

Shaping Our Electricity Future (SOEF) Advisory Council Meeting 05 Minutes



Date: 29 June 2023
Time: 1300 - 1500
Venue: Virtual Meeting
Chair: Liam Ryan

Council Member Attendees:

Name	Representing
Alan McHugh	Consultancy
Jag Basi	Conventional Production
Paul Bell	Regulators - UR
Briain Diskin	Government
Brian Mongan	Demand Response (NI)
Donal Smith	Renewables
Frank Burke	Storage
Kate Garth	Renewables
Mark Alexander	TSO
Colm McCullagh	Government
Michael Conlon	Academia
Noel Cunniffe	Renewables
Paddy Finn	Demand Response
Patrick Mohr	Consultancy
Paul Blount	Renewables
Peter Harte	New Technology
Rory Mullan	Renewables
Robert O'Rourke	Regulators - CRU
Lauren Skillen-Baine	Regulators - UR
Thomas O'Sullivan	Large Energy Users
Trevor Harron	DSO

Apologies:

Name	Representing
Joe Duddy	New Technology
Neil Morris	Large Energy Users
Peter Russell	Government
Zoe Crowe	Government
Colin Broomfield	Regulators - UR
John Fitzgerald	New Technology
Ellen Diskin	DSO / TAO
Nicholas Harvey	TSO

Welcome, minutes and actions. - Liam Ryan/Alan Campbell

- Liam Ryan and Alan Campbell welcomed members of the of the Advisory Council to the call
- Thanked members for their input provided to the Roadmap development.
- Previous actions shown in slide deck and updates were as follows:
 - TSOs committed to covering Hybrids in greater detail at the September Advisory Council Meeting.
 - Terms of Reference for Pilot Sub-Committee on Renewable Hubs marked as completed and proposed to be presented at the end of the meeting.

SOEF v1.1 - Operations roadmap

- Eoin Kennedy presented on the Operations Roadmap, focusing on highlighted areas of the roadmap including Operational Policy, Standards and Services, Operational Tools and Technology Enablement.

SOEF v1.1 - Markets roadmap

- David Carroll presented on key projects in the Markets Roadmap including Future Arrangement for System Services (FASS), Scheduling & Dispatch, and EU & GB Re-integration (SEM 4.0).
 - David Carroll: An implementation plan is scheduled to be released soon on Scheduling and Dispatch
 - David Carroll: An Industry engagement plan will be published soon to outline engagement with Industry

SOEF v1.1 - Engagement roadmap

- Sinéad Dooley presented on activities conducted to promote EirGrid's Powering Up Dublin, Offshore Phase 2 and the North South Interconnector.
 - Sinéad Dooley: More detail on the North South Interconnector Public and Landowner Engagement is to be provided at the September 2023 Advisory Council.
- Gareth Browne presented on work conducted in Northern Ireland on Engagement, focusing on the Mid Antrim Upgrade Project in particular. A summary of SONI's overall engagement programme also presented, noting work that SONI's three-part process of engagement is currently being revised.

SOEF v1.1 - Networks update

- Derek Carroll from Future Networks presented on the Networks stream of Shaping Our Electricity Future, noting the iterative approach undertaken to inform the roadmap's findings between Spring 2022 and Spring 2023 which informed the findings of the SOEF roadmap for network.

Panel discussion

- Liam Ryan initiated the Panel discussion by noting that the scale of change required for this is without precedent a mature ecosystem in required for collective action to deliver the change that the roadmap sets out.
- A series of topics were discussed during the panel and are summarised below
 - **SOEF 1.1 Achievements**
 - Member congratulated EirGrid and SONI for delivering 1 Hz/s Rate of Change of Frequency operational policy change.
 - Member acknowledged that the Climate Action Plan 2023 targets are reflected in SOEF v1.1
 - **2nd Interconnector - Derek Carroll**
 - Member asked about the 2nd interconnector to France in SOEF v1.1 and if there was any further detail that the roadmap could provide.
 - Derek Carroll noted that a second interconnector was being considered from France to the West Coast at Moneypoint.
 - **Hydrogen - Derek Carroll/Liam Ryan**
 - Hydrogen modelling and analysis was raised.
 - Derek Carroll/Liam Ryan: Acknowledged that Hydrogen isn't being factored into SOEF v1.1 analysis but is being considered for Tomorrow's Energy Scenarios (TES). It has potential to be a good solution for beyond 2030 in addressing surplus renewables.
 - **20% Demand Flexibility / Energy Storage - Derek Carroll/Liam Ryan**
 - Discussion held on 20% demand flexibility and its potential effect on emissions targets.
 - Views exchanged the definition of demand flexibility.

- CRU Consultation on Demand Energy Strategy was noted.

