07 GAC Meeting Minutes

07 Gas Advisory Council

Date:	30/06/2026	Location:	Broadwick House, London
Start:	10:00AM	End:	16:00PM

Participants

Attendee	Attend/Regrets	Attendee	Attend/Regrets
AP	Attend	AT	Attend
KG	Attend	NC	Attend
SAK	Attend	GW	Attend
AG	Attend	FBL	Attend
OL	Attend	JH	Attend
SR	Attend	VS	Attend
MN	Attend	DTF	Attend
MN	Attend	RF	Attend
PA	Attend	MS	Attend
JO	Attend	SO	Attend
BR	Attend	MH	Attend
AB	Attend	CG	Attend
LB	Attend	RB	Attend

Discussion and details

1. Opening Remarks

GAC Chair welcomed the group, ran through brief introductions and actions, including a reminder for GAC members to fill in the feedback form, especially if they wish to express their interest for staying on the council.

2.	**GAC Project Updates** Hydrogen Blending Update: NESO shared an update on the hydrogen blending working group, notably that a summary paper has been shared with the working group for review. Members made a number of suggestion for future engagement including Make UK and clusters. Biomethane Project Update NESO provided an update on the biomethane GGSS project highlighting an ICOSS shipper and supplier workshop that has been held between GAC meetings. The post-GGSS paper is currently out for review with GAC members. The need for a short summary paper was highlighted. It was raised about the "gap" between closure of RHI and opening of GGSS subsidy schemes and the impacts on the supply chain, highlighting the importance of considering post 2030 but also ensuring there isn't a gap between subsidies now and in the future. Gas Storage Project Update NESO provided an update on the gas storage project, highlighting that the project is still on hold. NESO also raised that the GSSA will be published again this year. The GAC group discussion moved onto delays more broadly across the sector including whether they may be a mechanism for members to raise concerns more formally. NESO and the chair have agreed to take this point away to discuss and report back to the council on the most appropriate method for doing so.
3.	**Gas Market Roadmap Feedback** NESO ran through an update on the feedback received from members on the Gas Market Roadmap (GMR) highlighting the importance of their comments, and how we have amended the document in line with challenges provided. NESO also explained that the GMR will be published alongside the FES 10 Year Outlook, Biomethane report and a Afry commissioned report on the economic value of a hydrogen backbone.
3.	**Gas Market Roadmap Project Discussion** NESO introduced two projects for discussion: Charging Resilience and Stress Testing, and Certification. Charging resilience: The GAC raised that UNC Mod 937R has been proposed and will be discussed at panel later this month. This mod will be looking at moving from capacity charging to commodity charging for LDZs. MN raised that charging, as a topic, may be best looked at by networks as it is, predominantly, a networks issue. NESO highlighted that it is important for to look into this area as they grow spatial energy planning capabilities.

Discussion on whether NESO should look at the comparison of GB charging structures against NW European markets e.g. LNG. NGT have done some work on this and will check to see if this can be shared.

Certification

The council welcomed the certification project. The council highlighted the importance of working with EU schemes and considering UK-EU ETS linkages. There may be a role for NESO around communicating what different certification schemes can do.

The council suggested discussing the scope with the European Gas Registry Association, in particular the interaction between voluntary registries and national compliance databases.

4. NESO Headline Report

NESO talked through their GAC headline report.

5. FES 10-year Outlook

NESO's presented an early view of their future energy scenarios 10-year outlook implications for gas. Discussions included a predicted steep decline in UKCS with an increasing reliance on imported gas. While Norwegian gas remains an important and relatively stable source, LNG is expected to become the largest source of supply, accounting for over half of GB gas supply by 2036. This will leave GB more exposed to global gas market volatility and supply shocks.

On biomethane, NESO expects production to continue growing, potentially doubling by 2036, assuming continued policy support beyond the current Green Gas Support Scheme. However, biomethane is not expected to offset the decline in domestic gas production significantly, meaning import dependency will continue to increase. A key discussion point was whether current policy arrangements are sufficient to support even this level of biomethane growth.

6. Biomethane

NESO talked through the early findings from their biomethane strategic futures work which assesses the role biomethane could play in the GB energy system to 2050. The project concludes that biomethane has the potential to deliver significant system benefits and should play a larger role in energy transition discussions, but scaling production will require policy support, infrastructure investment and cross-sector collaboration.

The analysis suggests biomethane production could grow to around 30 TWh by 2050 with relatively limited trade-offs, while higher levels would require wider decisions around land use, feedstocks and sustainability. NESO identified value in using biomethane for dispatchable power generation, hard-to-electrify industry and transport, while stressing that biomethane should complement, rather than replace, technologies such as hydrogen and CCS. A clearer long-term vision for production and end-use could unlock additional economic and system benefits.

7. EMAC Updates

NESO discussed the previous EMAC meeting, including discussions on interconnector trading restrictions, GB system investment and cost of capital levers. The interconnector discussions highlighted tight margins from constraints in the South East in the previous heatwave. This highlighted the need for ongoing conversations around long term agreements with European TSOs. Another key EMAC discussion included an overview of the GB system investment and cost of capital levers presentation.

8. AOB

The GAC chair raised DESNZ Funding Competition – Consumer Led Flexibility for the Clean Energy Superpower Mission with £25 million for pre-commercialisation projects, that can enable 2 GWs of additional flexibility to the system by 2030.