

## **Comments on the Flexible Plug and Play (FPP) Project**

The Energy Policy Research Group (EPRG)-University of Cambridge, was a project partner primarily involved in Workstream 3 of the FPP project by delivering the International Experience Report (P.0215) and five additional related papers.

We want to comment on the high degree of professionalism exhibited by UK Power Networks' (UKPN) and their support for our analysis in order to ensure the delivery of our reports on time and on budget. We agreed a detailed schedule for each piece of work that we delivered with specific deadlines for completing each report and we had regular meetings to present our progress and to discuss our results. UK Power Networks supported us in the provision of relevant data and introduced us to key stakeholders in the FPP project that helped us with our research.

As a result we are very pleased with the quality of work that the FPP project enabled us to produce and to disseminate internationally. Four out of our five papers have been accepted for publication in top energy journals (Applied Energy, Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews, Energy Policy). A short version of two of them has also been accepted as a book chapter (from Wiley). Two of our papers will be presented at the 23rd International Conference on Electricity Distribution (CIRED) in June 2015. We also organised the first EPRG Workshop on Distributed Generation and Smart Connections, with the support of UK Power Networks. This enabled us not only to disseminate our work but also to bring together important players in the arena of DG and have their insights related to the importance of promoting smart DG connections for helping to solve energy supply problems and to reach a low carbon economy in a cheaper and quicker way. The workshop received excellent feedback from delegates from energy regulators, electric utilities, energy industry, local government, NGOs and academia.

In summary our work on FPP with UK Power Networks allowed us to raise key questions as associated to DG regulation in the UK, which we believe is very relevant not only for future initiatives similar to the FPP project but also to the transition of smart DG connections to business as usual. These are related to (1) the importance of promoting smart DG connections and the role of regulation on it, (2) the introduction of a smart connection incentive that allows a better distribution of benefits of smart DG connections and (3) the implementation of competitive mechanisms by DNOs for allocating DG capacity in a cost-effective way.

In short, we found the FPP project intellectually and professionally challenging and are very pleased to have been part of its success. We were very impressed by UKPN's leadership of it and enormously enjoyed the opportunity to work with them and our other partners. We would certainly wholeheartedly recommend them for a Successful Delivery Reward.

*Dr Karim Anaya*

*Professor Michael Pollitt*

*Energy Policy Research Group*

*University of Cambridge*

*22 May 2015*