

Letter of Intent to collaborate on the development of a standard API for dispatching flexibility services in Great Britain

Introduction

Energy Networks Association (ENA), Elexon (as market facilitator), NESO and the OpenADR Alliance share a common objective to perform and promote, directly or indirectly, regional and international standardisation for the dispatch of flexibility services.

The UK power grid faces several key challenges. The overarching goal is to move from the traditional (generation to consumer) power system to an evolving, smart, and flexible energy system that includes distributed generation resources, storage, and many other new systems. To accomplish this, several activities have been conceived and started over the last few years. The efforts range from connecting customer equipment with grid systems, to increasing the overall flexibility market. One aspect that is common to all actions is the need to standardise to allow for cost-effective scalability in the future.

This Letter of Intent states the intent of ENA, Elexon, NESO and OpenADR Alliance to collaborate on the development of an internationally compatible GB standard for dispatching flexibility services, which promises to break down barriers and save flexibility service providers money and time in no longer needing multiple interfaces to offer their services across Great Britain.

Following a thorough review of available standards by Strathclyde University and the ENA, OpenADR 3.0 was identified as a potential candidate to fulfil the needs of interoperability between market participants it was agreed that OpenADR 3.0 would be used by ENA together with Elexon and NESO to develop a standardised solution architecture for the overall flexibility dispatch API solution to ensure that network operators deploy consistent and interoperable architectures of implementations of the flexibility API. The OpenADR Alliance is hosting the OpenADR 2.0a, 2.0b, and 3.0 Profile Specification, the branding, and certification program.

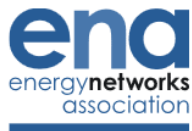
Overview of the collaboration

The purpose of this collaboration is to ensure the suitability of the standard for interoperability amongst market users. In order to develop a successful future proof standard, the parties should be aligned through regular exchange of information.

- ENA, Elexon, NESO and OpenADR Alliance will engage in an exchange of information in areas of mutual interest and specific information on their specific standards development activities on a regular basis.
- Parties may identify and link leaders/stakeholders/technical experts with each other's technical committees and help promote direct active participation therein.

Timeline

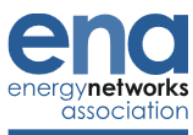
This collaboration is intended to take place between March – August 2025 under the terms set out in this letter. By August 2025, the dispatch API standard alongside other market development pieces of work will be formally handed over from the ENA Open Networks programme to Elexon as the flexibility market facilitator, to be further maintained and developed as part of their enduring governance.



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