

Ontario Smart Grid Forum

Ontario's Smart Grid Forum Notes of Meeting

Date: **Monday, February 22, 2010**
Time: 12:30 to 16:00
Location: IESO Minto Plaza Office, Main Boardroom
655 Bay Street, Suite 410
Toronto, ON

Forum Members Attending:

Keith Major	Bentall LP
David Collie	Electrical Safety Authority
Wayne Smith	Hydro One
Norm Fraser	Hydro Ottawa (by telephone)
Paul Murphy	IESO
Don Tench	IESO
Jon Norman	Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure
Brian Hewson	Ontario Energy Board
Dan McGillivray	Ontario Centres of Excellence
Paul Shervill	Ontario Power Authority
Ivano Labricciosa	Toronto Hydro
Craig Martin	TransCanada
Jatin Nathwani	University of Waterloo
Jim Keech	Utilities Kingston
Michael Angemeer	Veridian Corporation

Working Group Members Attending:

Raed Abdullah	Hydro Ottawa (by telephone)
Edward Arlitt	IESO
Annamaria Cross	Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure
Lisa Dignard-Bailey	Natural Resources Canada (by telephone)
Joshua Wong	Toronto Hydro

Other attendees:

Usman Syed	Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure
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12:30 – call to order, attendance, and confirmation of the agenda

The Chair confirmed the agenda as previously circulated to members.

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Agenda Item # 1 – Minutes of previous meetings:

Minutes of the January 18th meeting of the Smart Grid Forum:

Having received no further comments to the January 18th minutes by the previously assigned deadline of **Friday, February 12th** the minutes were declared as final.

Minutes of the **February 9th** meeting of the Smart Grid Forum:

The draft minutes of the February 9th meeting of the Forum were tabled with an **ACTION ITEM** to provide comments by **Friday, February 26th** (no comments to these minutes were tabled during today's meeting).

Additional Bulletin: UK Government “Smart Grid Route Map”

An additional Bulletin was circulated to Forum members regarding the recent publication of a “Smart Grid Route Map” by the Government of the United Kingdom’s Office Electricity Networks Strategy Group (www.ensg.gov.uk). Edward Arlitt (IESO Staff) provided a brief overview the publication (see additional bulleting and ENSG website for further details).

Agenda Item # 2: “Ontario Smart Grid Roadmap – roles and responsibilities”

The latest version of the Ontario Smart Grid Roadmap statement of principles was circulated to Forum members by Jon Norman (MEI).¹ As per the high-level plan outlined at previous Forum meetings, Jon indicated that this set of principles would now be an important input into the Ontario Government’s internal policy development work.

ACTION ITEM: The Chair asked members to provide any additional comments regarding the principles document to Ministry staff as soon as possible.

Edward Arlitt (IESO Staff) was then called upon to walk the group through a PowerPoint presentation entitled, “Roles and Responsibilities in the context of Ontario’s Smart Grid.”² The presentation was intended to analyze the issue of organizational roles and responsibilities from the following perspectives:

- The 7 domains of the smart grid as defined by the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST);
- The 8 NIST layers of Interoperability; and,
- The emerging Ontario policy road map

Most of the group’s discussions and comments centred around slides 15 to 19, and specifically the various entries in the “Responsibilities, Accountabilities, Consult, Inform (‘R.A.C.I.’)” matrix. These comments and provided as follows:

Slides 15 and 16: – RACI entries under, “Broad Smart Grid Principles” category:

“Customer Value”

¹ Please note that this item was also circulated electronically to Forum members by Don Tench.

² This item was also circulated electronically to Forum members by Don Tench.

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- Various Forum members commented that this particular principle was quite difficult to give a concise definition to.
- A member commented that perhaps it was better to allow roles and responsibilities for this particular objective to grow organically over time.
- Various members suggested that the OEB, LDC's and "Prosumers"³ should be held accountable for this objective.
- Another member suggested that from the customer's standpoint, LDCs are both accountable and responsible for this objective.
- It was pointed out that the Ontario Government should generally be referenced in all relevant entries in the RACI matrix – as opposed to individual Ministries.

"Coordination"

- A member suggested that the regulator should also have accountability for the coordination of the province's smart grid efforts.
- A member suggested that LDCs largely have responsibility for coordination.

"Interoperability"

- A member pointed out that the federal government is accountable for coordination at the federal level, but the framework allows for variation at the provincial level.
- A member suggested that the OPA should be added as a responsible party.
- Another member suggested that the OEB should be added as an accountable party given its role in adopting various standards.
- A member suggested that a specific body should be created to coordinate smart grid interoperability in Ontario – or at the very least, assign formal accountability for this role to an existing organization. To this end, a member suggested that the IESO has a big role to play in this area because it sits at the centre of so many different systems. However, another member interjected that the IESO does not have sufficient jurisdictional authority over the retail sector to do this at present.
- Another member suggested that consumer protection and energy efficiency standards should also be formally adopted and applied to smart grids in Ontario.
- A member posed the question, "what is the role of markets, and is this missing from the high-level principles?" On this question, members were reminded that this topic was addressed in the Forum's 2009 report, *"Enabling Tomorrow's Electricity System."*
- A member summarized the discussion by stating that those parties submitting their smart grid plans to the regulator have both the responsibility and accountability to ensure that interoperability standards are properly applied.

