

Planned Outage Co-ordination Process (POCP) Review  
Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting  
Minutes for Monday, 18 May 2009

**Attendees**

Teng Ang (MRP)  
Evan Boyt (Trustpower)  
Howard Williams (Meridian)  
Tuong Nguyen (Contact Energy)  
Steve Cowlshaw (Grid Owner)  
Angela Houston (System Operator)  
Rick Liew (System Operator)  
Alan Jenkins (ENA)  
James Denham (Genesis)  
Carmen Blackler (Independent Chair)  
John Prattley (SO) – part-time

**Apologies**

Ralph Matthes (MEUG)

**Minutes**

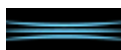
1. Welcome and confirmation of agenda
2. Previous minutes accepted and action items as follows:-
  - a. System Operator confirmed that the classification “Assessed (c)” no longer being used. Constraints available in Comit. Was noted that this requires participants to go and look for constraints that apply to particular outages.
  - b. Grid Owner reviewed the outage classification “tentative”, however found inconsistency in application and will investigate further.
  - c. MEUG and ENA invited to participate in TAG. ENA present for meeting, MEUG sent apologies and made following comments
    - i. Major users utilize POCP for information
    - ii. Some major users input their outages into POCP, but generally feel they are not “large” enough to make a difference to System Operators assessment
    - iii. Some users provide their outage information directly to System Operator. (SO noted that while this is correct, it is not their role to inform the wider industry of this information. To maintain transparency, it is the major user’s responsibility to advise the wider industry of its outage intentions, as the generators and grid owner currently do through POCP)
    - iv. Keen to be kept informed of developments with POCP,
    - v. Agree that in future Demand side participation may make a difference as to whether they participate in POCP, but note that DSP is still a long way from being implemented, so believe this should be included in the “future development” of POCP.
  - d. Genesis welcomed as participant in TAG.

- e. System Operator confirmed that underlying data structure of NZEB is same as POCP. NZEB and POCP are front ends, and extract data from same source.
  - f. TAG members reviewed NZEB and provided comments to System Operator.
3. John Prattley joined meeting and made presentation on NZEB. Key points noted were:-
- a. NZEB renamed NZGB (New Zealand Generation Balance).
  - b. Information is NI only
  - c. It is an energy balance tool
  - d. Looks only at generation, not load
  - e. Uses metered data from generation so includes losses
  - f. Utilises main transmission outages from POCP database
  - g. Acknowledged that major user information, especially load reduction, would be a useful addition to the tool.
  - h. (NB: The TAG noted that the name NZEB – New Zealand Energy Balance was a better reflection of the intent of the tool, especially if SO wishes to encourage participants to provide better information)
4. General discussion on the tool occurred. The following queries were raised:-
- a. If access to POCP and NZEB is restricted, is this “anti-competitive”? SO commented that POCP is a voluntary process, and that because of that the information is not 100% accurate. SO also noted that anyone can apply for access through POCP website administrator, but would check whether there is a potential issue. **Action:** Rick to check with legal team whether restricted access to the website is anti-competitive.
  - b. TAG members questioned whether automatic downloads from POCP where directly from the source data or through the POCP front end. If the latter, then there may be issues for participants if POCP and NZEB were merged. **Action:** Rick to confirm whether data is downloaded from source data or through the POCP front end.
  - c. TAG members questioned whether NZEB included notes on any action taken by System Operator to maintain system security (e.g. system splits, required generation etc). It was noted that NZEB redirects to POCP for transmission outage information.
  - d. ENA commented that their members may not have seen the new database, and would appreciate an opportunity for them to comment. **Action:** Alan to forward test website and login details to members. Members to review and provide comments back to Chair (Carmen).
  - e. TAG members commented that the PowerPoint presentation was useful, and requested it be made available to participants. **Action:** Rick to forward NZEB database presentation to TAG members and to post on website with POCP review information
  - f. The TAG members thanked John for his presentation. John left the meeting at 10:30am
5. The TAG then reviewed the three main issues that had been raised in the previous meeting. The issues were grouped under three headings – tool enhancements,

information provision and future role of POCP. No new issues were added to the list by the TAG. The TAG began addressing each issue identified at a detailed level.

