Press Release, 12 May 2021

Thirty companies selected for second round of tests in IO.Energy ecosystem to work on new energy services

- **IO.Energy facilitated by Belgian system operators**
- **Ecosystem open to all market players so they can develop consumer-centric energy services**
- **30 companies involved in five different projects**
- **Projects now entering sandboxing phase for testing under real conditions**

Brussels | Some 30 companies from various industries will test out new energy services as part of the Internet of Energy (IO.Energy). IO.Energy is an ecosystem of market players working together on new consumer-centric services. Five projects which successfully underwent the workshop phase are now being moved onto the pilot phase. The projects involve electric mobility, local energy communities, green tracking and grid support services.

With the rise of electric cars and heat pumps, electrification is gradually entering our daily lives - a development that offers many opportunities for both consumers and the energy system. As the share of intermittent renewables rises and electrification spreads, flexibility and the ability to steer demand will need to be supported. End users can become active players in the energy system, harnessing energy services to make optimal use of the appliances at their disposal. Thanks to technological and digital progress, we now have the necessary tools to facilitate this.

IO.Energy seeks to encourage the development of new services. The aim is to make end users the focus of a digital communication platform where they can gear production and consumption to the needs of the electricity system. Established in early 2019, the IO.Energy ecosystem comprises companies, startups, government agencies and academic institutions. Belgian system operators Elia, Fluvius, ORES, RESA and Sibelga are facilitators in the initiative. The call for projects focused mainly on finding solutions to the challenges we are currently facing: electric mobility, local energy communities, green tracking and grid support services.

After an initial exploratory phase, five projects have been identified as being ready for real-life testing during the sandboxing phase. The selected projects are:

Citizen2Grid: As part of this project, the energy community – run by an energy manager – is central. The use case focuses on developing a software application that helps the manager to optimise the community's energy needs through EV smart charging and a battery-based storage system. Community participants will also receive recommendations via an app to optimise their own consumption.

Facilitated by:

Congestion: The electrification of a number of basic needs (such as heating and mobility) combined with local power generation (for instance, from solar panels) can cause local grid congestion. As part of this project, consumers will be encouraged to help reduce congestion via an hourly grid tariff for both consumption and production.

EV Experience: EV Experience focuses on drivers. Ultimately, the aim is to ensure that the only thing drivers have to do is plug their car into the charging point; from then on, everything that needs to be done to charge the vehicle affordably and in a grid-friendly way happens without their having to worry about price, billing or convenience. Naturally, the entire process will be completely transparent for all parties involved.

Odyssee: How can we really go green? That is the question the Odyssee project aims to answer. Working in real time, it will bring together consumers seeking green energy with prosumers who want to exploit their surplus energy. This requires a platform to facilitate the exchange of energy.

CitizenReserve: By limiting our peak capacity, higher energy prices and extra investments in new power plants can be lowered. Citizen Reserve sends consumers a notification at peak times so they can adjust their behaviour. The aim is to increase consumer awareness as well as their potential for flexibility.

IO.Energy contact details for interested partners

Want to find out more?

Contact us at info@ioenergy.eu or on website https://www.ioenergy.eu/.

Facilitated by: