

GC0063 Power Available Lessons Learnt

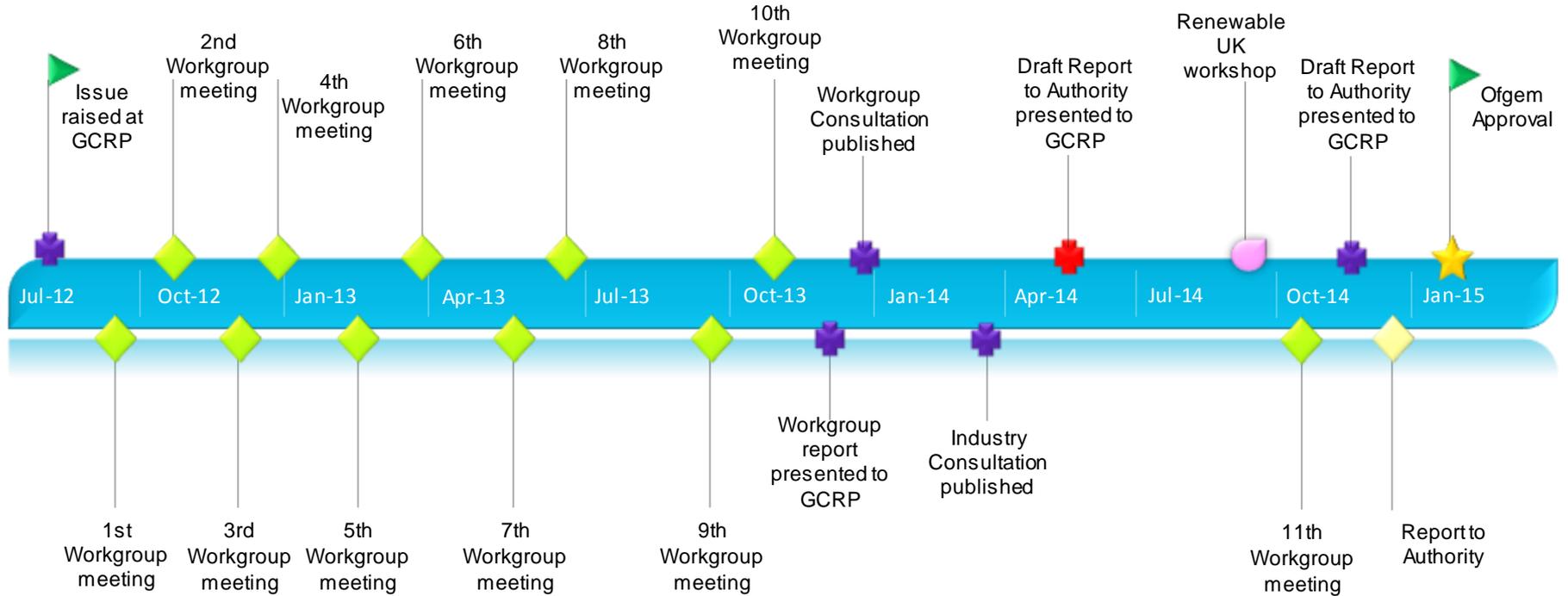


Franklin Rodrick – March 2015

Summary of Development Process

- The GCRP established the Power Available Workgroup in July 2012 following the completion of the C/11 Workgroup (BM Unit Data from Intermittent Generation).
- 11 meetings were held between September 2012 and October 2013
- The draft workgroup report was presented to the GCRP in November 2013.
- Workgroup and industry consultations were run in Dec 2013 – April 2014
- A draft final report to the authority was presented to the GCRP in May 2014 which was rejected as there was no clear consensus from industry
- National Grid and the workgroup sought to further an engaged solution with a Renewable UK workshop in September 2014 and a final workgroup meeting in October 2014
- A revised final report was submitted to Ofgem who approved, in January 2015, the proposal for a power available signal to be mandated on new windfarms connecting after April 2016
- Accepting the need case to do something, the approved option was considered to be the 'least worst' by the workgroup

