Mr John West

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Dear Industry Participants,

**Re: GSR011: Review of Offshore Networks:**

**Introduction:**

In October 2010, the NETS SQSS Review Panel initiated a Workgroup to develop criteria applicable to larger offshore windfarms and interconnected offshore networks. The National Electricity Transmission System Security and Quality of Supply Standards (NETS SQSS) currently includes criteria for radially connected windfarms but these need updating to guide the cost effective development of interconnected offshore transmission networks suitable for connecting larger windfarms located far from shore, such as those proposed in the Crown Estate’s Round 3 programme.

The proposals to modify the NETS SQSS were reported to the industry, with comments sought during consultation in August 2012. A number of recommendations to amend the NETS SQSS were subsequently submitted to the Authority for a decision. These amendments concluded on issues such as the appropriate capacity of connections, the treatment of wind generation in wider infrastructure analysis, the circuit loss criteria that should be secured and the use of HVDC cables of greater capacity than infeed loss limits.

Post submission, minor changes have been applied to the original GSR011 modification to address a number of concerns raised by the Authority. This was done through consultation with all remaining Workgroup members and does not materially affect the intention of the original GSR011 modification. This new version is referred to as GSR011-1. A change-marked version that reflects these changes is available on the “Workgroup” tab of the following webpage:

<http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Industry-information/Electricity-codes/SQSS/Modifications/GSR011/>

**NETS SQSS Review Panel View:**

The GSR011 modification has considered a number of important issues. It is the view of the NETS SQSS Review Panel that those changes now proposed within GSR011-1 be implemented. In this respect, GSR011-1 was unanimously approved at the April 2016 NETS SQSS Review Panel.

GSR011-1 is published online for industry awareness and it is anticipated that the Authority will publish its decision with respect to these changes imminently. Further comments in respect of these changes and the areas covered are welcome and will be considered by the NETS SQSS Review Panel.

Kind Regards

John West

(On behalf of the NETS SQSS Review Panel)