

ALoMCP Steering Group, 04 August 2020

Recommendation for Year 2 - Outcome

Name	Company	Name	Company
Julian Leslie	NGESO – Chair of Steering Group	Graham Stein	NGESO
Simon Brooke	ENW	Martin Queen	Ofgem
Steve Mockford	GTC	Andy Vaudin	EDF Energy
Mark Johnston	NPg	Paul Graham	Sembcorp Energy UK
Paul Munday	SSEN (Customer Support & Delivery Assurance workstreams chair)	Paul Richards	Ylem Energy
Matt White	UKPN		
Peter Aston	WPD		
Programme delivery colleagues / Stakeholders in attendance			
Bieshoy Awad	NGESO	Mike Robey	NGESO
Apologies			
Gerry Boyd	SPEN	John Smart	SSEN
Matt Magill	NGESO (Value Assurance workstream chair)	Andrew Colley	SSE Generation
Steve Beasley	Anesco		

Steering Group Decision

- Agreed to continue to Window 5 and 6
- Agreed to:
 - focus on communications and engagement
 - review Fast Track in September
 - consider the timing and scale of payment tapering
 - bring forward proposals on enforcement for non-compliant sites

Discussion

- Graham introduced the recommendation for year 2 noting the Steering Committee had three options: to approve the recommendation, request more information or direct the team to re-work the proposal
- Mark raised the issues of increasing communications and the proposed future tapering of payments. He queried if the tapering would be too soon (from window 7) where awareness of the programme is low. Mark noted the tapering impacts the value for contractors delivering the changes for sites and questioned what impact this would have on progress.
- Graham noted that individual site payments are relatively modest and that word of mouth, including via contractors, had brought people to the programme. He acknowledged that tapering payments does create an increased risk that applicants or contractors think it not worth applying.
- Matt shared Mark's concerns and emphasised communications and engagement activity as key. Enforcement and tapering will not be effective unless the programme's messages land with the right audience. Matt asked for details of the timeline to make progress on communications.

- Graham responded that the updated communication plan will be developed by the end of August.
- Graham raised the programme's interest in reaching customers through including information within supplier bills.
- Andy requested more details on the programme's thinking on non-compliance. He noted that communicating earlier (as was undertaken with GC143 communications) can trigger lots more engagement. Can we say what the consequences of non-compliance will be yet?
- Graham agreed and stated that the programme will develop proposals on non-compliance over the next couple of months.
- Mark supported all the recommendations in principle. He raised what consideration the programme had made on the implications if the recommendations were a great success and increased applications substantially. Such as for DNO and contractor resource.
- Graham noted that the programme was delivering at a much higher capacity in March and therefore there was capacity to cope with an increase.
- Mark raised whether Steering Group should look again at the phasing of recommendations. He proposed focussing on communications now, understanding compliance and then bring in the tapering later on, such as in window 9.
- Peter agreed. He thought tapering might be good, but window 7 was too soon and there was a need for more communication and engagement activity first. Peter also raised whether the level of tapering proposed was too severe.
- Paul M agreed with these sentiments and suggested that the outcome of increased communications is considered before tapering is adopted.
- Matt agreed with this approach alongside also working to understand the enforcement approach. This will provide the programme and Steering Group some flexibility to respond in the coming months.
- Simon agreed with the direction of travel. He stated that he did not yet know enough about the communications or compliance approach and proposed that Steering group review these in September alongside the planned review of the Fast Track. He recommended approving proceeding to window 5 and 6 now.

Any Other Business

- Mark proposed John Rowland (Northern Powergrid) to chair the Stakeholder workstream.
- Mike noted that the stakeholder workstream had requested that some national reinforcement of the programme's messages, such as by Ofgem, would help overcome feedback that some site owners had queried the authenticity of some promotional activity (e.g. by contractors promoting their services to implement the required changes).
- Paul supported this and also highlighted the potential opportunity of communicating to site owners through their suppliers.

Summary

- Julian summarised the outcome of the Steering group discussion:
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