…



DG-DNO Steering Group

- We have now established a DG-DNO Steering Group
  - To discuss and address distributed generation connection issues, share best practice, develop agreed solutions, and communicate progress to all stakeholders, notably at the annual DG Forum.
- Steering Group comprises a cross section of stakeholders
  - 6 DNOs
  - 9 Trade Association representatives (both officers and practitioners)
  - 2 representing ‘Competition in Connections’
- Acting as an excellent forum to share best practice
- Been heavily involved in the organisation of today
- Established a DG Technical Forum
  - Hear more in break out session this afternoon

Summary

- Pleased that some demonstrative progress being made
- Pleased that the we have created a focal point and a collaborative way of working
- We are on a journey, but at least we now have a clear map of where we are trying to go

Agenda

electricity north west
Bringing energy to your door

1. **Electricity North West**: Connecting the North West
2. **Our Work Plan – "Making it easier for customers to connect"**

7. **Looking Ahead**

59

Connecting the North West

electricity north west
Bringing energy to your door

We're not a big multinational we serve only the North West

We distribute electricity to approximately **5 million** people at **2.4 million** domestic and industrial locations consuming **23 terawatt hours** of electricity annually

£12bn of Network Assets

- 57 000km of cable
- 15 grid supply points
- 100 bulk supply substations
- 418 primary substations
- 34 000 transforming points

60

Our work plan

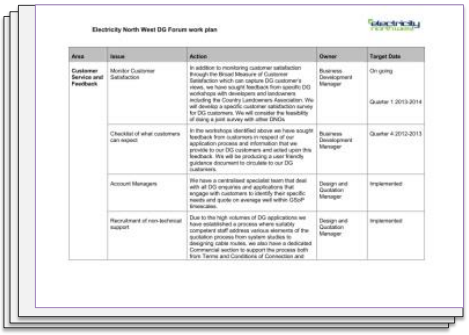
electricity north west
Bringing energy to your door

We put together our work plan after last year's forum in response to the challenge from Renewable UK to set out what we were doing. **It includes**:

Technical

Charging

Choice



Customer Service & Feedback

Application Process

Information Provision

61

Our work plan

electricity north west
Bringing energy to your door

Our work plan has been about **ONE** thing:

"Making life easier for our customers to connect"

Before you apply | When you apply | When we quote | When we deliver

DG Application → Our Quote → Our Approach

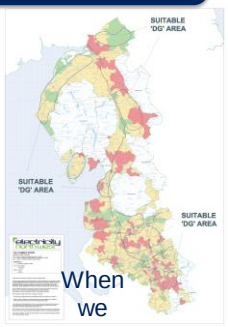
62

Before you apply

electricity north west
Bringing energy to your door

"Making life easier for our customers to connect"

- Heat maps on our website
- Network information made available
- Drop in sessions
- Open door policy



63

When you apply

electricity north west
Bringing energy to your door

"Making life easier for our customers to connect"

- We don't ask for letter of authority
- Only ask for detailed information when we need it
- Developed flexible approaches
- Will talk to you about options

64

Our quote

electricity north west
Bringing energy to your door

"Making life easier for our customers to connect"

- Provide a good level of cost break down
- Customer can accept either full offer or just the non contestable work
- Offer phased payments
- Quote valid for six months and will extend if no interactivity
- Offer flexible connection offers – 'C2C'

65

Our approach

electricity north west
Bringing energy to your door

"Making life easier for our customers to connect"

- Building on 'Connect and Manage'
- Extended approach from PV to small LV
- Don't require duplicate circuit breakers
- Allow flexible power factors

66

Looking Ahead

electricity north west
Bringing energy to your door

- Protection Improvements facilitating increased DG
- HV switchgear replacement to increase Fault Level capacity
- Actively involved in Innovation projects
- Ongoing committed to customer engagement

67

Conclusion

electricity north west
Bringing energy to your door

Our work plan has been about **ONE** thing:

"Making life easier for our customers to connect"

68

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

DECC working group on community energy grid connections

Discussion on priorities, possible solutions and fora for further work

Sarah Harrison, Senior Partner, Ofgem

23/01/2014

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

Key questions

1. Which issues should be prioritised by this working group?
2. What are possible options for resolving these issues?
3. Which parties/industry groups are best placed to identify and take forward possible solutions to these issues?

70

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

DECC working group on community energy grid connections

Closing remarks

Sarah Harrison, Senior Partner, Ofgem
23/01/2014

Proposed work plan

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

23 January	**1st working group meeting** – identify priority issues and the parties and/or fora best placed to develop possible solutions
February/March	Possible solutions developed by identified parties/fora
27 March	**2nd working group meeting** – discussion on emerging solutions
April/May	Further work on possible solutions by identified parties/fora
4 June (indicative)	**3rd working group meeting** – discuss and agree recommendations
Summer 2014	Final recommendations sent to DECC SoS

72

ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

Ofgem is the Office of Gas and Electricity Markets.

Our priority is to protect and to make a positive difference for all energy consumers. We work to promote value for money, security of supply and sustainability for present and future generations. We do this through the supervision and development of markets, regulation and the delivery of government schemes.

We work effectively with, but independently of, government, the energy industry and other stakeholders. We do so within a legal framework determined by the UK government and the European Union.

www.ofgem.gov.uk