

Entry Customer Forum
29 March 2022 12:30-14:00
Microsoft Teams

Stuart Easterbrook (Chair)	SE	Cadent
Rebecca Ayanfalu	RA	ENA
Tina Hawke	TH	Cadent
Ben Oldham	BO	Cadent
Gulraj Chatha	GC	Cadent
Claire Gumbley	CG	National Grid
Emma Buckton	EB	NGN
Joel Martin	JM	SGN
Bethan Winter	BW	WWU
Helen Fitzgerald	HF	WWU
Nick Primmer	NP	ADBA
Josh Henthorne	JH	ADBA
Andy Smith	AS	Futurebiogas
James Smith	JS	Advantage Biogas
William Mezzullo	WM	Centrica
Alison Cartwright	AC	CNG Services
Christopher Magness	CM	CNG Services
John Baldwin	JB	CNG Services
Philip Kershaw	PK	CNG Services
Steve Coverdale	SC	NWL
Kiara Zennaro	KZ	REA
Russell Brown	RB	Thyson
Festus Enabosi	FE	D and G Utilities

Minutes and actions from the last meeting:

There were no comments on the minutes from the previous meeting.

Number	Date	Action	Owner	Status
1	25 Jan 22	Nominations to review the proposed in grid compression technical spec to be sent to KH	All	Closed
2	25 Jan 22	KH to look at options for an informal near misses sharing mechanism.	KH	Closed

EnCF Action Plan Tracker

Group reviewed the tracker, items due for review in March were covered on the main agenda.

Gas Safety Alert System Distribution List

SE provided an update re sharing near misses/incidents via a distribution list which would enable parties to circulate information to the group and asked that anyone who would not like to be on the distribution list to email Katie by 30 April. **Action: Group to email KH if they don't want to be on the near misses distribution list.**

Standardisation Update

SAT:

TH provided an update on standardisation testing. Thyson and Orbital now approved and working to the standard methodology. Elster-Honeywell were delayed due to covid and granted a 3 week extension, should be ready for review by the networks at the end of the week and be ready by the deadline of 1 April.

Action: TH to touch base with Elster-Honeywell to ensure SAT requirements are being met.

Capacity Studies:

DN provided background on the capacity studies survey questions and asked for feedback to ensure nothing is missed.

JB asked that capacity opportunities involving offtake metering rebuilds to deal with low flow issues can be included in the survey

JM noted the regulatory paper on In-grid compression refers to capacity studies and suggested In-grid compression could also be added to the capacity survey in relation to entry capacity opportunities.

Action: Group to consider any other questions which should be added to capacity survey and let KH know by COB 21st April.

In Grid Compression Commercial and Regulatory:

JM advised he recently put together a paper covering commercial and regulatory framework associated with In-grid compression which has recently been circulated to GDNs for review. He gave an overview of the topics which were covered, and noted the paper covered two scenarios –

- Where in grid compression is utilised very local to the Biomethane production facility and;
- Lack of entry capacity on the Network either for existing sites or new sites

Paper focuses on second scenario above.

- The paper covers on asset construction and ownership and actual operation which is under GDN control and very strategic.
- CAPEX associated with constructing and commissioning the asset which falls under the existing charging methodology. 3rd party fund Capex associated with this.
- OPEX and;
- Regulatory issues

Paper to be circulated to members after GDNs reviews and comments collated. SE suggested a separate meeting can be scheduled where this can be reviewed by the sub-group.

JM advised original timeline was May/ June with technical side anticipated end of April. AC advised of anticipated gas supply concerns in the Summer which could drive an urgent need to use in-grid compression to increase output from existing facilities. SE advised that in-grid compression could go ahead today with bespoke commercial and technical specifications applied. It was noted however that going ahead in this way without the standardised approach could be riskier and take longer than waiting for the GDN-wide standardised approach. SE indicated the networks were still working to complete by the end of June.

Action: Group to let KH know if want to be involved in In Grid compression Commercial and Regulatory sub-group

CV Blips:

KZ provided an update, out of the three GEU suppliers approached, Orbital have responded positively, confirming they will speak to their software team and will set out a detailed proposal solution to for acceptance by DNOs before providing a quote. KZ will circulate detailed proposal to the group when its received. KZ should have an update from Orbital tomorrow. **Action: KZ to provide TH with an update so CV Blips can be put on Biomethane Technical Working Group agenda.**

Action: KZ to raise with Orbital sharing their proposals with other GEUs for their comments to ensure uniformed systems and one set procedure that can be agreed on.

RB advised GEU Suppliers have been asked to create a flowchart to avoid different systems on different units.

GS(M)R HSE Consultation:

TH provided an update on revision to the regulations from HSE . Proposals covered various items including Biomethane. The GDNs have given feedback that consideration should be given to removing the 38 barg pressure limit without having the requirement for specific exemptions as is the current practice. The GDNs asked HSE to move to 70barg a few years ago and HSE are thought to be receptive. GDNs will work together to put together the necessary evidence for this.

Biomethane pipelines are being considered to be part of the Gas Networks and included in the need for a safety case. GDNs think this is favourable and would like consistency and clarity on how HSE would interact with the operators and how they submit their safety case

TH advised the networks are waiting to hear back from HSE.

Entry Pricing Review

SE explained the work the networks had initiated to look at the connection pricing regime to see whether it is necessary to change the connection boundary for entry gas to socialise reinforcement costs. Where there isn't spare capacity for an entry connection and reinforcement work, such as in-grid compression, new pipelines, or offtake metering rebuilds could be carried out to provide entry capacity. As reinforcement costs are currently charged directly to the triggering party, projects have not gone ahead at that site or have proceeded with lower or variable capacity rate, to avoid the reinforcement. In order to grow the volume of green gas coming into the network it's important to investigate barriers and approaches that could address them.

A consultation document is currently being drafted and once launched, a deep dive into the detail will be held for the EnCF. An ad-hoc Forum meeting may be needed.

The consultation is discussing four broad approaches designed to socialise elements of reinforcement costs:

- Reinforcement Prices
- Differential % contributions

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- High Cost Cap
- All or nothing cap

SE advised the document is still being refined and reviewed with other Networks. At this stage the High Cost Gap is the recommended approach because it is aligned with approaches in electricity and is simpler, cheaper and easier to set up and maintain.

Work is continuing on what level the high cost gap should be set at, and all this will be set out in the consultation paper. The Forum was asked to provide feedback and evidence to support this approach. The consultation paper is expected to be released in April.

AOB:

None

Meeting closed.

Updated actions table:

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1	29 Mar 22	Group to email KH if they don't want to be on the near misses distribution list.	All	Created
2	29 Mar 22	TH to touch base with Elster-Honeywell to ensure SAT requirements are being met.	TH	Created
3	29 Mar 22	Group to consider any other questions which should be added to capacity survey and let KH know by COB 21st April.	All	Created
4	29 Mar 22	Group to let KH know if want to be involved in In Grid compression Commercial and Regulatory sub-group	All	Created
5	29 Mar	KZ to provide TH with an update so CV Blips can be put on Biomethane Technical Working Group agenda.	KZ	Created

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6	29 Mar 22	KZ to raise with Orbital sharing their proposals with other GEUs for their comments to ensure uniformed systems and one set procedure that can be agreed on.	KZ	
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