

Open Networks 2023

Focus Group Engagement

5 July 2023

PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

This document serves as an introduction to a series of virtual focus group sessions hosted by ENA’s Open Networks programme.

These focus group sessions are an opportunity for subject matter experts and relevant industry stakeholders to help shape the developments in improving participation within the local flexibility market.

During the sessions, the technical working groups will give an overview of the work done so far and raise a series of queries for open discussion. We encourage those with the interest and expertise to actively contribute to the discussions, to indicate their interest in attending the groups detailed within this document, by filling out the [ENA Open Networks Focus Group Form](#).

The schedule along with the key discussion points of each session being held on Wednesday 5 July can be found below. For more general details on Open Networks focus group sessions, please refer to the [terms of reference](#).

Timetable

The table shows the timetable for the focus group sessions we will be hosting on Wednesday 5 July.

Focus Group Session	Session Time
Standardisation of flexibility products	10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Standardisation of flexibility services procurement process	12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
Primacy rules to manage service conflict	3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Focus Groups - Topics

The ENA Open Networks Programme Technical Working Groups would like to invite you to the following focus group sessions. To express your interest in attending any of the sessions below on the Wednesday 5 July, please complete the [ENA Open Networks Focus Group Form](#).

Standardisation of flexibility products	Session Time:
	10:00 am – 12:00 pm
<p>Background</p> <p>DNOs currently procure four active power services named Sustain, Secure, Dynamic and Restore. The definition of these services has been clearly defined as part of this groups work in 2022. Subsequently a gap analysis was conducted to identify any divergence in the implementation of the four active power products.</p> <p>The gap analysis revealed some variance in the manner the active power products were being implemented across DNOs. This was seen as a barrier to participation within the local flexibility market. Hence the working group this year is seeking to align the key parameters of these products that are seen as crucial to encourage participation in the local flexibility markets across all DNOs</p>	
<p>Purpose of focus group</p> <p>To provide an early view of the proposal for Flexibility Products alignment outcome via an agreed Common Product Parameters listing.</p> <p><u>Key discussion points</u></p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key product parameters identified for alignment and their interpretation • Flexibility services provider's views on creating new Active power products
Relevant publications from 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Power Products Review

Standardisation of flexibility services procurement process	Session Time:
	12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
<p>Background</p> <p>As identified in our Flexibility Consultation improving aspects of the procurement process such as pre-qualification was crucial for accommodating new and/or smaller flexibility service providers.</p> <p>The Technical Working Group is seeking to develop a standard pre-qualification approach including the convergence of timescales. The working group is building on previous work which delivered a gap analysis that reviewed current approaches to pre-qualification employed across DNOs and the ESO, to establish a view on the criteria that can be standardised.</p>	
<p>Purpose of focus group</p> <p>During this session the working group will share the proposed templates for the alignment of pre-qualification criteria and seek input from the focus group on the following areas stated below as key discussion points.</p> <p><u>Key discussion points</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The suitability of the proposed common pre-qualification criteria • Challenge any criteria that may lie outside of the proposed alignment 	
Relevant publications from 2022	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommended steps to move to real time procurement • Pre-Qualification Alignment Recommendations 	

Primacy rules to manage service conflict	Session Time:
	3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
<p>Background</p> <p>The ESO and DNOs manage the respective transmission and distribution networks in accordance with applicable standards and licence conditions. Each organisation may require one or more services for this purpose. Conflicts between one or more of these services may lead to inefficiencies within the whole electricity system. This will in all likelihood increase given the rising procurement of services and limited coordination to date. Hence, in order to manage this potential service conflict and to enable networks to be optimised efficiently and transparently, there is a need to develop a set of clear principles and “primacy” rules.</p> <p>Primacy rules will enable procurement, planning, scheduling, and dispatch of services to be influenced by whole system value. Ensuring that the division between market/price-driven actions and the electricity system hierarchy of operational needs is clear and transparent. This working group was established to develop these ‘Primacy Rules’.</p>	
<p>Purpose of focus group</p> <p>Seek wider stakeholder feedback on previously implemented primacy use cases and discuss development of further use cases.</p> <p><u>Key discussion points</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexibility service providers and asset owners view on our approach to address primacy rules • Explore how we can improve/promote further engagement from the industry • From a market perspective, what more can be done to make the messaging around primacy clearer 	
<p>Relevant publications from 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ON Primacy Rules for ESO/DNO Coordination Ver 1.0 • ON Primacy Rules Use Case 1 Testing Report 	

ENERGY NETWORKS ASSOCIATION

Energy Networks Association (ENA) represents the owners and operators of licences for the transmission and/or distribution of energy in the UK and Ireland. Our members control and maintain the critical national infrastructure that delivers these vital services to customers’ homes and businesses.

As the voice of the energy networks sector, ENA acts as a strategic focus and channel of communication for the industry. We promote the industry’s interests and good standing and provide a discussion forum among company members.

We help our members to:

- Create smart grids, ensuring our networks are prepared for more renewable generation than ever before, decentralised sources of energy, more electric vehicles and heat pumps. Learn more about our [Open Networks Programme](#).
- Create the world's first zero-carbon gas grid, by speeding up the switch from natural gas to hydrogen. Learn more about our [Gas Goes Green programme](#).
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- Be safe. We bring our industry together to [improve safety](#) and reduce workforce and public injury.
- Manage our networks. We support our members manage, create and maintain a vast array of electricity codes, standards and regulations which supports the day-to-day operation of our energy networks.

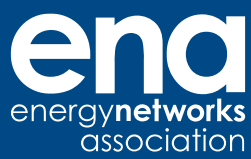
Together, the energy networks are [keeping your energy flowing](#), supporting our economy through jobs and investment and [preparing for a net zero future](#).



Figure 1- ENA member companies

ENA Associates

Chubu	Heathrow Airport	Network Rail
EEA	Jersey Electricity	TEPCO
Guernsey Electricity Ltd	Manx Electricity Authority	



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