

## Interventions Working Group - Meeting 61

02 March 2022 at 10:00am  
Teleconference on Teams

Attendees	Company
Geoff Huckerby [GH]	Power Data Associates
Martin Murphy [MM]	NPg
Paul Abreu [PA]	Energy Networks Association
Paul Morris [PM]	UK Power Networks (UKPN)
Peter Skirvin [PS]	Electricity North-West (ENW)
Richard Cockerill (RiC)	OVO
Richard Hill [RH]	Centrica
Simon Wilson [SW]	EDF Energy
Steven Vaughan [SV]	Scottish Power
William McKay [WM]	SSEN
Secretariat	
Richard Colwill [RC] (Chair)	ElectraLink
Hannah Proffitt [HP] (Secretariat)	ElectraLink
Apologies	
Richard Brady [RB]	WPD
John Heague [JH]	Scottish Power

### 1. Administration

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed attendees to the 61<sup>st</sup> IWG meeting.
- 1.2 The Chair reminded members to act in accordance with the terms set out in the DCUSA “Competition Law Guidance” for the duration of the meeting.

## 2. IWG 60 – Draft Minutes

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- 2.1 The minutes from the previous meeting held on 05 January 2022 were reviewed.
- 2.2 The group agreed the minutes to be an accurate reflection of the discussions held at the previous meeting. These are included as **Attachment 1**.

## 3. Outstanding Actions

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- 3.1 The IWG reviewed the outstanding actions, and an updated version of the actions log can be found in **Attachment 2**.

## 4. Operational, Safety and Reporting Issues

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- 4.1 The Chair presented the Operational, Safety and Reporting Issues spreadsheet to the group.

### IPC Line Tap Connectors

- 4.2 Following discussions at the previous meeting, SW advised that he had referred the issues surrounding IPC Line Tap Connectors to an area engineer who was not aware of the issue. SW noted that they are encouraging that the matter is highlighted in their magazine to outline the dangers. SW noted that the matter has been referred to the National Inspection Council for Electrical Installation Contracting (NICEIC) and that NICEIC want to carry out some research before they issue any communications.
- 4.3 One member asked if the issue had been referred to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). PA agreed that Energy UK did highlight this to HSE, but that HSE advised that the issue should be raised with the manufacturer. PA noted that they have been having regular conversations with NICEIC and will feed back any updates to the group when available.
- 4.4 PA highlighted that he had been asked to join the safety group for EV charging point installation and that the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET) are working to publish an article on the misuse of IPC Line Tap Connectors. PA noted that they have spoken to the manufacturer of the equipment who have also provided feedback stating that the equipment is not appropriate for this use. PA summarised that all Parties involved agree on the matter, and that they are working together to address the issue.
- 4.5 RH advised that their company's procedures have been updated to address the subject. RH noted that if the equipment is safe, their procedure advises to leave a safety advice notice for the customer to contact the installer to return and remove the equipment as it is not fit for purpose. RH noted that removing the equipment should be the responsibility of the installer and that they would not do this unless there was an immediate hazard. RiC agreed that their procedures were similar.
- 4.6 PM suggested that it would be beneficial for Parties to align their procedures for consistency. RiC agreed to share the wording in their safety bulletin with IWG members.

**61/01:** RiC to share wording from safety bulletin regarding IPC Line Tap Connectors with IWG members.

## Quantum Heaters

- 4.7 SW advised he had been contacted by the manufacturer of Quantum Heaters advising they have been receiving a large number of calls from customers stating that when installing smart meters, operatives have been disconnecting the heaters as they are connected to a 24-hour supply. The manufacturer asked if this could be raised at the meeting for awareness.
- 4.8 SW advised that they have issued a bulletin to their operatives advising them not to disconnect these types of heaters. The Secretariat agreed to issue the manual with the post meeting papers. This can be found as **Attachment 3**.

## Cut-out Flashover Events

- 4.9 RH presented the slides to the group, outlining the two incidents and highlighting the associated pictures. RH asked members to consider the next steps and noted that they are considering recommending that operatives do not work on these types of cut-outs until further investigation has taken place.
- 4.10 PA noted that the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) is the asset owner and therefore they need to initiate any forensic investigations. PA highlighted the importance of feeding back any similar incidents to the DNOs.
- 4.11 RH noted that it could take a significant amount of time for these investigations to be undertaken and asked whether an interim bulletin should be issued as a warning. PA agreed that it would be down to each company to communicate with their teams to ensure safety, however that ultimately the DNO will be responsible for the bulletin.
- 4.12 RH agreed to discuss the matter with WM following the meeting and to establish any necessary next steps. RH agreed to update the IWG if necessary.

