

SPD - Connections Stakeholder Panel

MINUTES OF MEETING

Record of:	SPD - Connections Stakeholder Panel				
Prepared by:	Stuart Walker				
Date:	06.11.18	Time:	10:00 – 13:30	Location:	Scottish Power HQ

Attendees					
George Dow – MacMic...GD		Johan Gillespie - SPEN... JG			
Gerry Boyd – SPEN... GB		Eddie Mulholland – SPEN... EM			
Stephen Phimister – Wallace Whittle... SP		Karl Watson – SPEN... KW			
Martyn Bentley – The Greenspan Agency... MB		Craig Graham – SPEN...CG			
Andrew Maybury – Community Energy Scotland... AM		Alison Croft – SPEN... AC			
Chris Clark EMTEC / STA...CC		Ross Baxter – SPEN... RB			
David McInarlin - Energetics... DM		Stuart Walker - SPEN... SW			

Purpose / Expectation of this meeting
We want you to help shape our future plans: -

- **We would like:**
- **to build our understanding of stakeholder needs and perspectives**
- **to act as a ‘sounding board’ and generator of new ideas and opportunities for collaboration**
- **you to influence our plans and proposed improvements**
- **You to inform how we monitor and evaluate progress**

Why have you been invited?

- **You are all prominent figures within the industry**
- **You have a detailed understanding of what we do**
- **You have a long and established relationship with SPEN**
- **You have a deep knowledge and bring constructive challenge**

Agenda: -	
1. 9.30am	Networking Breakfast on Arrival
2. 09.50am	Welcome and Introductions – Eddie Mulholland
3. 09.55am	Safety Contact – Eddie Mulholland
4. 10.00am	Review of Previous Actions / Reminder of Stakeholder Meeting Purpose – Johan Gillespie
5. 10.10am	Connections Business Update – Eddie Mulholland
6. 10.20am	Policy Updates: G59 to G98 / G99 - Craig Graham
7. 10.45am	Land & Planning update of new Land & Planning Stakeholder Panel – Ross Baxter
8. 11.10am	Electric Vehicles - Gerry Boyd
9. 11.40am	Connection Offer Expenses – Karl Watson
10. 12.20pm	ICE update and October Submission – Stuart Walker
11. 13.00pm	Heat maps next steps – open Discussion
12. 13.30pm	Close and lunch

Red = agenda item not discussed, **Green** = agenda item discussed

Open Discussion Topics

- a) Introductions were made as some of the stakeholders and SPEN staff had not met before
- b) Corporate memory and the loss of established experience staff to retirement were discussed and how accidents that had been eradicated and in the corporate memory had started to reappear within SPEN and an example was given to highlight this at the panel.
- c) The new more interactive format was outlined and well received at the onset of the meeting with very positive comments made at the end of the session. Some stakeholders commenting that they felt much more included and the panel was more enjoyable as they had a chance to fully participate throughout the sessions.
- d) The actions from the previous meetings were discussed and accepted as now completed
- e) Eddie gave a general overview of the SPEN business, the current challenges and focus SPEN are having on ED1 investment, faults, storm resilience and connections.
- f) Craig provided the background for and the key challenges and actions required for the G59 / G99, which opened up into a healthy detailed debate on the wider issues this has and how SPEN and the stakeholders can work together to ensure a smooth transitions for the industry. Point raised that stakeholders should take care to check any new equipment they procure is compliant with G99. In this discussion Karl and Craig highlighted the appendix G implications and benefits of merging the Distribution and Transmission elements into one offer at the onset for projects above 1MW.
- g) Land and planning discussions were helpful and there is now a real sense that progress has and is continuing to be made and that the legal and land and planning teams have and will continue to meet with stakeholders at the new land and planning stakeholder panel and with individual stakeholders to review their specific land and planning challenges.
- h) Connections offer expenses were discussed at some length and it was accepted that there had been no undue consequences in the implementation and that there were some positive early signs that the numbers of speculative quotes requests had fallen. Stakeholders raised point that they expect network planners to be able to provide more support and feedback on prospective connections before they come forward with formal applications.
- i) Electric vehicles (EV) and flexible tendering were discussed at great length and the implications of a rapid introduction was a main concern as the panel felt we would not be ready, however the panel were very encouraged by the lead that SPEN were taking in the partnerships with stakeholders on this. The flexible tendering process for SPEN will commence in January and details of the process will be published when they are finalised.
- j) Indeed the future homes element of the industry was discussed at length during the EV and spurred discussions on ratings of future homes for EV, heat pumps, solar, battery etc. with a need for all parties local and national government as when as industry specialist to be involved and was of keen interest.
- k) The roll out and acceleration of the DSO model in Dumfries and Galloway was welcomed and introduction of the additional engineering, material and systems resource, in particular the argument that the on going system cost should be shared collectively not on a first comer basis which would not be applicable of executable in this case. Stakeholders asked for the model to be applied in other areas of SPEN's network that are receiving significant interest for connections. They were advised to raise this as an ICE action.
- l) Although heat maps only formed a small section of the presentation it captivated a great deal of conversation and debate on the current and future use of it, Karl highlighted that he was already looking at making step change improvements and would be pivotal to ensuring any terminated capacity from the queue management policy implementation would be highlighted on the heat maps in a timely manner and our view would be to link our SAP systems to the heat maps to ensure dynamic updates were made going forward. NB the feasibility and cost of this has yet to be reviewed and will form part of the ICE work plan review for 2019 / 20. Stakeholders expressed disappointment at how infrequently the heat maps were being updated and asked that this action is expedited as soon as possible.

