Transmission-Distribution Coordination Working Group (TDWG)

Meeting #14 Notes

Meeting date: May 31, 2024

Meeting time: 9:00 – 12:00 PM

Meeting location: Virtual

Meeting Objective:

- Review an updated 'Working Terms and Definitions' document from Deliverable B4

- Examine the updated User Journey and Process Map for various Distribution System Operator (DSO) models as part of Deliverable B2, and

- Discuss the Service Stacking Transmission-Distribution (T-D) Protocols as part of Deliverable A

Agenda Item 1: Introduction materials (IESO)

- Ali Golriz opened TDWG meeting #14 and introduced Usama Shafiq from the IESO as the new vice-chair of the TDWG.

- Shreya Dutta presented the recap slides on TDWG objectives, T-D protocols, and past meetings.

- Following up from TDWG meeting #12, Phillip Woo responded to stakeholder feedback received for deliverable B2 topic: Telemetry requirements for Distributed Energy Resources (DERs).

  - Additional discussion was held exploring what entities have what specific telemetry capabilities.

  - The B2 Communications Assessment deliverable will examine telemetry options in detail.

Agenda Item 2: Deliverable B4: Working Terms and Definitions (ICF on behalf of the IESO)

- Surhud Vaidya (ICF) provided an overview of the updated key definitions of the terms regularly utilized by the working group. Notable terms include DSO, Dual Participation DSO (DP-DSO), Market Facilitator DSO (MF-DSO) and Total DSO (T-DSO).

- A working group member asked if a definition for 'DSO aggregator' is needed. It was clarified that the definitions are not advocating for a specific model. To demonstrate the term's relevance, an example was provided where Local Distribution Companies (LDCs) aggregate DERs that they own, which is permitted under limited conditions.

- A working group member highlighted that 'Non-Wire Alternatives' is a broad term that encompasses several services, noting that those specifically relevant to Ontario should be clearly captured in the definition of the term.

- It was suggested that further elaboration on several terms be considered, including reliability (both from the IESO's and LDCs' perspectives), stacking, dispatch, and activation.

Agenda Item 3: Deliverable B2: User Journey Comparison (Alectra & Toronto Hydro)

- As a follow up to TDWG meeting #11, Hisham Omara briefly presented a comparison of the remaining four user journeys to the first user journey.

  - The 'Process and User Journey Map' presentation in TDWG Meeting #11 mapped critical processes, functional roles and user journeys within the DSO for one of the five user journeys (Market Facilitator with Shared Platform).

  - In the interest of time, working group members were encouraged to review the user journeys offline and provide feedback as needed.

- A working group member inquired about non-performance charges from the wholesale market when a DER/A fails to perform, including due to distribution system outages.

  - It was noted that the approach for DSOs and DERs could be informed by parallels with transmission system outages that prevent generation from performing.

  - Clarification was provided that under the T-DSO model, the DSO acts as the market participant and is therefore subject to non-performance charges. Conversely, in the MF-DSO model, the DSO would not bear the same risks.

  - IESO staff reminded the working group that settlement topics fall outside the TDWG's current scope, which focuses on market and system operations. However, this area will be examined in the IESO's Enabling Resource Program (ERP).

Agenda Item 4: Deliverable A: Service Stacking T-D Protocols (IESO)

- Ali Golriz presented an overview of the T-D protocols for 'service stacking,' designed to facilitate DER/A participation in services across both the transmission and distribution grids.

  - The presentation was based on the document 'T-D Protocols 2024 - Service Stacking,' which was shared on May 24, 2024, and is available for the working group's detailed review.

  - The presentation highlighted relevant service timeframes, key features of operational coordination, and swim lane diagrams.

- In the context of sequential coordination of stacked services, a working group member inquired whether DSOs would end up subsidizing bulk system needs if DER/A are selected for distribution system needs first. In response, it was noted that this concern could be mitigated if DER/A are compensated based on Locational Marginal Prices (LMPs) when operating.

- Another working group member raised a concern, noting that DER/A might be unwilling to provide distribution services if it finds that the DSO pays less than the wholesale market offers. It was noted that pricing approaches could be used to mitigate this issue; for example, ensuring the DSO offers compensation equal to or greater than LMPs.

- IESO staff reminded the working group that settlement topics fall outside the TDWG's current scope. A working group member emphasized the urgency of addressing these issues, as they impact LDCs' rate applications to the Ontario Energy Board (OEB).

Action Log Summary

- IESO staff will maintain an ongoing action log to track actions related to TDWG meetings and their resolution. The log will be reviewed at the start of each TDWG meeting.

Date	Action	Resolution
Dec 8, 2023	B2 – Hydro One to follow up on use of Internet Protocol as method of communication	
Feb 16, 2024	B1 – Alectra and Toronto Hydro to follow up on flexible DER connections based on TDWG Meeting #11 feedback	Presented May 31
Mar 28, 2024	B2 – IESO to follow up on proposed DER/A telemetry requirements based on TDWG Meeting #12 feedback	Presented May 31
Apr 22, 2024	IESO to circulate meeting notes among TDWG members by Apr 29	Sent Apr 29
Apr 22, 2024	TDWG members to provide comments via feedback form and send to engagement@ieso.ca by May 13	
Apr 22, 2024	IESO to post all meeting materials to the TDWG webpage by May 20	Published May 20
May 31, 2024	IESO to circulate meeting notes among TDWG members by Jun 7	Notes circulated Jun 7, 2024
May 31, 2024	TDWG members to provide comments via feedback form and send to engagement@ieso.ca by Jun 21	
May 31, 2024	IESO to post all meeting materials to the TDWG webpage by Jun 28	