ofgem Making a positive difference for energy consumers

Big Energy Summit

A smart, flexible energy system

The changing system



The need for flexibility and smart solutions



Graphic courtesy of National Grid

What do we mean by a flexible energy system?

- A system which enables low carbon technologies to connect, while reducing the need to invest in new generation and network capability.
- A system that uses new and existing forms of flexibility can help us manage a system with more intermittent renewable and distributed generation.
- A system where it is easier to manage peaks in supply and demand.





What are the benefits of a smart system?



Source: DECC Least regret flexibility project (2016)

*Cost savings in DECC Least-regret flexibility project reflects the benefits of all flexibility options, i.e. not just storage and DSR but also interconnection and flexible CCGTs



Our approach



Engagement in Europe and internationally



Joint call for evidence

Contents





Opportunities for storage







- Opportunities for storage in delivering new EFR
- Potential to go further through multiservice contracts
- Power Responsive campaign outcomes
- Capacity market outcomes

- Diverse business models are emerging simultaneously for storage, ranging from colocation with renewables to domestic consumer offerings through aggregators
- Dramatic cost reduction of Li-ion technology – around 14% pa from 2007-2014 and likely to reduce further.
 Comparable with drop in solar costs



Removing Barriers

Creating a level playing field

Regulatory Clarity	 Jointly led: issue of where and how storage sits in legislation.
Final Consumption Levies	 BEIS-led: issue of exempting distribution-sited storage from policy charges (RO, FiTs, CCL).
Planning	 BEIS-led: issues of time, scale and boosting investor confidence.
Ownership	 Ofgem-led: issue of who can or should own storage.
Connections	 Ofgem-led: issues of priority, cost, duration and status of existing generators installing storage.
Network Charging	 Ofgem-led: issue of 'double-charging' on import and export.

DSR from consumers



Barriers vary across types of consumer

Large I&C

- Many of the enablers in place
- Large users with commercial incentive to participate
- Traditional provision from largest users, typically using on-site generation
- Many do not participate (as much as they could) as unaware of the opportunities or wary of the risks
- Some existing initiatives to address this, eg NG's Power Responsive

Domestic and smaller non-domestic

- Need for more smart meters, appliances and tariffs
- Current concerns around: scepticism of impact of energy costs; loss of control; lack of info
- Importance of the role of ESCOs; quality of design solutions; development of energy tariffs/services
- Need to engage to raise potential participation esp. vulnerable and those most likely to have difficulty participating

Transferrable lessons





Aggregators aggregate flexibility from individual consumers to better meet the needs of those procuring flexibility services. Some traditional electricity suppliers also provide this service to their customers and the customers of other suppliers.

Aggregators facilitate customers access to markets, adding value through simplification, scale or portfolio effects.

They assist customers to access revenue from the Balancing Mechanism, Balancing Services, the Capacity and wholesale markets in exchange for a share of the revenue that they receive.

In our September 2015 Flexibility Position Paper we committed to clarify the role of aggregators and their relationships with other parties and explore the need for policy intervention and regulatory oversight.

Market Access	External Effects	Consumer Protection
Do licensing & regulatory regimes, and market access rules support DSR growth where it is needed? Is System Operator-led procurement of DSR transparent and efficient? Is it	Do the regulatory arrangements ensure aggregators interact efficiently with other market participants?	Are consumers being protected sufficiently?
facilitating aggregated DSR?	Are costs borne in a way that leads to efficient outcomes?	
		10



Can flexibility providers **compete fairly in existing markets**?

Are there are **missing markets** for flexibility?

Can flexibility providers stack value across these different markets?

Capacity Market

Wholesale Market

Balancing Mechanism

Ancillary Services

Local network services?





Providing price signals for flexibility

- Price signals shape the profiles of generation and demand —> in some cases these will need reform to recognise the changing energy system.
- Institutional, governance, and market arrangements must ensure that all users of flexibility purchase it optimally from all providers of flexibility (based on its value to the whole system).





Roles in system and network operation

The need for immediate action





Roles in system and network operation

Further future changes







Next steps:

- 1. 240 Call for Evidence responses received in January 2017
- 2. Spring Plan published May 2017