



Steering Group meeting

When	Thursday 6 March 2025, 0930-12
Where	Virtual
Who	Toby Stevenson, Shay Brazier, John Campbell, Terry Paddy, Matt Smith, Fiona Wiseman Secretariat: Craig Evans, Steve Batstone Observers: Brian FitzGerald (EECA), Mark Herring (EA)
Apologies	Briony Bennett (Ara Ake), Ryan Kuggeleijn, Lyndal Blatch, Sean McCready (CC), Peter Bartlett (MBIE), Rebecca Osborne

Session notes

1: Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the session. The SG:

- confirmed there was a quorum
- noted their individual obligations relating to the Commerce Act 1986 prohibiting anti-competitive conduct
- noted apologies
- noted the resignation of Ryan Kuggeleijn
- confirmed the agenda.

Strategic items

2: Scale Demand Flexibility Demonstration Pilot Project

The SG discussed the EECA scale demand flexibility demonstration pilot project.

- The SG noted the MOU with EECA is in place and FF and EECA are now developing a Services Agreement setting out the scope of services and budget for the support FF will provide the project. The services will be provided in the context of the collaboration agreements with distributors with a focus on avoiding duplication.
- The collaboration agreements are to include common principles and arrangements to ensure consistency of common themes across distributors and pilots, including reporting.
- The SG to the chair and secretariat finalising the services agreement and signing it after sharing it with the SG.

3: Engagement

The SG discussed the key interactions that have occurred since the previous meeting, noting updates on the website, newsletter and LinkedIn channels.

- The SG noted that FlexForum had joined the Energy Transition Framework and was participating in its 'industry' working group
- The SG noted the Knowledge Hub, acknowledging that it fell short of expectations due to challenges with IT. The SG voiced concerns about its functionality and content, describing it as lacking compared to what was promised. There will be ongoing work to improve the hub.

4: Workplan

The SG noted an update on progress with the workplan.

- FF Members have contributed to the Flexibility Plan update, with a further workshop on 14 March, but progress was slowed to focus on the holes in the value stack deep dive.
- The holes in the value stack insights piece is progressing well and on track to be published by 25 March to accompany the advice to the Taskforce. Heft will be engaged to assist with the executive summary. The SG discussed the critical role of data and digitalisation to filling holes in the value stack
- Advice is being prepared for the Energy Competition Taskforce on its proposals to require distributors to pay injection rebates and to require large retailers to offer time-varying pricing plans. The advice will draw on the FF insights, but Members may not get lots of time to review the advice. The SG suggested providing Members a rough outline for comment.

5: Finance

The SG noted the financial update.

Procedural items

6. SG Membership

The SG noted the resignations of Ryan and Steve from the SG.

- The SG thanked Steve for contributing to the effective operation of the SG and FF while the chair was unavailable.
- The SG thanked Ryan for contributing to the effective operation of the SG, and looked forward to his continued involvement in FF activities.

The SG approved in principle Tim Calder to fill a vacancy on the SG on a temporary basis until the AGM, subject to a conversation with the chair about the nature of the role.

7. Membership requests

The SG noted the recent membership enquiries, requests and decisions since the previous meeting.

- The SG approved membership of Daniel Satur, an individual who is a consumer, and Factor (formerly Prospero).

7. Actions

The SG noted the status of actions from previous sessions. All actions are underway.

8. Next Steering Group meeting

Next SG meeting is scheduled for Thursday 10 April

9. AoB/Close

Meeting finished 11.01am.