

19 November 2019

Open Networks (ON) introduction

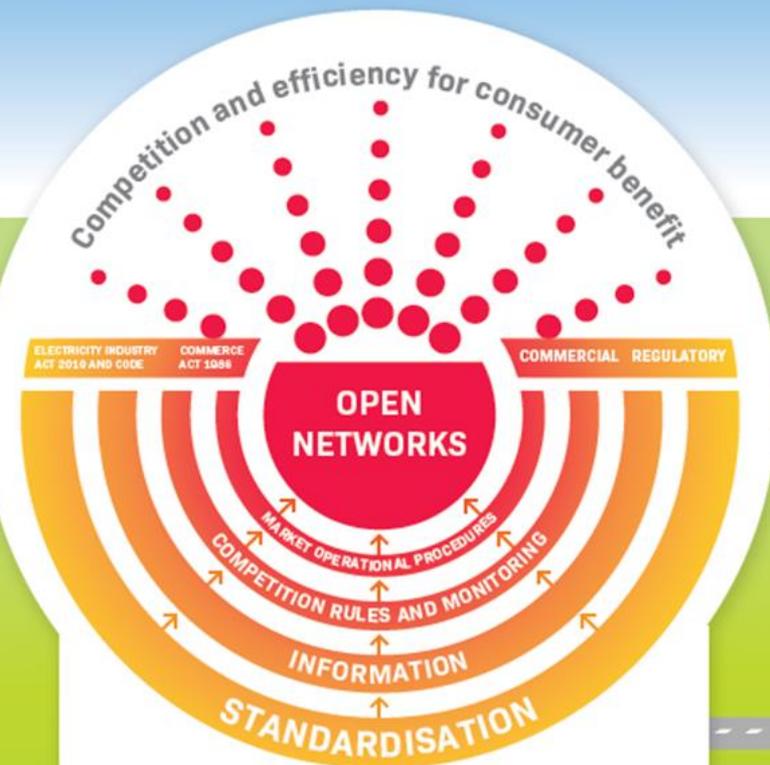
Open Networks workshop

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Open Networks (ON) project

- Part of the Authority's work programme to reduce inefficient barriers to development and use of evolving technologies and business models across the supply chain
- The Authority will identify and develop ways to provide for the uptake of new technology, initially distributed energy resources (DER), on distribution networks
- We want to ensure distribution networks are flexible and open to emerging consumer preferences and new technologies
- This includes removing any technical or regulatory barriers to the adoption of new technologies, for example, greater use of distributed generation and electric vehicles
- Removing any barriers will help ensure a more secure system which better uses infrastructure to meet consumer demand and expectations
- This is a multi-year programme of work and will involve an iterative approach

OPEN NETWORKS: FIRST PHASE 2019-20



A part of the evolving technologies and business models programme.

Open networks – This multi-year programme will be identifying ways of providing for uptake of new technology on distribution networks. This will ensure the benefits of emerging consumer preferences and new technologies, for example, greater use of distributed generation and electric vehicles, can be realised.

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ALLOWING MORE, AND NEW, TYPES OF COMPETITION TO OCCUR ON DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS.

Standardisation:

Develop the technical requirements and guidelines for connection to the network and for network operational procedures

Information:

Develop a way to highlight network issues and opportunities to interested parties

REGULAR INDUSTRY UPDATES

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Key milestones

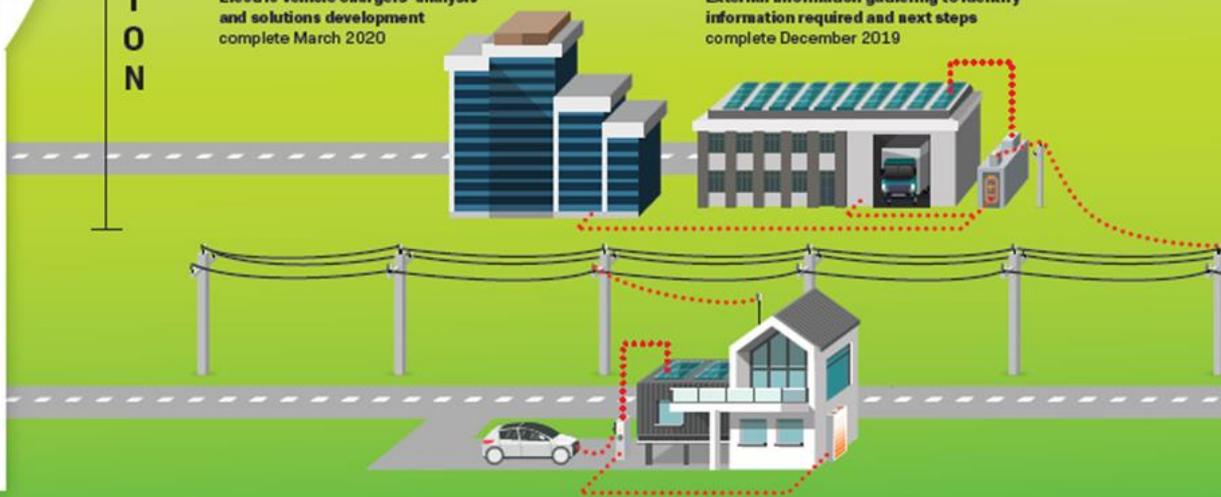
Enhancing hosting capacity and connection standards complete December 2019

Electric vehicle chargers' analysis and solutions development complete March 2020

Key milestones

Initial development of information sharing tool complete September 2019

External information gathering to identify information required and next steps complete December 2019



So what do we mean by ‘standards’

- Standards with a capital “S” – these MUST be complied with. Change process takes a long time, and this does not suit rapidly evolving technology
 - International or national Standards
 - Regulation set by Government
 - The Code
 - Documents incorporated by reference in the Code
 - Requirements specified by other regulators (eg EECA and ComCom both talking later)
 - Network owners connection and operation standards
- Standards with a small “s” – these should be complied with, but there is latitude for innovation. Change process is a lot simpler and faster than the above
 - Guidelines, information papers
 - Authority recommendations
 - Association rules

The questions for the audience is

1. What standards do we need?
2. When will we need these standards by?
3. What is the priority order – what is important to you as a business?
4. What is the outcome if we do not have appropriate standards in place?

NEXT STEPS AND PROCESS

- Ongoing engagement
- Run this iterative process through to March
- Ideally, get a prioritised list of standards
- Look to get them, where needed, into the Code this FY

LAST WORD

But...

Notwithstanding EA priorities I'll just note ...

EPR – “The Electricity Authority should continue to prioritise workstreams that support innovation in the electricity sector. An example is the Innovation and Participation Advisory Groups' work to make it easier for new technology and service providers to gain access to distribution areas”