Baseline Methodologies Handover Plan
Open Networks

March 2022 │ Version 1.0

Contents

1 Introduction

1.1 About ENA

Energy Networks Association (ENA) represents the owners and operators of licenses 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 into customers' homes and businesses.

1.2 About Open Networks

Launched in January 2017, ENA's Open Networks programme is a major energy industry initiative, run by the Energy Networks Association that will transform the way our energy networks work, underpinning the delivery of the smart grid. This project brings together 9 of UK and Ireland's electricity grid operators, respected academics, NGOs, Government departments and the energy regulator Ofgem. The 2019 Project Initiation Document outlines what the Open Networks programme will deliver in 2019, how it will be delivered and when. Workstream 1A is focused on Flexibility Services in the developing Flexibility Market and has three key objectives:

1. Develop and deliver good practice and convergence of directly contracted Distribution System Operation (DSO) services to customers across Distribution Network Operators (DNOs) to deliver a consistent experience for customers
2. Facilitate markets outside the direct procurement of service for DSO to allow third parties to develop effective and liquid market platforms for customers to realise value for flexibility, and
3. Support the wider use of DSO services by removing barriers and encouraging the consideration of flexibility solutions.

Product 7 is one of the nine products scoped for this year under the flexibility Workstream 1A, it is tasked with delivering a common baseline methodology and verification tool.

2 Product 7 activities

2.1 2020 activities

This product is a continuation of the 2020 WS1A P7 product which sought to assess existing UK and international baselining methodologies and recommend suitable methodologies for adoption by the UK distribution flexibility market. DNV GL were appointed as contractors within the P7 team to carry out this assessment and produce their recommendations for common baseline approaches for adoption by DNOs.

A copy of the 2020 P7 Report can be found here.

2.2 2021 activities

Throughout 2021 the P7 product team's objectives were;

A. Consult with Stakeholders to gather feedback on the 2020 baseline recommendations for standardisation.
B. Refine and finalise the baselines in response to feedback.
C. Appoint a solution architect to deliver a tool enabling automated baseline calculation.
D. Build, test and confirm the tools ability to support baseline calculation.
E. Disseminate the product outcomes including the tools functionality, and produce an implementation plan for DNO adoption of the standardised baseline methodologies.

Activities A, B & C were completed in the first half of 2021.

The SSEN NIA Project TRANSITION and their delivery partner TNEI were appointed to deliver the baseline tool for P7, this decision was based on the apparent alignment of the P7 requirements and the baseline tool already in development by the TRANSITION Project. In addition, funding for the tool could be leveraged with that already invested by the TRANSITION Project.

An interim report detailing this work is published here.

Activities D & E continued through the remainder of 2021 and a final report summarising this work is published here.

2.3 Ongoing activities

Activities D & E included work required to finalise and handover the baseline tool, it was agreed appropriate to extend this work into Q1 of 2022. The product team has continued to meet throughout Q1 2022 to progress this extended work;

- Testing and approval of the baseline tool in readiness for publication.
- Finalisation of supporting materials to enable stakeholder interaction the tool and DNO implementation.
- Contractual arrangements for the ongoing hosting of the tool by ENA.
- Branding considerations for the tool and supporting documentation.
- Dissemination of the tools functionality following approval.

The purpose of this document is to provide oversight and transparency of these ongoing activities.

3 Handover activities

3.1 Tool completion

TNEI are completing the delivery of the tool, in line with the specification agreed and published in the 2021 final report, throughout Q1 2022. This work includes updating the tool with the agreed branding (see section 3.4), and user guidance information (see section 3.2). The tool completion date is expected to be w/c 28th Feb 2022.

In parallel the tool has undergone acceptance testing within the P7 Product Team and within the TRANSITION Project Team.

Approval of the tool is scheduled to be recommended by the P7 Product Team and TRANSITION on 16th February. Following this, the WS1A group will have oversight of the tool before recommending for final approval by the Open Networks Steering Group on the 17th March.

3.2 Supporting materials

To support the use of the tool TNEI will also produce a User Guide, accessible both through the tool itself and as a standalone document.

Approval of the User Guide is scheduled to be recommended by the P7 Product Team and TRANSITION on 16th February. Following this, the WS1A group will have oversight of the User Guide before recommending for final approval by the Open Networks Steering Group on the 17th March.

In addition, TNEI will be providing DNOs with a python package of the code used within the tool to carry out the baseline calculations. This will enable DNOs to integrate the methodologies within their own flexibility operational systems.

TNEI and the TRANSITION Project Team have committed to supporting DNOs with their interpretation and implementation of this package throughout the DNO implementation window. It is difficult to quantify what level of support will be required at this stage, where possible the support it will be coordinated across all DNOs to ensure resources at TNEI and TRANSITION aren't over stretched.

3.3   Tool hosting

Following approval, the tool and user guide will be hosted on the ENA website. The tool will continue to be supported by TNEI.

An agreement is to be put in place between the ENA and TNEI to enable this. It is expected a short term agreement will be put in place initially, this will allow the ENA to periodically review the tools usage and consider if further development should be carried out as a result of feedback from its P0 activities.

Agreement negotiations are underway and expected to be complete w/c 7th March. Publication on the ENA website will happen after the Steering Group approval on 17th March.

3.4   Branding

Given the collaboration between Open Networks, TRANSITION and TNEI to produce the tool, is it agreed that the tool and associated materials should be co-branded between all three parties.

Agreement on the use of logos and text describing the collaboration was recently reached ahead of the target of w/c 21st Feb.

3.5   Marketing and dissemination

Provided Steering Group approval is given on 17th March, it is the intention of all three collaborating parties, ENA, TRANSITION and TNEI, to hold a webinar disseminating the product outcomes and demonstrate the tool on 20th April 2022. A joint press release and coordinated social posts will support this to encourage attendance. The ENA will also inform members of their Dissemination Forum of the webinar when they next meet on 24th March.

The webinar will be recorded and published on the ENA website for stakeholders to continue to access after the event.

4   DNO implementation

As detailed in the 2021 final report, following the conclusion of the handover activities DNOs have committed to implement the standardised baseline methodologies.

Each DNOs detailed timeline for this will vary due to differing system integration needs. However, DNOs have collectively agreed to target Aug 2022 for the completion of implementation activities.

The Open Networks P0 Overarching Framework for Flexibility will continue to monitor progress of the implementation and collate DNO and Stakeholder feedback following publication and implementation to assess if Open Networks should revisit this product in the future.

For completeness, DNO implementation is included in the handover timeline in section 5.

5   Handover timeline

The following image provides a collated view of the handover activities and DNO implementation detailed in sections 3 & 4.

P7 Handover Timeline		Jan				Feb				Mar				Apr				May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
	Week Commencing	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31st	7th	14th	21st	28th	7th	14th	21st	28th	4th	11th	18th	25th								
Tool Delivery	Testing Complete								■																	
	TNEI Tool Complete (and DNO Python package)									■																
	Approvals Complete											■														
Contract & Publication	ENA hosting contractual arrangements complete										■															
	Tool Publication on ENA Website													■												
Marketing & Dissemination	Branding Decisions - Tool & Supporting Materials templates								■																	
	Joint Communications Plan Agreed										■															
	Joint Press Release												■													
	Dissemination Webinar - 20th April 2pm																■									
DNO Implementation	DNO Implementation Readiness; Trial/test										■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
	TNEI/TRANSITION Ongoing support for implemenation										■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■					
	DNO Implementation; BAU																					■				
	P0 - Revisit; DNO implementation feedback and assess next steps																						■	■	■	■