- m) ICE action updates and general good progress for 2018 / 19 and since the on set of the ICE initiative were discussed and it was agreed that the process was now well established and the aim to keep the actions to c10 off and at higher level strategic importance were widely agreed and endorsed as having continually improved the challenges the stakeholders had, are and will be facing, and while it was recognised that there are still many challenges to resolve good progress has already been made.

Actions Captured

1. The Connection Stakeholder Panel minutes, actions and Presentation to be circulated to the stakeholder panel members for their review and comment... **SW 12.11.18**
2. Detailed flexible contract presentation with case studies to be circulated to stakeholder panel members... **CG 15.11.18**
3. The presentation and minutes for the land and planning stakeholder panel to be sent to all connections panel members and the invitation list checked to ensure they have been included for future invites... **RB 25.11.18**
4. George Dow of MacMic asked for a separate meeting with the legal and land and planning team to discuss some of their projects and in particular the standard terms and conditions within SPEN agreements... **RB 20.12.18**
5. Analysis and the results of the reduced number of speculative quote requests to be presented at the next connections stakeholder meeting, as part of the wider improvement works on Portfolio reconciliation, Queue management, Appendix G, Heat maps, □ANM, that Karl and his team are leading... **KW 15.02.19**
6. Future Homes Challenges and Technologies section to be added to the Connection stakeholder panel agenda going forward from next panel onwards... **JG 10.02.19**
7. Newsletters covering the key topics above will be circulated to the stakeholder panel and will be published at least quarterly... **SW On going to commence by 20.11.18**
8. It was agreed to share the ICE October update and to highlight some key policies and new documentation on the Connections web site page for general information for the stakeholder panel members, including any that were discussed at the panel... **JG 20.11.18**
9. Set up next meeting to align with the ICE work plan for 2019 / 20 to ensure full panel input and endorsement prior to wider circulation, ideally mid February... **JG 25.11.18**
10. Dumfries and Galloway DSO roll out plan and scope to be communicated via newsletter to the stakeholder members... **GB / SW 10.01.19**
11. Solar trade associations to share their data on the effect on housing for Heat pumps, Solar, EV... **CC 20.11.18**
12. SPEN to share the data from the CAL Homes partnership trial and as when sufficient data is available, at least every 6 months... **GB 20.05.19**
13. SPEN to ensure that the Land Rights Stakeholder Panel considers the issue of tracking progress of the legal aspects of Land Rights. ... **RB 20.11.18**
14. Consideration on whether RADAR provides a platform for the communication of land rights matters. **RB 25.02.19**