

Accelerating the energy transition: Optimised power grids for a clean and green future

Webinar – 30 October 2020, 11.00-12.15 CET

This webinar looks at infrastructure in the context of electrification, available and needed innovation, (COVID) constrained budgets, the need to accelerate the uptake of renewables, and the implementation of Europe's Green Deal.

Optimised power grids, together with the deployment of additional grids are a central response to the above challenges.

This is the first in a series of three currENT webinars focusing on the role of optimised power networks for delivering the Green Deal. It takes place the day after the Infrastructure Forum of the European Union.

AGENDA

Susanne Nies, Board Chair of currENT, and General Manager Germany at Smart Wires, will introduce and moderate the panel.

Henriette Nesheim, Policy Officer, Directorate General for Energy (DG ENER), will present the current regulatory updates on infrastructure (TEN-E Regulation), results of the Infrastructure Forum on network optimisation, offshore, and infrastructure, and put this in the context of the European Green Deal.

Alberto Potoschnig, Deputy Director, World of Practice, Florence School of Regulation (FSR), will present the FSR's perspective on the TEN-E regulation review.

Marie Hayden, General Manager Europe, Smart Wires, responding to Joachim Balke, will present technology solutions in the context of the climate imperative.

Giles Dickson, CEO of WindEurope, will insist on the critical solutions needed for the uptake of wind power and renewables.

Hakön Borgen, Chair RDIC, ENTSO-E, Executive Vice President Statnett, will present ENTSO-E's priority areas on infrastructure challenges and react to the other speakers.

After the introductory statements, a panel, moderated by Susanne Nies, will discuss the following topics, with questions from the audience:

- *What are the challenges for System Operators in the near-term (2025) and longer-term (2050)?*
- *How should we factor the 'cost of delay' of solutions into social cost benefit analysis and network planning?*
- *Optimisation of grids – what does it mean? Why is it important now? Is the NOVA principle relevant at European scale?*
- *How to implement the 70% MinRam in power networks? Can optimisation help?*
- *What updates for TEN-E and for the uptake of new solution in networks are needed in regulation?*

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SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES



Henriette Nesheim, Policy Officer - Seconded National Expert, Directorate General for Energy (DG ENER)

Henriette Nesheim is a Policy Officer, Seconded National Expert in Unit B.1 Networks and Regional Initiatives at DG ENER. This work involves focusing on offshore wind and interconnections, offshore hybrid assets, North Sea Energy Cooperation, and Projects of common interest: Smart grids and Carbon dioxide transport thematic areas.

Ms. Neisham is an experienced Assistant Director General with extensive experience of working in the energy field, particularly in economics, finance, public policy, and regulatory affairs.

Ms. Neisham is a graduate of the University of Oslo and Lausanne business school (HEC).



Alberto Potoschnig, Deputy Director, World of Practice, Florence School of Regulation

Alberto Pototschnig is an economist with extensive experience in energy policy, regulation and market design issues, with a focus on European markets. Between 2010 and 2019 Alberto served as the first Director of the European Union Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER).

After seven years in the consultancy business with London Economics, Alberto joined the Italian Energy Regulatory Authority in 1997. As Director of Electricity Regulation, he was responsible for the design and implementation of technical and economic regulation for the electricity sector.

In 2000 Alberto was appointed CEO of the Italian Electricity Market Operator, and later joined the Italian Transmission System Operator (TSO). From 2006 to 2010 he was a Partner in Mercados EMI, an international consultancy specialised in energy markets design and regulation.

Alberto regularly teaches in FSR training courses on regulatory and market design issues and directs the 'Regulatory Policy Workshop Series', the longest-running FSR workshop series, investigating the most topical issues in the energy sector.



Marie Hayden, General Manager Europe, Smart Wires

Marie Hayden is based in Dublin, Ireland, and leads business development for Smart Wires in both the European and Australian regions.

Prior to joining Smart Wires, Marie gained extensive experience in all aspects of transmission system operation during a 25-year career at EirGrid, the Irish Transmission System Operator. In the last ten years of her time at EirGrid, Marie held a number of senior management positions, including Manager of the Scenario Planning, Connection Policy and Operational Planning teams. During her time at EirGrid, Marie was also Chair of the Irish National Committee of CIGRE and chaired the Organizing Committee of the 2017 CIGRE Symposium in Ireland. In 2018, she was awarded the honor of becoming a Distinguished Member of CIGRE.

Marie has also worked with a number of European transmission system operators as part of her work with ENTSO-E (European Network of Transmission System Operators), initially as a deputy member of the System Operations Committee and more recently as part of the implementation projects associated with the European Network Codes.

Marie holds a Bachelor of Engineering and a Masters of Engineering from University College Dublin.



Giles Dickson, Chief Executive Officer, WindEurope

Giles Dickson is the Chief Executive Officer of WindEurope (formerly EWEA), since 2015. WindEurope is the voice of the European wind industry. It represents the whole value chain of onshore and offshore wind across Europe and has more than 400 members. It engages Governments and other stakeholders on policy and regulation. It organises industry exhibitions, conferences and workshops, and coordinates publicly-funded R&D in wind.

Mr. Dickson is also Chairman of the Advisory Council of ENTSO-E and a Visiting Professor at the Bucharest School of Economics.

Prior to joining WindEurope, Mr. Dickson was Vice President of Global Public Affairs at Alstom. He was also a civil servant in the UK Government for over 15 years.



Hakon Borgen, Chair Research Development & Innovation Committee, ENTSO-E

Hakon Borgen is the Chair of ENTSO-E's RDIC. Borgen is today EVP head of Technology and development for the Norwegian TSO Statnett responsible for the TSO Planning function in Statnett, Market analyses, Technology Development as well as Research and Development (R&D). Borgen is responsible for the planning and execution of the submarine interconnectors between Norway to neighbouring countries in Germany (Nordlink) and UK (North Sea Link).

His earlier experience also include positions within generation (BKK) and board positions in the power exchange Nord Pool, wind generation (Sway) and offshore transport (Statnett Transport). He also had positions as Chair operations Committee and planning group (NPG) within Nordic TSO cooperation.



Dr Susanne Nies, Chair, currENT & General Manager Germany, Smart Wires

Susanne Nies is General Manager of Germany, at Smart Wires. Based in Berlin, she is responsible for business development throughout Europe, with a strong focus on Germany. She is a highly respected leader in the European energy industry, bringing with her a vast amount of experience in market strategy, regulatory and policy development and stakeholder engagement.

Prior to joining Smart Wires, Susanne worked at ENTSO-E (European Network of Transmission System Operators) where she led the Strategy, Research and Communication team. Her responsibilities included ensuring broad strategic alignment of European Transmission System Operators (TSOs), leading the regulatory benchmarking of TSOs, developing the TSO-DSO (Distribution System Operator) interaction strategy and managing stakeholder relationships. Susanne has also worked for EURELECTRIC (European power sector association) where she headed the DSOs department, Energy Policy department and Power Generation department; for the French Think Tank IFRI, based in Paris; in French and German universities; and the German Heinrich Boell Foundation.