6. Tool enhancements:-

- a. Inclusion of constraint information in POCP information. SO noted that the information was available through Comit, and that a weekly dispatch schedule would be produced as part of MSP. It was therefore considered inclusion of constraint information (through a cut and paste function) was unnecessary duplication.
- b. TAG members suggested that organisation of outages would be beneficial. For example being able to sort data into the “primary outage” and have all “related outage” information linked to the primary outage – a parent/child type relationship. SO noted that this would need to be done by Grid Owner, rather than the SO (who is assessing information, not organizing it). Grid owner to check with IT personnel as to whether this is feasible. **Action:** Steve to check with Grid Owner IT person, about ability to sort outages into parent/child relationships.
- c. SO raised question as to whether this grouping should also apply to generation outages, and how that would be constructed. TAG members discussed the possibility of additional filters which could group outages in terms of regions or GOS zones etc. **Action:** TAG members to advise System Operator (via Chair) what level of granularity the filters should go to – e.g. geographical regions, zones, GOS zones, other.
- d. TAG members asked for a favourites function to be added to POCP. **Action:** Rick to check feasibility and cost to implement “favourites”
- e. TAG members agreed there should be a linkage between NZEB and POCP. Suggestion of POCP being a tab on NZEB website, with singular log on requirements.
- f. TAG members noted that NZEB involves a number of “generalizations” in terms of data, and suggest that the difference between NZEB and SRC be clearly communicated to participants.
- g. SO confirmed that the consistency between NZEB information and that used in its assessments. It noted however, that the closer to the timing of the outage the assessment is completed, more information (than that included in NZEB) is available to the SO.
- h. It was noted that there are some naming convention issues in NZEB which require sorting out.
- i. **Action:** All generators to check their generation information presented within NZEB. Also, confirm preference for presentation of information (e.g. MCR or “availability of plant”), and consistency with POCP requirements
- j. **Action:** System Operator (Rick) to check with NZEB analysts (John/Hasmita) about what information is extracted from POCP to populate the “generation outage” capability section of NZEB. If inconsistent then need to determine whether a tool issue or a data entry issue.
- k. System operator acknowledged comments from MEUG (via chair) about participation in POCP, however it noted that transparency of information was useful for all participants, and changes in demand assumptions could potentially



affect an outage assessment, especially in situations where system security is “tight”. TAG members also raised the question of when a demand estimate used in NZEB would change (if at all)

7. Information provision:-

- a. TAG members requested that any mitigation measures or “agreements” (such as generation capacity requirements, system splits or demand side requirements) be included in the outage assessment information.
- b. The SO noted that such information was the Grid Owners, and any inclusion of this information was for the GO to decide. **Action:** Steve to confirm whether it is possible to include this information in POCP. **Action:** Steve to confirm whether GO is prepared to make this information available and if so how.
- c. TAG members noted that for transparency and consistency it would be beneficial to have more participation in POCP, including other generators (Top Energy & Todd Energy), major users and Lines companies. **Action:** Chair (Carmen) to contact Top Energy and Todd Energy to understand why they choose not to participate in POCP, and discuss how they could be encouraged to do so. **Action:** Alan to provide Carmen contact details for Top Energy. Rick to provide Carmen contact details for Todd Energy.
- d. TAG members noted that for major users and lines companies, key information might include
  - i. availability of IL
  - ii. planned outages of IL
  - iii. annual shutdowns of plant
  - iv. 2 week or more shutdowns of plant
  - v. Return to service times from shutdowns
- e. TAG members also noted that changes in demand on 110kV networks can have a noticeable impact, so transparency here would be useful - in particular, circumstances such as commissioning of new plant (e.g. new substation), load shifting between nodes or reconfiguration of network, and/or outages of reactive equipment in voltage sensitive areas

8. Future of POCP

- a. Mandatory/Voluntary status of POCP. TAG members discussed the history around POCP being voluntary and whether this was still appropriate. It was agreed that until the group understood why other participants choose not to utilize POCP, a recommendation on whether to retain the status quo could not be made.
  - b. TAG noted that if POCP became mandatory this would require a rule change (Technical Code D), and that this could be a long process. TAG questioned the benefit versus encouraging more participation on a “voluntary” basis.
9. TAG members agreed that another face-to-face meeting was not necessary at this point. It was agreed that action items would be completed by 10 June 2009.

## 10. Action points summary:-

- a. **Action:** Rick to check with legal team whether restricted access to the website is anti-competitive.
  - b. **Action:** Rick to confirm whether data is downloaded from source data or through the POCP front end.
  - c. **Action:** Alan to forward test website and login details to members. Members to review and provide comments back to Chair (Carmen).
  - d. **Action:** Rick to forward NZEB database presentation to TAG members and to post on website with POCP review information
  - e. **Action:** Steve to check with Grid Owner IT person, about ability to sort outages into parent/child relationships.
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  - j. **Action:** Steve to confirm whether it is possible to include this information in POCP.
  - k. **Action:** Steve to confirm whether GO is prepared to make this information available and if so how.
  - l. **Action:** Chair (Carmen) to contact Top Energy and Todd Energy to understand why they choose not to participate in POCP, and discuss how they could be encouraged to do so.
  - m. **Action:** Alan to provide Carmen contact details for Top Energy. Rick to provide Carmen contact details for Todd Energy.
11. The next meeting (potentially teleconference) if necessary will be Friday, 19 June 2009.
12. Following on from this meeting, the final report to System Operator will be drafted for comment.
13. Meeting closed 2:15pm

Carmen Blackler  
POCP Facilitator