

Euan Norris ETIP SNET – Western Region Workshop 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2018

# Accelerating Renewable Connections – Implementation of Active Network Management



# **Project Overview – Accelerating Renewable Connections (ARC)**

- ARC £8.4M project commenced in January 2013 and which completed in December 2016
- Project Objective Implementation of alternative innovative connection solutions to support renewable generation access within parts of the network considered to be constrained through conventional connection solutions
- Project Achievements
  - Accelerated **100MW** of renewable generation capacity across **13** individual projects
  - Mitigated or deferred in excess of **£30M** of network reinforcement capital investment

#### Customer & Community Benefits

- Supported **£285M** of private capital investment in renewable energy projects across the trial area of East Lothian and the Borders of Scotland
- Connected projects will support the creation of in excess of 55 full time jobs which is estimated will create a £10M economic boost across the trial area
- Connected Europe's largest Community Owned Wind Farm, developed jointly by Berwickshire Housing Association & Community Energy Scotland, profits from which will support the construction of 500 affordable homes over the next 20-years
- Facilitated the construction of a new Energy Recovery Facility which over the next 25 years will process waste from the Clyde Valley region of Scotland and is estimated will divert 4.25M tons of waste from landfill
- Supported a range of agricultural enterprises to diversity their business and create new revenue streams securing existing jobs and creating new employment across rural communities





# Project Objective - Facilitating growth in DER connecting to existing network



#### Project Scope:

Connect 50MW of generation across 4 new generation sites to manage load flows across GSP

#### **Network Constraint:** Transmission Access

#### **Original Offer**

Transmission reinforcement required, connection date advised 2021, total costs £20M

#### **Flexible Connection Solution**

- Wide area ANM scheme deployed at Dunbar GSP
- Principles of Access LIFO
- Total ANM scheme capital costs:£0.5M
- Currently 3 out of 4 generators connected, final customer will connect February 2018
- ANM accelerated connection to network by 3 years
- ANM supported by generation investors, SPT, NGET and most of all customers

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# **Guiding Principles of Active Network Management Deployment**



# **Active Network Management Curtailment Thresholds**

- To allow control of power flow across the identified constraint location(s), ANM control systems rely upon a series of escalating control actions to ensure network power flows remain within safe operating limits
- Control actions are triggered by power flow breaching a pre-defined or dynamic limit known as Thresholds
- A typical ANM system configuration will have four Threshold levels set for each constraint location as shown below;











#### **Dunbar & Berwick ANM Schemes**

- Manages circa 150MW of Distributed Generation against a transmission thermal constraint
- 7 generation projects connected
- Two de-centralised ANM systems installed in Dunbar & Berwick GSPs
- ANM Platform talks directly to each ANM Connect box installed at customers site
- ANM system takes direct control of customer's assets
- Dedicated measurement points take current loadings from transformers and input directly into ANM platform
- Available capacity calculated by ANM system every 600m/s and refreshed maximum export value passed to generator





### Flexible Connections & Principles Of Access Policy Development – Published February 2017

SP ENERGY NETWORKS Flexible Connections and Principles Of Access Policy Issue No. 1

#### SCOPE

This document defines the Policy for Flexible Connection Solutions and their Principles Of Access to be adopted throughout SP Energy Networks from 28° February 2017. The purpose of this document is to ensure that network access for Users makes full use of the existing network and maximises its utilisation before the requirement for network reinforcement.

ISSUE RECORD

This is a Controlled document. The current version is held on the EN Document Library.

#### It is your responsibility to ensure you work to the current version

| Issue Date    | Issue No. | Author             | Amendment Details |
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ISSUE AUTHORITY

| Author                                                     | Owner                                                                                                               | Issue Authority                             |
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#### REVIEW

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Improved network visibility through enhanced network monitoring

Development of new commercial mechanisms to support flexible connection solutions & transparent network access priority

Implementation of wide area communications & autonomous control enabling infrastructure

Interoperability with third party / customer assets in order to exercise real-time control of export/demand