ACTION: Liam Ryan - Demand Flexibility topic to be discussed at next Advisory Council meeting.

- **Northern Ireland Generation - Derek Carroll/Alan Campbell**
 - Sub-stations in Northern Ireland were discussed in detail.
 - More bays in the locality can provide further connections, mostly to connect in the area to future proof - subject to further RA discussions
 - Significant asset replacements are required for the current substation and that while it is at an early phase, this anticipated planning is needed to deliver Northern Ireland's targets.
- **Whole of Electricity System Challenge: Generation and Demand Portfolio - Derek Carroll**
 - Views were exchanged on the cost benefit analyses required for the system and risk mitigation.
- **SEM 4.0 / Scheduling & Dispatch - David Carroll**
 - 2024 delivery date discussed
 - Risk of delivery of network solution raised in absence of delivery of scheduling and dispatch
 - Timelines for delivery should align with RESS auctions
 - Next iteration of Scheduling & Dispatch will be under SEM 4.0, with Balancing Market Reform also scoped
 - Enduring solutions will be considered in future workshops.
- **Renewable Hubs and Clusters - Derek Carroll**
 - Locations of Hubs and Clusters discussed.
 - Planning of locations raised and how it aligns with TSOs' six step framework.
- **20% generation surplus - Liam Ryan/Derek Carroll**
 - Views exchanged on projected 20% surplus generation and a cost benefit analysis arising from the scenario outlined.
- **Low Carbon Inertia Services and Grid-Forming - Eoin Kennedy**
 - Noted that the TSOs' intention is to develop a Grid Forming strategy by Q2 2024.
 - Noted that while Phase 1 of the LCIS procurement process is limited to synchronous inertia solutions, the TSOs will assess the potential for Grid Forming solutions to be considered in future LCIS procurement phases.
- **ECP Process - Elin Ahlund/Derek Carroll**
 - ECP process raised by a member queried on how solar connections can be offered via ECP contract
 - ECP 2.4 process and further reform of the process was discussed
 - Consultation is due to be held on ECP 2.4 to establish definition of connection.
 - Member queried what a renewable hub is in practice
- **Fisheries Engagement - Sinead Dooley**
 - Views exchanged on Seafood taskforce and EirGrid's work to support it.
- **Landowner Engagement - Sinead Dooley**
 - Views exchanged on North South Interconnector Engagement
- **HV Interface Forum - Sinead Dooley**
 - Member credited engagement with the Road Authorities and queried if engagement can be expanded to private sector.
 - Noted that the forum's current scope is for statutory agencies only, but feedback on this can be relayed as it is at the Department's discretion to decide who can be on the forum.

[SOEF V1.0 programme status](#)

- **SOEF v1.1 Programme Status**
 - Status was shared with members prior to the meeting.
 - Members raised no questions on the content.

Terms of Reference for the pilot Advisory Council Sub-Committee on Renewable Hubs

- Terms of reference presented.
Sub-Group to be used to determine the speed and scale of renewable hubs.

Liam Ryan Close

- **SOEF Report**
 - Shaping Our Electricity Future v1.1 is scheduled to be published on Monday 3 July.
- **Next Meeting of Advisory Council.**
 - Confirmed that the next Advisory Council is scheduled to be held in September

#	Action	Owner	Status	Notes
1	Establish Pilot sub-committee	TSO	Complete	EirGrid/SONI See today's presentation. (28.03.23 xref action 01)
2	SOEF Programme to consider Member request on how best to incorporate the appropriate level of programme reporting so a transparent view of progress against objectives/milestones is available.	TSO	In Progress	Objectives added to MYP. Portfolio reporting view in progress. (28.03.23 xref action 02)
3	Multiple Members requested additional insights from and discussions with the TSOs on the progress of Hybrids. EirGrid/SONI SOEF Programme to consider Member request and revert to the ACM.	TSO	In Progress	TSOs propose discussing this topic in detail at the next ACM (Sep). (28.03.23 xref action 03)
4	Member raised a point that LCIS being used at offshore wind connections points in GB is seen as a challenge. EirGrid/SONI asked to consider and follow-up as part of the Operations workstream: Question to the TSOs: How will LCIS be incentivised to these local connection points.?	TSO	In Progress	We will take offshore development into account when doing the analysis for locational aspects of the LCIS Phase 2 procurement. This will be done during 2024. (28.03.23 xref action 04)
5	After detailed exchange of views on Demand Flexibility, it was agreed to bring up Demand Flexibility as a topic at the September Advisory Council	TSO	Initiated	
6	After presentation and discussion of the North South Interconnector's Engagement, it was agreed that further information will be provided at the September Advisory Council	TSO	Initiated	