## Other Issues

- 4.13 PM highlighted an incident surrounding a 200A cut out. PM noted that a flashover had occurred in the cut out and that this is being looked into. PM noted that no flashover marks had been left on the phase barriers which is concerning. PM advised that he would keep the group informed of any updates.
- 4.14 RH raised a further issue regarding receiving no response when phoning in a category A code. RH noted instances where individuals have stayed on the line for two hours with no response. RH noted that this can cause issues around whether the individual should leave and who's responsibility this is. PM noted that they now have an online facility to avoid the need for phoning.

## 5. Opportunity for updates on related IWG activities

- 5.1 The Chair informed the group of the below updates:

## DCP 390<sup>1</sup> and DCP 394<sup>2</sup>

- 5.2 The Chair highlighted that following Ofgem's letter outlining their decision to send back DCP 390 for further review, the proposers of DCP 390 and DCP 394 have been discussing the possibility of merging the two DCPs.
- 5.3 The next DCP 394 Working Group (WG) meeting is scheduled to be held on Friday 11 March for WG members to agree a way forward and a timeline. The Chair noted that the WGs aim was to work collaboratively to deliver a solution.

## 6. Smart Meter Installs

- 6.1 The monthly Smart Meter installs for January 2022 were circulated with the meeting papers for information.

## 7. Any Other Business

- 7.1 The Chair highlighted that ElectraLink's offices have re-opened for external meetings and asked members for their thought on returning to face to face meetings.
- 7.2 Several members agreed that it could be beneficial to hold some meetings face to face as it would encourage further discussion and would assist in raising additional agenda items.
- 7.3 Several other members noted that they would require a clear justification for meeting face to face as travelling is time consuming, expensive and would prevent members attending more than one meeting in a day.
- 7.4 The Chair confirmed that ElectraLink's meeting room technology has been upgraded to improve meetings with a mixture of in person attendees and attendees on teleconference. The Chair suggested that the meeting room is provisionally booked for the May IWG meeting and that a final decision can be made closer to the time depending on the agenda.
- 7.5 One member noted that there were several mini projects previously discussed by the group and suggested that these should be revisited. The group agreed to send in potential agenda items and their thoughts on holding the next meeting face to face.

**61/02:** Members to send in potential agenda items and their thoughts on holding the next meeting face to face.

- 7.6 The Chair asked the group if there was any other business to discuss.
- 7.7 PM asked for an update on DCP 383<sup>3</sup>, specifically regarding the development of the flow for the solution. PM noted that they are keen for this to be progressed in order for the full benefits of the change to be realised.

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<sup>1</sup> DCP 390 - Provision of Isolations for Safe Working on Customers' Electrical Installations

<sup>2</sup> DCP 394 - Allow any REC Accredited Meter Operator to De-Energise any Metering Point

<sup>3</sup> DCP 383 - Provision for Distributors to Move Meters for Service Alterations

- 7.8 The Chair noted that they have been in discussions with REC in order to book in a meeting to discuss this and the associated timeframes. PM suggested that the feedback from DNOs should be discussed at that meeting. The Chair agreed and noted that they will also look into the potential use of FlowBuilder.
- 7.9 WM asked for information on the interim solution. The Chair advised that the interim solution went live on 24 February and uses email. The Chair noted that Distributors that want to take part can look at a spreadsheet to find Suppliers that have indicated they are happy to use the interim solution.
- 7.10 The Chair agreed to issue a further communication highlighting the interim solution and to send this to the WG. The Chair also agreed to update the group as the matter progresses.

**61/03:** Chair to issue communication to WG members regarding the DCP 383 interim solution.

- 7.11 No other business was raised.

## 8. Next Meeting

- 8.1 The next IWG meeting is scheduled to be held on 04 May 2022 and a decision on whether this will be held face to face or via Microsoft Teams will be made nearer the time. The meeting will start at 10am.

## Attachments

- Attachment 1 - IWG 60\_Final Minutes v1.0
- Attachment 2 - IWG 61\_Actions
- Attachment 3 - Quantum Heater Documentation