Development of IT / Energy Mgt Systems to host and access enhanced network data

**Implementation of Flexible Connection Solutions** 





#### **Constraint Analysis & Financing Managed Connections**





#### **Active Network Management – Equipment Overview**



**Centralised ANM System** 



#### **ANM Customer Interface**





#### **Active Network Management – Live Operational Experience**



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#### Active Network Management – Releasing Greater Network Capacity for Customers







#### Active Network Management – Releasing Greater Network Capacity for Customers







#### **Customer Feedback; Connected via Active Network Management Network Solution**

"Without the support of SP Energy Networks the wind farm would never have been constructed, quite simply without SP Energy Networks and Active Network Management there would be no Community Wind Farm"

*Alan Hobbett, Project Director, Berwickshire Housing Association , Hoprigshiels 7.5MW Community Wind Farm* 



HRH Princess Royal at the Official Opening of Standhill Farm 200 kW AD Plant & Glasshouse, September 2017



Opening of Hoprigshiels 7.5MW Community Wind Farm, by Paul Wheelhouse MSP, Minister for Business, Innovation & Energy

"Without the support of SP Energy Networks I'm sure I 'd never have managed to get to first base. We've managed to create a lot of jobs and we've turned an average dairy farm into a hub of production both in terms of food and energy"

*Jim Shanks, Farmer Standhill Farm, Scottish Borders, Standhill 200kW AD Connection & Glasshouse* 





# Project Key Exploitable Results, Added Value, Quantifiable Benefits

• Conventional network planning, design and modelling needs to evolve to take greater account of the operating characteristics of the technologies now seeking to connect to the network to realise greater efficiencies



Real-time Data vs. Design Assumption





### **Project Key Exploitable Results, Added Value, Quantifiable Benefits**

The network is more than capable of hosting a greater level of connected generation capacity beyond the name plate • rating of the network equipment through real-time network management







# Project Key Exploitable Results, Added Value, Quantifiable Benefits



The network is more than capable of hosting a greater level of connected generation capacity beyond the name plate rating of the network equipment through real-time network management

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www.spenergynetworks.co.uk

• Recognition of a changing customer relationship















visibility/controllability



| Centralised | ANM | Characteristics |  |
|-------------|-----|-----------------|--|
|             |     |                 |  |
|             |     |                 |  |





# ARC pilot project concluded December 2016, now focus is on supporting wider SPEN business in delivering similar schemes across SPD & SPM

#### **ANM Achievements**

- ANM Technology successfully deployed across two Grid Supply Points (GSP) (Dunbar & Berwick)
- **100%** of connection offers issued in trial area accepted
- Connected 13 new generation projects across trial area representing an additional 100MW of additional renewable generation capacity
- Retrofitted ANM control to an existing **48MW** wind farm
- Connected Europe's largest community owned wind farm
- Delivered new design techniques and commercial mechanisms for connecting renewable generation
- Winner at 2015 Green Energy Rewards for Best Innovation

#### Supporting Wider Business & Customer Goals

- SPEN's Flexible Connections Policy developed at end of December 2016
- ICE Plan deliverable for 2017
- Wider Industry Benefits: £283M of customer investment in renewable projects across trial area in last 4-years; directly responsible for the creation of >55 jobs
- Community Benefits: £700M waste contract secured that will divert 4.25M tons of waste from landfill; estimated economic boost of renewables £10M, support the construction of 500 new homes rented by social landlord
- Removed requirement for around **30km** of OHL assets, reducing costs and environmental impact





#### Full Scale Deployment Centralised Active Network Management Scheme – Dumfries & Galloway



11 GSPs (with the capability to be rolled out across SPD's network area)

Designed to alleviate transmission constraints using DG and the first to interface with the SO

The first multi-GSP ANM scheme of this scale in the UK





## Full Scale Deployment Centralised Active Network Management Scheme – North Wales



- Manage DER in fully interconnected
  network
- Provide 150 MW capacity
- Extendable to further CMZs

Caernarfon Maentwrog Four Crosses Aberystwyth Rhydlydan

- Completion through 2019/2020
- Enables transition to DSO

Releasing a minimum of 8 Constraint Management Zones (CMZs)

Alternative traditional reinforcement cost approximately £11m









