

25 January 2019

Sent via Email only to opennetworks@energynetworks.org.

Energy UK response to Open Networks Project Consultation: Workstream 2, Product 5 – Interactivity and Queue Management

Energy UK welcomes the opportunity to feed into these proposals and the broader work of the Open Networks project, and will continue to feed into the project as a member of the Open Networks Advisory Group. Workstream 2 Product 5 is particularly beneficial to market participants in that it could enable simplified, transparent connections processes across the UK.

Energy UK believes that it is vital to the success of this product to:

- Ensure distribution-level connections processes align with UK transmission-level processes.
- Develop consistent, easily-available resources for customers across DNO and ESO websites.
- Ensure information on existing queue size, available capacity and ongoing interactivity periods is shared widely with stakeholders.
- Integrate non-discrimination and transparency as codified aspects of connections processes.

Energy UK would note the importance of homogenisation, both across UK networks and with European norms of technology neutrality and neutral market facilitation. Ease of access to GB markets is dependent on the simplicity and transparency of connections processes across energy networks and coordination across network areas will greatly improve this. The same processes should be used across the UK and the same guidance and resources should be used by all DNOs to ensure simplicity.

Information provision could play a key role in enabling more efficient queue management processes by indicating the needs and available capacity of the network area. This requires both the ability to accurately measure the state of the network and the ability to present that information in a clear and easily accessible manner.

Changes to the queue management process should reflect the Open Networks project's focus on neutral market facilitation and technology-neutrality, which benefit all customers. It is also important to the fairness of connections processes that transparency is increased for all customers. Where a network area is progressing an interactivity process, this information should be shared publicly to allow other applicants to choose whether or not they wish to apply in addition.

Energy UK and its members will continue to engage with the Open Networks project as it continues to progress. If the ENA, its members, or other stakeholders with an interest in the Open Networks project or connections processes wish to discuss the points made in this response, please use the contact details below.

Sincerely,

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