

Free
Registration
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Study Committee B4 : DC systems and Power Electronics

The mission of B4, is to facilitate and promote the progress of engineering and the international exchange of information and knowledge in the field of DC and power electronics. Join us for presentations on power electronic development work and projects that are occurring in Ireland.

Agenda

Time	Presenter	Topic
11:00-11:10	Geoff Love (PSC)	Host welcome, and overview of the work of B4 in Ireland.
11:10-11:30	Marie Hayden and Robert Fenlon (Smart Wires)	An overview of the use of Power Electronics in Smart Wires modular power flow control technology and examples of deployments on power systems around the world
11:30-11:50	Sam Gibson (Mutual Energy) and Nathaniel Cowton (TNEI)	Moyle HVDC is Irelands oldest HVDC link and has been in operation for over two decades. The presentation will cover its current operation, and also the recent mid-life upgrade of its control system
11:50-12:10	Jonathan Ruddy (Greenlink)	Greenlink is a new 500MW HVDC link that will connect Country Wexford to Pembrokeshire in Wales. The presentation will discuss details of the scheme, timelines, and some expected engineering challenges.
12:10-12:30	Karl O'Keefe (EirGrid)	Interconnectors in Ireland, the past, present and future

The Presenters



Marie Hayden was appointed Chief Engineer at Smart Wires in May 2021 having served as General Manage Europe and VP of Business Development in Europe & Australia. Prior to joining Smart Wires in 2018, Marie gained experience in all aspects of transmission system operation during a 25-year career at EirGrid. In the last ten years of her time at EirGrid, Marie held a number of senior management positions, including Manager of the Scenario Planning, Connection Policy and Operational Planning teams.

During her time at EirGrid, Marie was also Chair of the Irish National Committee of CIGRE and chaired the Organizing Committee of the 2017 CIGRE Symposium in Ireland. In 2018, she was awarded the honour of becoming a Distinguished Member of CIGRE.



Robert Fenlon is a Senior Application Engineer on the Smart Wires Product Management Team. Robert started his career as in 2018 with Smart Wires during the early project stages of the first large scale deployments of modular SSSC in the UK which were energized in 2021. As part of the Smart Wires Product Management team Robert has been involved in the development and refinement of SmartValve technology with a focus on testing, standards and maintenance.



Sam Gibson has worked in the power industry for over 25 years, initially with Northern Ireland Electricity, and since 2017, with Mutual Energy. He is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Moyle Interconnector, the HVDC link between Northern Ireland and Scotland. This includes the Northern Irish and Scottish converter stations, and the twin 60km cable circuits between them. In his most recent roles in NIE, largely within the asset management arena, he was responsible for substation maintenance, asset knowledge strategy and plant investment strategy. He has also project managed ISO 55001 certification (in both NIE and Mutual Energy) and was heavily involved in delivery of the RIGs regulatory reporting system. He is recognised within the wider UK asset management community for his work on the Maximo asset management platform and was chair of the UK user group. Sam has acted as the internal technical lead for the upgrade of the Moyle control system.



Nathaniel Cowton is a principal consultant at TNEI and director of TNEI Ireland, with over 10 years' experience in delivering and supporting HVDC schemes at all stages from techno-economic feasibility through to operation. He has been appointed by Mutual Energy as their client-side project manager for the control system upgrade of the Moyle Interconnector and was responsible for negotiating the contract, as well as its ultimate delivery.



Jonathan Ruddy is the Technology Manager at Greenlink Interconnector Ltd, the company developing the Greenlink Interconnector project. Prior to joining Greenlink, he worked at EPRI Europe in the Transmission Operations and Planning team performing several roles across HVDC planning and renewable integration projects. He holds a PhD in Electrical Engineering from UCD focusing on the integration of offshore wind with HVDC and Low Frequency AC transmission.



Karl O'Keefe is responsible for Asset Management of East West and Celtic Interconnectors within EirGrid. Karl has worked in variety of industry sectors including research and design, consultancy and utility. Before taking up the current role, Karl has been instrumental within the EirGrid group delivering in areas of renewable integration (DS3), demand side development, commissioning, testing, Grid Code, compliance, system services, performance monitoring and market registration. Karl is very active member in CIGRÉ and Engineers Ireland organisation and is a member of the CIGRÉ Irish National Committee.



Geoff Love is an electrical engineer with fourteen years' experience in the electricity industry. Geoff started his professional career performing power system studies for Transpower New Zealand, and as a project engineer on the Pole 3 Project.

Geoff joined Power System Consultants as a senior HVDC/Studies Engineer, now Principal Engineer, initially in Reading, UK now in Dublin, Ireland. In this role he has worked projects in Ireland, the UK, France, the US, and Scandinavia. Geoff has been a B4 Study Committee member for Ireland since 2018.

How to register?

Registration is free of charge for CIGRE members and non-members. The webinar will be hosted via Zoom and a link will be circulated after registration.

To register, please visit [Eventbrite](#)