



Pixie Energy – August update

In this, the second monthly update to Pixie Energy's sponsors and participants, we set out the progress on our workstreams over the month of July.

During July, Pixie continued to work on its Ipswich and Norwich local energy projects, as well as moving to a new stage in our energy landscape mapping work and pushing ahead with our crowdfunding platform IT project.

The Ipswich Local Energy Community moved into the reporting stage, with the completion of the underlying half-hourly settlement and time-of-use model. Results are already proving useful in our other work, with the model in particular delivering vital insight into how batteries and distributed generation can interact to deliver maximum value to the market. The first draft report is complete and undergoing a rigorous quality assurance process ahead of submission to BEIS. The insights derived, which will be discussed with BEIS over the coming month, will be available to project participants ahead of publication which is scheduled for September, but which might slip.

The Norwich Virtual Energy Community project continues to tackle the complexities of contractual, legal and industry-facing practicalities. Clean energy lawyers Lux Nova have joined the project to support in this regard. A project meeting for participants was held in London, followed by a workshop to establish some of the practicalities of the scheme with participants energy supplier Green Star Energy and battery manufacturer PowerVault. This has led to further investigation into default charging and settlement arrangements for domestic export meters. We are also examining the metering requirements for the solar and battery installations and have gathered additional data on participant day-time consumption patterns.

Work on the mapping platform continued apace, with several layers complete for the entire GB market. Our primary focus is Scotland currently, with our mapping team developing data sources to cover that country. We also continue to meet with potential partners to develop a more automated update process for some layers, and to produce tools to enhance the display and utility of information.

In August, we expect to hear whether a funding application to Innovate UK for support for this valuable tool has been successful. If it has, this will allow us to accelerate development of the platform.

With our Norwich-based commercial and technical partners, the crowdfunding platform has entered the first stage of wireframing, looking towards delivery later on this year. This platform is intended to support local investors to engage with and invest in local community energy projects as well as other local investment opportunities such as new businesses.



Our working meetings for the month ahead are planned for 15-16, with the former to be held in Norwich and the latter in London. The meetings are with participants in the individual projects, but we will hold an open conference call on 15 August, so all involved can hear of and discuss progress.

I will also be in touch with sponsors to organise bilateral catch-ups over the coming weeks.

We will also be holding a half-yearly update event, which will be held on 10 September at Norwich Cathedral. This will allow us (among other things) to report fully on the Ipswich project, explain progress of the Norwich sandbox application and present the detailed project scope for the ECO Switch project.

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