National Grid Electricity Transmission Independent User Group

Minutes and actions of the National Grid Electricity Transmission Independent Stakeholder Group (ISG) Meeting 07

Independent Stakeholder Group (ISG) Meeting 07	
ISG	NGET-ISG07
Meeting Date:	2nd October 2024
Location:	NG office, The Strand, London
Start Time:	9:15 – 16:45
Attendees:	Chair: Trisha McAuley (TM)
	Technical Secretary: Amelia Affum (AA), Sara-Lee Kenny (SLK)
	 Members: Zoe McLeod (ZM), Independent Consumer Advocate Karl Drage (KD), Independent Member Jane Cooper (JC), Renewable UK Alex Schoch (AS), Octopus Energy Roz Bulleid (RB), Green Alliance Stew Horne (SH), Energy Savings Trust Barry Hatton (BH), UKPN
	 National Grid Representatives: Robert Salter-Church (RSC), National Grid, Head of UK Regulatory Strategy Alice Delahunty (AD), National Grid President of Electricity Transmission Martin Winter (MW) - National Grid Electricity Transmission Regulatory Policy

- Martin Winter (MW) National Grid Electricity Transmission Regulatory Policy Senior Manager
- Jeni Ray (JR) National Grid Strategic Electricity Transmission, Head of Stakeholder Management & Insights

For agenda item ...

Climate Resilience and Electricity System Restoration

- Jon Davies (JD) National Grid Electricity Transmission, Director of Network Operations and Intelligence
- Nicola Todd (NT) National Grid Electricity Transmission, Head of Network Control
- Ross Mcghin (RM) National Grid Electricity Transmission, Network Resilience Manager

Maintain Our Assets

- Paul Gallagher (PG) National Grid Electricity Transmission, Operations Director,
- Jonathan Hennah (JH) National Grid Electricity Transmission Technical Leader

Business Plan Ambition

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 Martin Winter (MW) - National Grid Electricity Transmission Regulatory Policy Senior Manager

Output Delivery Incentives

 Joanna Campbell (JC) - National Grid Electricity Transmission, Senior Regulatory Strategy Manager

Apologies:

ISG Members

- Julian Leslie (JL), National Grid, Electricity System Operator
- Denise Massey (DM), Energy Innovation Centre
- Cheryl Hiles (CH) West Midlands Combined Authority
- Eddie Proffitt (EP), Major Energy Users Council

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Minutes

Agenda Reference

Minutes

During this month's ISG meeting, several topics were covered, including Climate Resilience, Electricity System Restoration, Maintaining Our Assets, Business Plan Ambition, and Output Delivery Incentives.

The first topic was Climate Resilience, where NGET presented its Climate Change Resilience strategy, the T3 investments aimed at mitigating climate change, and climate resilience engagement efforts.

The ISG provided positive feedback on the work done so far and challenged NGET to consider learnings from wider counterparts, such as European Transmission Operators, and to collaborate with other resilience forums to maximize innovation in this area. Additionally, NGET was tasked with further outlining its strategy for compound risk and considering public messaging perspectives.

The second topic focused on Electricity System Restoration, where NGET discussed its restoration plans and standards, as well as the impacts of Electricity System Operator (ESO) separation. The ISG expressed support for the direction of travel in this area but challenged NGET to clarify the impact of de-risking the ET-SCADA systems.

The third topic addressed the Maintain Our Assets driver. NGET highlighted the scope and importance of asset management, detailed stakeholder engagement activity, design decision-making approaches, and SF6 mitigation plans.

The ISG supported the design principles discussed and provided constructive challenges for T3 plan development. NGET was urged to ensure that justification papers are transparent regarding optioneering and trade-offs, and to identify supply chain strengths and challenges to avoid consumers paying twice. Furthermore, NGET was challenged to clearly link design principles into decision-making for additional clarity to stakeholders and to be transparent about trade-offs necessary to achieve net-zero on SF6.

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The fourth topic focused on Business Plan Ambition, where NGET provided context related to the Business Plan Incentive, minimum requirements, and the importance of clarity and ambition.

The ISG responded positively to NGET's approach to ambition and encouraged leveraging partnerships to garner further support. NGET was also urged to demonstrate further stretch in consumer impact areas and ensure that community considerations are integrated into the ambition model.

The final topic addressed Output Delivery Incentives, where NGET discussed the strategic context, Ofgem's methodology, financial incentive design, and the overall incentive package.

The ISG provided positive feedback on the categorization of incentives and emphasized the need for incentives to focus on delivering value beyond business as usual, with appropriate risk considerations. NGET was reminded to avoid double counting when setting incentives and place more focus on consumer value and demonstrate tangible benefits to consumers.