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Open Networks
November Advisory
Group Response

04 November 2021

Introduction

The fifth and final Open Networks Advisory Group meeting of 2021 took place on 4 November 2021. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation the meeting was held digitally. The agenda and presentation materials can be found on the ENA website. The session covered updates on key areas of work along with more detailed breakout sessions to get stakeholder feedback into the development of specific products. The sections below capture the questions raised and the feedback that was shared.

Please note this was the last Advisory Group meeting. ENA has announced a new stakeholder feedback group, titled a 'Challenge Group', which is launching in January and will replace the current Advisory Group. The new group will shape the direction of the programme and its outcomes by providing a more formal challenge function on behalf of the wider industry.

A number of current Advisory Group members have shown interest in participating in the Challenge Group and, where relevant, we would actively welcome applications to join. Alternatively, a Dissemination Forum will also be introduced in 2022 for anyone to join. It is being created to give stakeholders the opportunity to engage broadly with the Open Networks programme, stay up to date with the latest developments and to provide input into it. This forum will be facilitated quarterly and we welcome all interested parties to join this forum, you can sign up via our online form.

Progress Updates

A number of updates on general progress, comms activity, and product updates were presented. The tables below capture the questions that were asked during these update sessions.

General programme updates
Summary
Farina Farrier (Head of Open Networks) presented an Open Networks progress update covering the products published since the September Advisory Group, upcoming products, an overview of the 2022 Scope consultation and the call for Challenge Group and Dissemination Forum members.
More details can be found in the presentation materials.

Communications updates
Summary
Emily Jones (Open Networks Communications Lead) presented an update on communications activity covering the 2022 high level scoping document and Challenge group call for participation, the 2022 scoping webinar (recording and materials), DSO roadmap updates launch, COP26 activities, and fifth year anniversary of Open Networks.

Product updates
WS1A – Flexibility Consultation
Update and key messages

Summary
WS1A Flexibility workstream lead presented a summary of the responses received for the recent Flexibility Consultation, which sought stakeholder feedback on how the programme can further drive standardisation in local energy markets across the country. ENA will collate the feedback received through the consultation and publish the formal response to the feedback at the end of November.

Product updates
WS2 P1 - Embedded Capacity Register
Update on the launch of ECR V3.0 and next steps in the expansion to include assets down to 50kW.

Summary
Product team lead presented an update on the launch of ECR V3.0 and next steps in the expansion to include assets down to 50kW and detailing the key ambition of digitalising the ECR.
Feedback focused on seeking clarification of what will be included as part of the change down to 50kW and what specific digital options are being looked at for the ECR going forward. The extension of the range of assets was received positively by the Advisory Group.
ENA will undertake an optioneering exercise in the following month and publish a phased implementation plan for 2022.
The table below captures the questions and feedback received during this session.

Questions	Response

Clarification on whether the ECR also include assets in a 'behind-the-meter' configuration?	• At the current time only assets connected directly to the network are included. Behind-the-meter assets are not included.
Clarification on what potential digital ECR solutions are being considered as front-running options?	• There are currently no front runners so to speak as the product team are looking broadly at possible solutions. The product team will look to progress this further and provide an update at the end of this year.
Clarification on the inclusion of APIs within the plan?	• APIs are a key aspect of the solution to allow for more data accessibility. The product team confirmed that regardless of whether the ECR becomes centralised or decentralised, data can be served through API.

Product updates

WS1B P7 – Operational Data Sharing

Update on plans to share network data

Summary

The product team lead presented on the plans to share network data, particularly for the process of identifying data and the implementation process.

Feedback focussed on the scope of the data being shared, whether this process will be standardised across DNO's and the potential legal implications of sharing the data.

ENA will publish an implementation plan to make the identified data available by the end of the year.

The table below captures the questions and feedback received during this session.

Questions	Response
Clarification on whether historical data on flexibility volumes procured will also be shared alongside historical constraint/outage data?	• The constraint data for flexible connections will not be covered in WS1B P7. However, WS1A P9 is looking at making this data available.
Clarification on what level or resolution of the data being shared?	• The product has focused on sharing power flow data, showing network capacity and utilisation (at GSP level with intention to go down to primaries over next year).
Clarification on within what time periods the data is being shared, and whether this will be common across DNO's?	• Time periods is one of the parameters in the RAG status (including refresh rate depending on how the data is made available i.e weekly for .csv type manual publication or near real time for web portals if available). Granularity of the data is targeted to be half hourly as a minimum, subject to the availability of supporting IT infrastructure. • The product team aims to keep the data consistent across DNO's (e.g terminology and content). However, there may be some variance in the formatting due to the difference in the mechanism of the data being produced. The product is not mandating the mechanism for data sharing.
Clarification on how legal and privacy concerns are being addressed in relation to individual consumer data?	• The product team have considered the legal ramifications. Initially they focused on the stakeholder feedback to make data available which are clear of any legal ramification. The product team shall carry forward the analysis into next year to see what other data can be made available.

Product updates
WS3 P1 – DSO Roadmap
Discuss changes made to the format and seek feedback stakeholder usage

Summary
The product team lead presented an update on the timeline for the DSO Roadmap, highlighting the changes made in the Q3 2021 update which focuses on transparency and granularity.

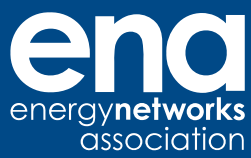| Product updates |
|:---:|
| **WS1A P1 – Common Evaluation Methodology (CEM)** |
| **Discuss update to the tool and seek feedback on stakeholder usage** |

Summary
The product team lead presented on the CEM including the scope of the CEM update, inclusion of carbon impacts, option value progress and stakeholder engagement plan. Feedback focussed on how the CEM update is receiving stakeholder input going forward. The table below captures the questions and feedback received during this session.

Questions	Response
How are you planning to engage with stakeholders on the update to the CEM?	• The product team are engaging with academics, flexibility market participants and technical and non-technical "critical friends" to feed into the update.

The voice of the networks