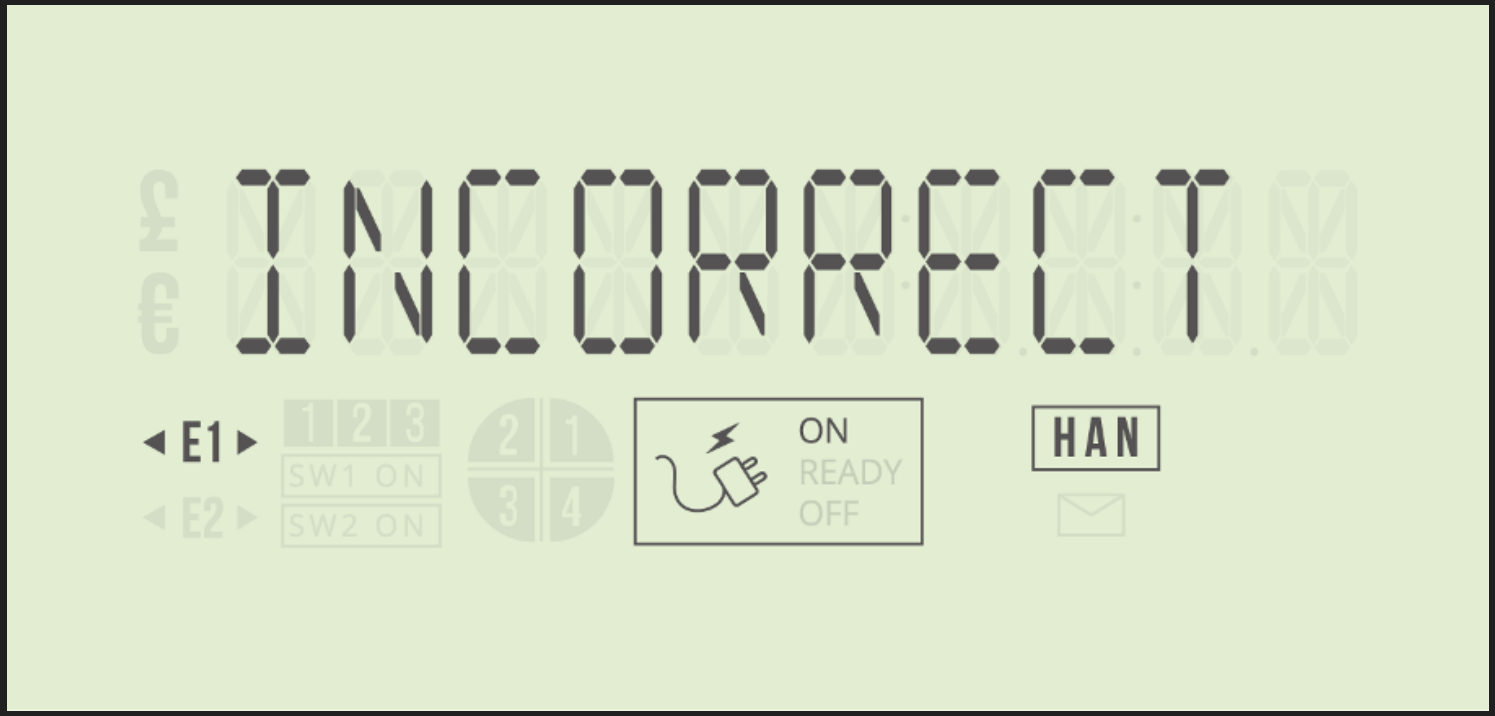
Energy feedback: Place, Policy and Mobility



TEDDInet Energy Feedback Symposium, Edinburgh, UK, 4th-5th July 2016

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Outline

1. International mobility of energy feedback information, knowledge and learning
2. Analysis of policy framing of energy feedback in the UK and Australia
3. Empirical Cases: mobility of energy feedback trials

International mobility of energy feedback information, knowledge and learning

Policy & Knowledge Mobilities

- Part of wider 'mobilities turn' (Urry, 2004)
- We explore the geography of mobilities of knowledge about energy feedback
  - we consider urban-global mobilities as well as the effects of territorial and economic geographies of boundaries and borders
- Concepts developed over the last decade
  - Policy mobility: Response to empirical observations about the contemporary international 'life' of policy / policies (Ward 2006; Peck 2011; McCann 2011)
  - Knowledge mobility: emphasis on global circuits of knowledge mobility rather than local knowledge transfer and spillover
  - National scale and role of government?

nalysis of policy framing of energy
dback in the UK and Australia

Energy feedback policy reinvigorated by Smart Meters & IHDs

1. New energy feedback digital technologies positioned as market correction devices
2. Framed as playing a pivotal role in a much wider range of energy policy problems: CO2 emissions, fuel poverty, matching of supply and demand, energy security, network reliability, tariff reform and market efficiency

Market Correction

- *UK*
  - *"smart meters open the door to far greater customer involvement in the energy market. Through this, we will have a more dynamic and competitive market."* (Ofgem, 2015a)
  - *"Consumers find the market more engaging … Increased consumer engagement encourages providers to innovate."* (Ofgem, 2015b)

- *Australia*
  - *"Effective and timely consumer access to their own data from these [smart] meters (either directly or through an authorised agent) is critical to enable a more sophisticated response to cost-reflective tariffs and help consumers select the best services for their needs."* (Department of Industry and Science, 2015: 12).