"Safety"

- A member clarified that the Electrical Safety Authority is responsible for adopting CSA standards and that such standards pertain to smaller scale facilities. Larger scale facilities fall under the accountability of the Ministry of Labour.
- A member suggested that manufacturers of smart grid equipment have a responsibility in this area.

"Security"

³ Note: "prosumer" is a term used by the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) to describe an empowered customer that has the potential to both "produce" "store" or "consume" electricity.

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- A few members suggested that law enforcement and security agencies play a significant accountability and responsibility role in this area.

“Privacy”

- Several members suggested that both government and the OEB have ultimate accountability in this area – not necessarily the Privacy Commissioner.
- Another member suggested that everyone handling customer data is ultimately responsible for the privacy of the customer to whom it pertains.

“Economic Development”

- A member suggested that the Ontario Government is generally accountable in this area.
- Another member suggested that in fact LDCs are responsible insofar as the sources they choose from (for various smart grid components and services).
- A member observed that many of the roles in this area will be shaped by how activist Ontario chooses to be in this area.

“Environment”

- Some members observed that the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure likely has far more accountability in this area than the Ministry of the Environment – but more generally it is the Ontario Government that has overall accountability.
- Various suggestions for responsibility in this area included LDCs, manufacturers and the OPA.
- Another member suggested it was in fact the consumer “marketplace” and the manufacturers and service providers that serve it that have the responsibility to provide environmentally sustainable products.

“Efficiency”

- A member suggested that the Ontario Government is accountable in this area, and that responsibility for this goal has not yet been formally delegated to anyone.
- A member pointed out that the OEB has a mandate to consider cost effectiveness and that this principle generally speaks to the foundational goal of the smart grid itself.

“Reliability”

- One member suggested that responsibility lies with prosumers, but another member disagreed on this point.
- Another member suggested that the ESA is involved as a responsible party, while another member suggested adding the OEB to the list of responsible parties.

{2:55 p.m.: 10-minute break}

ACITON ITEM: Upon returning from the break the Chair suggested, and it was agreed, that the Ontario Smart Grid Forum Working Group should be delegated with the task of continuing to review the RACI matrix contained in the presentation and report back to the next Forum meeting.

Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure Request for Proposal (RFP):

Annamaria Cross (MEI) indicated to the group that the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure has issued an RFP for, “Consulting Services for Research and Analysis of Home Energy Management Systems in support of Smart Grid Development and the *Green Energy and Green Economy Act, 2009*”.

Note: this RFP is posted on the MERX website at the following location:

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http://www.merx.com/English/SUPPLIER_Menu.Asp?WCE=Show&TAB=1&PORTAL=MERX&State=7&id=190995&src=osr&FED_ONLY=0&ACTION=&rowcount=&lastpage=&hcode=KqOfDnqu1uR9kfp4V9cTpQ%3d%3d

Agenda Item # 3 “Action Item from Feb. 9th: ‘Ontario’ participation in NIST interoperability framework development effort.”

Edward Arlitt (IESO Staff) walked the Forum members through a distribution item entitled, “*Ontario Participation in NIST Smart Grid Interoperability Framework Development.*” This document outlines some of the various umbrella organizations with at least some degree of Ontario representation participating in the development of the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Interoperability Framework (see paper for further details).

During this item a member posed the question how the Forum might best monitor NIST’s activities over the next year. **ACTION ITEM:** The Chair asked the Forum members to consider this question in anticipation of a further discussion of this matter at a future meeting.

Agenda Item # 4 “Action Item from Feb. 9th: U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Smart grids policy framework.”

Edward Arlitt (IESO Staff) walked the Forum members through a distribution item entitled, “*Smart Grid Policy Drivers for the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.*” This document addressed a question raised at the previous meeting as to whether or not FERC’s policy objectives for the smart grid were aligned with those that NIST was pursuing and how they were related to one another (see paper for further details).

Additional nominations for invitees to the CEA Partners Committee:

Forum members reviewed a distribution item (“Additional Nominations for the CEA Corporate Partners Committee”) which included a list of additional Ontario companies that might be invited to join the CEA Corporate Partners Committee.

ACTION ITEM: The Chair asked members of the Forum to please provide any suggested additions/amendments to the list as soon as possible.

A member raised his concern that he didn’t want this effort to necessarily align the policies of Ontario Smart Grid Forum with those of the Canadian Electricity Association too closely.

Discussion of Draft Letter regarding Smart Grid Opportunities Fund:

The Forum next reviewed materials prepared by Jatin Nathwani (University of Waterloo) and Dan McGillivray (Ontario Centres of Excellence).⁴ It remains to be determined as to the form of the final submission and to whom it will be directed. Dan also clarified that the potential projects listed in the materials were put forth as examples of the types of projects that could be undertaken, as opposed to an explicit set of recommendations at this point.

Next Meeting:

Morning of Tuesday, March 9th, 2010 (details to follow).

4:00 p.m. – Adjournment.

⁴ Please see the following distribution items: a) Dan McGillivray, “DRAFT 1 (Feb 19 2010) – Letter intended for the Premier McGuinty , Minister Duguid, and others (tbd)”, b) Jatin Nathwani, “APPENDIX A Action Plan for Smart Grid Investments in Ontario”, and, c) memo by Dan McGillivray, to Forum members, “RE: Projected Economic Impacts of Select Ongoing RD&D Projects.”