Timeline



National Grid's view of the key challenges

- ***Terms of Reference***
 - Defect and need case was not clearly defined
 - Commercial drivers were involved but there was lack of engagement with BSC parties
 - Different levels of knowledge and experience – technical, commercial and codes
- ***Capture of information***
 - No minutes were produced for the workgroup meetings
 - Same issue was discussed in subsequent workgroup meetings
- ***Time to progress***
 - Frequency of meetings – lack of continuity
 - A lot of time consumed to educate the group on the issue
 - Inadequate internal resourcing
 - NG should have had robust governance for the workgroup process

Key themes from Industry's perspective

- ***Terms of Reference***
 - Defect and need case were not clear
 - No clarity on relationship between Grid Code and BSC
 - Technical and commercial issues overlapped
 - Scope of work changed during the workgroup – frequency response only emerged as the key issue late on in the process
- ***Capture of information***
 - No minutes produced
 - A lot of time taken to educate the group on issues
 - Very repetitive – the same issues came up repeatedly
 - Workgroup consultation responses not discussed with the workgroup before going to industry consultation
- ***Time to progress***
 - The workgroup took too long. Lack of defined process for workgroup
 - The number of meetings was excessive. There was lack of urgency
 - Lack of engagement or constructive debate

- **Scope**
 - The scope of an issue should be defined clearly at the start to ensure the correct industry participation and timely progress
 - A workshop should be held before a workgroup commences to clearly define complex technical issues (or can be discussed at the new development forum)
 - If the scope changes the workgroup must report this back to GCRP
- **Workgroup process**
 - Combined workgroups should be formed when commercial drivers are involved
 - Use of small case studies can be a good way to explore an issue
 - A provisional timeline for the workgroup should be agreed upfront
 - Meeting notes must be produced and any important developments shared with the workgroup
- **Engagement & Roles**
 - On the basis of an agreed scope and timeframe, industry must commit to provide the time and effort to support the process
 - Consider use of independent consultants to alleviate resource constraints or give sufficient expertise
 - Roles within the workgroup (particularly of the chair and NG) should be defined
 - Relevant stakeholders must be engaged at the right point in the process

-
- PA workgroup was joined with High Windspeed Shut Down as it was felt they had common issues. Both issues didn't have anything common. Hence, utilisation of time wasn't good as work had to be split for both issues
 - ToR stated that the workgroup should define the defect
 - The workgroup was originally looking at the accuracy of FPN and BOA payments. Frequency response was identified as an issue very late in the process
 - The workgroup was trying to define the defects that Power Available could resolve. The approach followed by the workgroup was wrong as the issue wasn't identified at the beginning

-
- Participants didn't have enough time to discuss the issues as both PA and HWSS had a combined workgroup
 - There was no defined process for the workgroup
 - Resourcing issues at National Grid – an independent consultant could have been used for workgroups
 - NG should have shown an urgency to conclude the workgroup and come to a conclusion.
 - Workgroup identified a lot of work was required but did the meetings were not held with an urgency
 - There was no unanimous decision made by the industry to the available options

-
- ToR stated that NG would provide Tech Sec & minutes would be provided. But no minutes were captured which reduced transparency to show how discussions were held
 - Lack of efficiency which led to repetition – due to no minutes same discussions were held again in subsequent meetings and the workgroup had to look at the report everytime they met
 - Consultation responses were not published but were presented to the GCRP. NG produced consultation in March 2014 and workgroup were unsure of what happened to the results of the previous one
 - Report drafting, consultation drafting was from NG perspective and not the industry perspective

-
- Industry members treating this issue as a commercial BSC issue were hesitant and this could have led to a delay
 - Wider issues i.e. market issues should have been included in the scope
 - NG's refusal of not using PN for forecasting de-incentivised windfarms and could have led to avoidance of possible investment in PA
 - Historically windfarms not used for frequency response – hence lack of interest from windfarms to provide PA signal
 - No link to commercial benefits shown by the workgroup hence low interest from windfarms

-
- There should have been a joint BSC/Grid Code workgroup as there were issues related to BOA's and payments linked to dispatch instructions
 - Some relevant stakeholders i.e. BSC members should have been engaged at an earlier stage
 - Inadequate workgroup attendance which could be a result of unclear scope