

Pixie Energy – September update

In this monthly update, published following our annual conference on 10 September, we look back at progress over August and early September, and ahead to the workstreams which we will be progressing during the rest of 2018.

Over the last month, we have finalised our initial report to BEIS on Ipswich, signed up our first domestic participants to the Norwich Virtual Energy Community, engaged with developers on the ECO Switch project, and begun adding completely new layers to the mapping platform.

The Flexibility Markets Feasibility Study project continues to deliver interesting results – some of which we shared with a wider audience at our update event on 10 September – and the initial report is now being reviewed by BEIS.

The vires for the BSC sandbox has now been received by Elexon, with modification P362 approved by the regulator Ofgem on 20 August and implemented on 28 August. We have prepared a paper to the BSC panel for consideration, which we will distribute shortly. This sets out the details of the project and the sandbox which we are requesting to test the multi-supplier model. We were hoping that this would be considered at the September meeting of the BSC panel, but unfortunately the process for Ofgem and Elexon to run the sandbox has not yet been set. We will continue to pursue this, while developing other aspects of the trial in parallel.

We signed up the first participants to the project, who are high-user domestic households, and have booked site surveys for an initial round of homes, with a view to commissioning installations over the next month. Developing the scheme, we entered into discussions with local sites to extend NVEC to the non-domestic sphere and the social housing market respectively. There is the possibility of launching another trial north of the border in Scotland, though this is still at an early stage.

While we were unfortunately unsuccessful in securing Innovate UK grant funding through the Small Business Research Initiative to extend the mapping tool, we have continued to work on this, mapping out additional layers in East Anglia and extending the work to Scotland. We've also been working on more socio-economic data, especially on ways to identify deprivation, poor insulation and fuel poverty, which has crossovers to other workstreams such as ECO Switch. We're working with Cornwall Insight to map out wider market insights onto the tool. This will add value for a range of additional potential customers, and we hope to make some commercial announcements on customers for the tool before the end of the year.

Meetings with potential partners for the ECO Switch project have also progressed. We're currently in discussions with two auction platform providers, among other potential



participants, and also examining the cost of developing a platform in-house. Four recently obligated suppliers have indicated a desire to collaborate on the pilot East Anglian project.

Finally, the tender for provision of a local energy infrastructure study for Greater Norwich was launched by South Norfolk Council at the end of August. This important piece of work will give us the opportunity to develop our mapping work and spend time investigating innovative solutions to Norwich's energy issues. We've started conversations with engineering partners with a view to submitting a proposal by the end of the month.

We have several working meetings planned for the month ahead, on the NVEC and ECO Switch projects amongst other work.

We enjoyed seeing many project participants, sponsors, and interested parties at the conference on 10 September. The slides from the event are [here](#) and a summary of proceedings is [here](#). We'll be following up a lot of the interesting and valuable conversations over the next couple of weeks, but we encourage any stakeholders interested in joining or observing any of our projects not to hesitate to contact us.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nigel Cornwall". A long, sweeping underline stroke extends from the end of the signature.

Nigel Cornwall

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