: Empirical Cases: mobility of
nergy feedback trials

Australia: *Smart Grid Smart City*

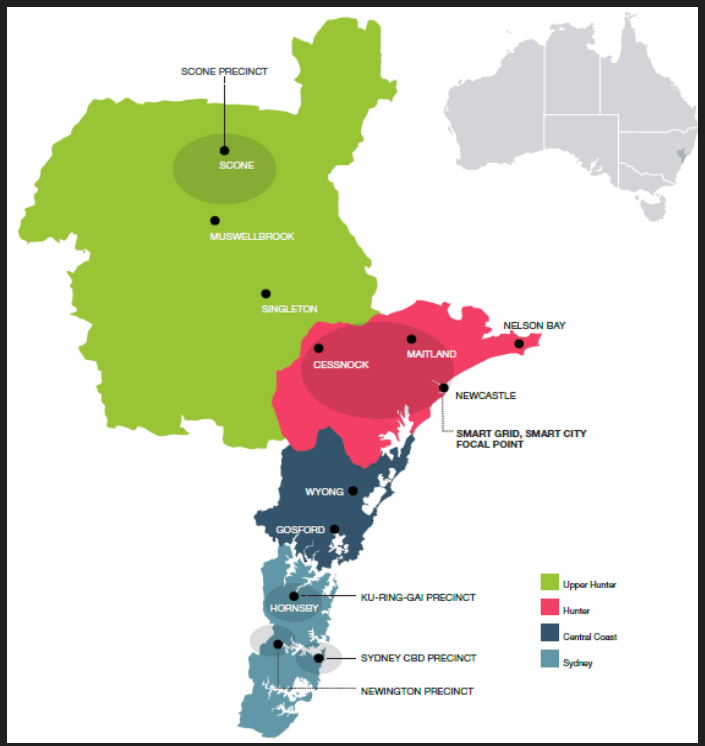
Global *and* national knowledge claims

National: careful positioning of the location of SGSC trials as able to generate nationally mobile knowledge

> *"The greater Newcastle area was selected as one of the focal points for the trial due to its mix of regional and suburban characteristics that result in representative geography, climate, socioeconomic and demographic factors. The customer demographic and socioeconomic indicators in Newcastle closely reflect the demographic attributes of a typical Australian city."* (AEFI, 2014: 10)

Global: One of the seven original objectives of SGSC*:* *"Develop an innovative solution that can serve as a global reference case."*(DoE, 2009: 16).

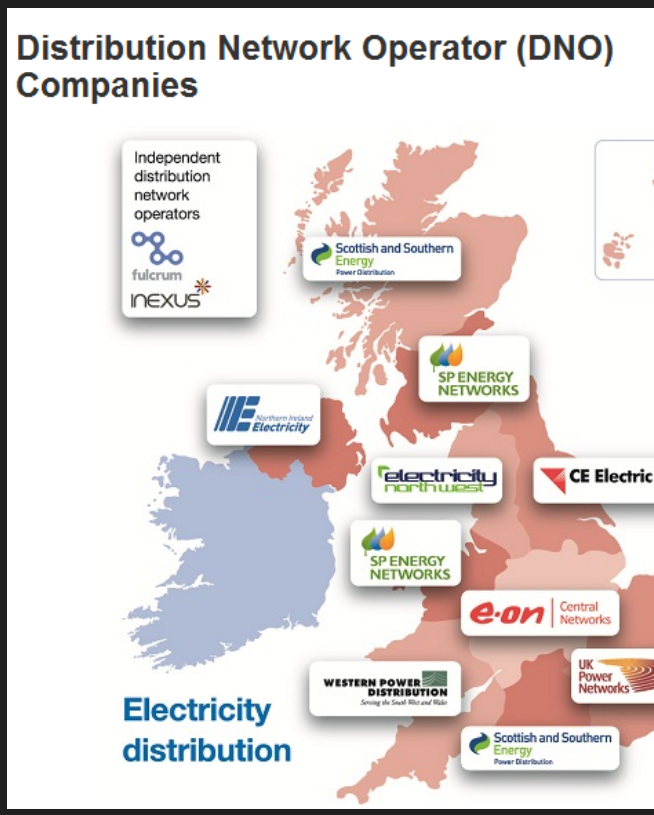
"The Smart Grid, Smart City Program was arguably one of the widest-ranging technology assessments of smart grid products in the world." (AEFI, 2014: 5).



UK: *Customer Led Network Revolution*

rt grid research project which emphasized customer engagement via displays and ‘propositions’

purposely selected a range of rural and urban ions for our network technology trials to ensure our ngs can be applied more across the UK. These ions combined offer a representative sample of 80% reat Britain’s total electricity distribution network, h means that the learning we gain from these trials e applicable to 80% of GB networks.”



plicitly tied to national policy challenges: locally ecific cases are not seen as valid uses of nationally lected tax-payer or energy bill payers’

nilarities to Australia and the case of SGSC and the RP

Conclusions

1. Technical innovations in smart metering and IHDs have re-invigorated energy feedback governance. This is the case in the UK as well as Australia

2. Energy feedback research and governance is embedded within global policy and knowledge mobilities

3. There are claims and actual flows of knowledge that are global in nature but the national remains an important boundary in energy feedback research mobility

4. Energy feedback is seen in policy circles as being able to do a great deal of work
    a) Market work
    b) 'Trilemma' work

Thank you!

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[Gareth to add logos if desired]