

**Minutes and actions of the National Grid Electricity Transmission
Independent Stakeholder Group (ISG) Meeting 04**

ISG	NGET-ISG04
Meeting Date:	18 th July 2024
Location:	Online
Start Time:	9:15 – 16:45
Attendees:	<p>Chair: Trisha McAuley (TM)</p> <p>Technical Secretary: Theresa Potter (TP)</p> <p>Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eddie Proffitt (EP), Major Energy Users Council • Stew Horne (SHo), Energy Savings Trust • Zoe McLeod (ZM), Independent Consumer Advocate • Cheryl Hiles (CH) West Midlands Combined Authority • Alex Schoch (AS), Octopus Energy • Roz Bulleid (RB), Green Alliance • Jane Cooper (JC), RenewablesUK <p>National Grid Representatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert Salter-Church (RSC), National Grid, Head of UK Regulatory Strategy • Martin Winter (MW) - National Grid Electricity Transmission Regulatory Policy Senior Manager <p>For agenda item ...</p> <p>Draft Business Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martin Winter (MW) - National Grid Electricity Transmission Regulatory Policy Senior Manager • Sandip Thakrar - CFO UK Electricity Transmission • Adele Hutchings - CFO Regulatory Finance <p>Deliverability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lauren Buchalter - Director, Electricity Transmission Transformation • Dale Ward - Head of Performance Delivery • Kasmira Armstrong -Brown - Delivery Optimisation Manager • Emily Tuff - Senior Manager ET Transformation <p>Innovation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gary Stockdale - Net Zero Innovation Manager • Simon Orr - Head of Strategy and Innovation <p>Feedback on Site Strategies Case Study Approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ben Haggerty - RIIO T3 Program Manager • Costas Nicolaidis - Senior Project Manager • Naheem Akhtar - EPC Project Manager • Namita Uppa - Senior Project Manager
Apologies:	<p>IUG Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barry Hatton (BH), UKPN

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karl Drage (KD), Independent Member • Denise Massey (DM), Energy Innovation Centre • Julian Leslie (JL), National Grid, Electricity System Operator <p>NGET</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alice Delahunty (AD), National Grid President of Electricity Transmission
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Minutes

Agenda Reference	Minutes
1.	<p>The focus of the discussions for this meeting were on the Business Plan, Deliverability and Innovation.</p> <p>On the Business Plan, NGET took the ISG through the content of the July submission to Ofgem explaining that they were balancing competing interests: the financing of the plan (including plc rights issue), with demonstrating sufficient ambition and justification to meet Ofgem’s and Government expectations.</p> <p>The ISG not only provided general feedback on the framing and language but also raised a number of challenges. These included the need for NGET to share more information on their benchmarking ambition levels and also, to demonstrate a comprehensive, systematic, transparent approach to optioneering, trade-offs made as a result.</p> <p>On Deliverability, NGET presented their methodology to assess deliverability, shared their supply chain strategy and took the ISG through the steps taken so far to improve deliverability.</p> <p>The Group discussed how the conversations between NGET and NESO were progressing with regards to system access and challenged NGET to ensure fairness is included in the narrative around system access, amongst other things. NGET was also challenged to articulate the longer-term consumer value, as opposed to lowest cost, in relation to delivering at pace,</p> <p>On Innovation, NGET explained how the need for innovation was greater than it’s ever been and expressed that as the UK moved towards net zero, innovation would be key to addressing some of the large challenges facing transmission, such as the scale of construction to meet net zero, supply chain bottlenecks, enhancing existing assets, and developing brand new technologies to facilitate the energy system transition.</p> <p>They added that there was a need to develop how they undertook innovation for RIIO-ET3, with a focus on delivering and implementing new technologies and processes onto the network, and building a culture of innovation across NGET.</p> <p>The team therefore shared the refreshed 2024 NGET Innovation Strategy and draft RIIO-ET3 Innovation Business Plan which sets out their innovation ambition and how we would achieve this.</p> <p>The ISG gave positive feedback that the assessment was honest and transparent assessment and expressed how good it was to see that progress has been made around collaboration and NGET’s innovation culture.</p>

	<p>NGET was challenged to ensure innovation was embedded across all business plan topics. They was also challenged to demonstrate the impact of innovation on wider societal value and not just the impact on us and to also show the ambition and stretch context from RIIO T2.</p> <p>NGET also shared their Site Strategies approach and received positive feedback from the ISG. NGET was asked to ensure they undertook stakeholder engagement in line with the ISG engagement principles and to ensure that engagement questions were framed in a way that they were not leading.</p>
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