

Transmission-Distribution Coordination Working Group

Meeting Notes

Meeting date: January 31, 2022
Meeting time: 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Meeting location: Microsoft Teams

Chair: Ali Golriz (IESO)
Vice-Chair: Dina Shoukri (IESO)
Scribe: Inna Vilgan (IESO)

Agenda Item 1: Introduction to TDWG

Ali Golriz introduced himself as the Chair of the Transmission-Distribution Coordination Working Group (TDWG) and Dina Shoukri introduced herself as Vice-Chair. Ali Golriz provided an overview of the draft Terms of Reference (TOR) document. Notable/actionable discussion (with responses in italics):

- Working group members asked if (1) cost recovery of LDC investments associated with enabling Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) and (2) distribution-level incentives for DERs are within the TDWG's scope? *These issues are not within scope and not included as part of the TDWG's objectives.*
- It was noted that the term "contingency" is very broad and it is unclear what the IESO is referring to with distribution level contingency practices. *It was clarified that the practices referred to are in relation to the contingency mode where DERs being relied upon for distribution non-wires alternative services are unexpectedly unavailable.*

Agenda Item 2: IESO DER Market Vision Project

Inna Vilgan provided an overview of the IESO's Market Vision and Design Project, and outlined specific components that the TDWG is contributing towards. Notable/actionable discussion (with responses in italics):

- A working group member asked who would be able to take on the role of aggregator in the wholesale market in the future - third party aggregator and/or Local Distribution Companies (LDCs)? *This question is part of the IESO's broader DER Market Vision Project (MVP) and Market Design Project (MDP).*
- It was suggested that more than quarterly meetings will likely be needed in order to meet the TDWG's objectives and inform the transmission-distribution (T-D) coordination "phase 1" question of the DER MVP. *The IESO will consider the use of ad-hoc meetings in addition to quarterly meetings to ensure that there are sufficient touch points with the TDWG. Also, working group members are encouraged to contact the IESO team for additional informal meetings/discussions.*

Agenda Item 3: T-D Coordination Background

Lorenzo Kristov (consultant) delivered a background presentation on T-D coordination, including a framing of the T-D coordination problems, summary of T-D coordination frameworks, and a brief survey of T-D coordination efforts in other regions. Notable/actionable discussion (with responses in italics):

- What are the absolute do-not-do's for starting to work through T-D coordination? *Do not try to tackle everything at once and pursue 'no-regrets' changes first, e.g. real time visibility of DERs. Also, it was noted that price signals may be sufficient to drive operation of DERs (versus more direct dispatch/control).*
- Would it make sense to have transactive energy markets at the distribution level to meet distribution needs and then offering the remaining kWh to wholesale market? *Appropriate sequencing of decisions will be important in establishing T-D coordination protocol(s) and could lead to benefits such as reduced need for 'overriding' wholesale market dispatch of DERs.*
- Why is there no participation under CAISO's DER aggregation participation model? *There are several reasons, including that participating in net metering and state-run resource adequacy programs are richer financially or make DERs ineligible to participate in CAISO's market.*

Agenda Item 4: DER Scenarios & Modelling Study

Ali Golriz introduced the DER Scenarios & Modelling study that is to take place throughout 2022 and for which the TDWG's input will be sought. Notable/actionable discussion (with responses in italics):

- Is the TDWG's objective to decide on the coordination model or has the model already been selected? *The dual participation model will be the focus of the TDWG.*
- How is the T-D interface technically defined? *The IESO will present a definition of T-D interface at the next TDWG meeting.*
- What is the role of transmitters in T-D coordination? *This is an area to explore further with the TDWG and working group members' thoughts and input are welcome.*

Action Item Summary

	Date	Action	Status	Assignee
1	31/01/2022	Feedback on draft Terms of Reference	In-progress	TDWG members
2	31/01/2022	Feedback on Scenarios & Modelling Study (slides 18-19 of deck)	In-progress	TDWG members
3	31/01/2022	Define T-D interface (technical definition)	In-progress	IESO