

Digitalised Whole System Technical Code (WSTC) Meeting Minutes

Steering Group Meeting 1

Date: 15/12/2021 **Location:** MS Teams
Start: 01:00PM **End:** 03:00PM

Participants

Attendee	Attend/Regrets	Attendee	Attend/Regrets
Jon Wisdom (JW) NGESO - Interim Chairperson	Attend	Helen Stack (HS) Centrica - Distribution Code Party	Attend
Alan Creighton (AC) NPg - Distribution Network Operator	Attend	Christian Hjelm (CH) WPD - Distribution Network Operator Alternate	Regrets
Steve Cox (SC) ENWL - Distribution Network Operator	Attend	Graeme Vincent (GV) SPEN - Distribution Network Operator Alternate	Regrets
Mark Dunk (MD) ENA - Distribution Code Administrator	Attend	Christopher McCann (CMC) ENA - Distribution Code Administrator Alternate	Attend
Gareth Evans (GE) ICOSS - Trade Association	Attend	Daniel De Wijze (DDW) Renewable UK - Trade Association	Attend
Sarah Honan (SH) The ADE - Trade Association Alternate	Attend	Ed Rees (ER) Citizens Advice - Consumer	Attend
Gareth Haines (GH) Vattenfall - Independent Distribution Network Operators	Attend	Frank Martin (FM) SGRE - Grid Code Party	Attend
Jeremy Caplin (JC) Elexon - Wider Industry	Attend	Prof. Xiao-Ping Zhang (XPZ) Birmingham University - Wider Industry Alternate	Attend
Sean Winchester (SW) - BEIS	Attend	Gurpal Singh (GS) - Ofgem	Attend
Malcolm Barnacle (MB) SSEN Transmission - Onshore Transmission Owner	Attend	Richard Woodward (RW) NGET - Onshore Transmission Owner Alternate	Regrets
Kirsten Shilling (KS) NGESO - Grid Code Administrator	Attend	Laetitia Wamala (LW) NGESO - Electricity System Operator	Attend

Robert Wilson (RW) NGESO - Electricity System Operator Alternate	Attend	Vicky Allen (VA) NGESO - Technical Secretary	Attend
Frank Kasibante (FK) NGESO - Technical Secretary Alternate	Attend		

Minutes Recipients

Industry - For publication on the WSTC website

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Confirming Alternates
3. Discussion of ongoing Chairperson arrangements
4. Review of Draft Terms of Reference; *Amend, agree and sign-off*
5. Recap of WSTC Project & Summary of Consultation Responses
6. Project Timelines leading up to Go/No Go Decision
7. Any Other Business
Next meetings up to end of March; dates & duration

Discussion

The discussions held during the meeting are summarised below:

Introductions

Introductions were carried out as recorded above.

Confirming Alternates

During the meeting, Alternates were confirmed as being those recorded in the Terms of Reference document. Going forward, Alternates should only attend when their category representative is not present.

Discussion of ongoing Chairperson arrangements

In the interim, JW from NGESO would take on the role of impartial Chairperson. JW has chaired other forums managed by NGESO such as Transmission Charging Methodology Forum (TCMF).

There were no objections to the proposed interim arrangements.

Review of Draft Terms of Reference; Amend, agree and sign-off

The Steering Group members reviewed the Terms of Reference (ToR) and advised amendments to some sections. The ToR were amended and sent out to all members on 16/12/21 via email (last comments received on 17/12/21).

Recap of WSTC Project & Summary of Consultation Responses

VA presented a portion of the response analysis that was ongoing.

The following issues were raised by the steering group members:

- For Whole System Consolidation or Alignment, it is not very clear from the response that there was an overwhelming need for either of the options as only a small number of stakeholders responded to the consultation and the difference between some of respondents preferences were minimal.

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- Reviewing the consultation responses further should give more of an insight into how to start formulating next steps.
 - Whether a digitised WSTC could or should be legally binding would depend on the final solution. There is a need to explore further, the implications of making a digitalised code (i.e., Grid Code and Distribution Code individually, or a single WSTC) legally binding. Members can then come to a position on which everybody agreed.

ACTIONS:

1. **NGESO:** Commence the scoping documents to include the no-regrets decisions or actions that would give members something to talk around and work on. This will include:
 - Digitalisation; spelling out what self-service and sign posting look like. Do we just need improved access?
 - Alignment: identifying areas that are not aligned within the Grid Code and Distribution Code.
 - Legally binding issues to be fleshed out further.
2. **LW, VA & FK:** Undertake a cost benefit analysis for digitalisation. Required to understand the project costs as industry resources are stretched. Also helps to identify which of the benefit areas are tangible. CBA not required for alignment.
3. **NGESO:** Progress a further consultation on code consolidation.

Project Timelines leading up to Go/No-Go Decision

The following were raised by the steering group members:

- Members should not be driven by a Go/No Go decision date of 31/03/22 as it was discussed within the ToR discussions that Go/No Go decisions would be made for the individual work packages.
- The agreed targeted date of the individual work packages' Go/No-Go decision is 31/03/22 to avoid having an open-ended project.
- The targeted date of early February for the second consultation is not realistic. 31/03/22 was proposed as a more realistic timeline for the second consultation in order to get to an agreed position among members.

ACTIONS:

4. **FK:** Check that any WSTC dates are aligned with other industry activities.

Any Other Business (AOB): Next meetings up to end of March; dates & duration

Below are the highlights from the AOB discussions:

- To enable collaboration, all the above documents will be added to a SharePoint site that will be accessible to all members.
- Going forward, meetings will not be held on Wednesday afternoons due to members' existing commitments to other industry meetings.
- Next meeting dates for January, February, and March to be agreed via a doodle poll.

ACTIONS:

5. **NGESO:** To set up a SharePoint site so that members can collaborate.
 6. **All Parties:** Review and provide comments on the Terms of Reference.
 7. **All Parties:** Encourage participation from the members they represent and obtain audience at the forums they attend as a means of providing updates on project progress.
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