

Electricity Transmission
Industry participants and
Interested parties

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Panel

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SENT ON BEHALF OF THE NETS SQSS REVIEW PANEL

Dear Colleague

National Electricity Transmission System Security and Quality of Supply Standard
(NETS SQSS)

Industry Consultation: Offshore Networks Requirements (GSR011)

On behalf of the NETS SQSS Review Panel, I am pleased to provide details of the latest SQSS consultation document¹. This presents the findings of the review of the criteria applicable to the development of offshore generation connections and offshore transmission systems, and suggested modifications to the SQSS. The Review (denoted GSR011) has been undertaken by a cross-industry Working Group comprising of representatives from the onshore and offshore transmission licensees, generating companies, and industry consultants.

The GB transmission licensees are required to plan, operate and maintain the GB transmission system in an efficient and economic manner and to facilitate competition in the electricity market. Compliance with the requirements of the NETS SQSS is a GB transmission licence requirement and consequently a primary objective of the NETS SQSS planning criteria is to support the licensees obligations.

Industry feedback is sought through this consultation as to whether the proposals further the SQSS principles and the proposed new SQSS Objectives. Replies are requested by Monday 1st October.

¹ The Consultation Document is available at
<http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/gbsqsscode/Modifications/GSR011>
National Grid plc

The current SQSS principles are:

- (i) development, maintenance and operation of an efficient, economical and coordinated system of electricity transmission;
- (ii) ensure an appropriate level of security and quality of supply and safe operation of the National Electricity Transmission System; and
- (iii) facilitating effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity

The SQSS Objectives (as proposed under the recently revised Governance Framework) are to:

- (i) facilitate the planning, development and maintenance of an efficient, coordinated and economical system of electricity transmission, and the operation of that system in an efficient, economic and coordinated manner;
- (ii) ensure an appropriate level of security and quality of supply and safe operation of the National Electricity Transmission System;
- (iii) facilitate effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity, and (so far as consistent therewith) facilitating such competition in the distribution of electricity; and
- (iv) facilitate electricity transmission licensees to comply with their obligations under EU law.

Consultation Questions

Specific questions have not been posed in the Working Group Report but are included here instead. As such, stakeholders are invited to provide comments on the following:

1. Do you agree that the proposed modification meets the principles and/or objectives of the SQSS?
2. Local Generation Capacity – do you agree with the conclusion that the current requirement to plan the connection to the offshore windfarm full capacity (TEC), as a minimum, is appropriate for the connection of the larger, more distant, Round 3 wind farms?
3. Infrastructure Planning – do you agree with the proposal that offshore wind generation should be treated in the same equitable way as onshore wind generation in infrastructure capacity planning (i.e. currently scaled to 70% as per GSR009 – now implemented)?
4. Circuit outages – do you agree with the working group proposals that, in planning the system, the following events should be secured:
 - The single loss of an offshore cable
 - The loss of an offshore cable with a prior outage of either an onshore or offshore cable circuit

- The loss of an onshore circuit with a prior outage of an offshore circuit

and that the simultaneous loss of two offshore cables should not be secured?

5. Cable Capacity - do you agree that offshore cables with a rating in excess of the infeed loss limit can be used offshore, provided that alternate connections are available that ensure there is no requirement to hold additional response, and that there are no violations of any NETS SQSS criteria.
6. Other codes – are there any impacts on other industry documents that arise from the proposals of the Working Group?

We welcome your views, in particular in relation to the above questions, but also in general on any matters relating to the Review of Offshore Networks within the NETS SQSS. We would appreciate if all responses are received by Monday 1st October and responses should be addressed to:

✉ James Cooper (NETS SQSS Secretary)
National Grid
National Grid House
Warwick Technology Park
Gallows Hill
WARWICK
CV34 6DA

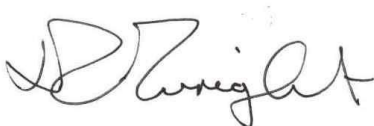
📧 James.Cooper3@nationalgrid.com

The consultation documents and further information can be found on the NETS SQSS website:

<http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/gbsqsscode>

Should you have any questions on this consultation, please don't hesitate to contact myself, James Cooper or any member of the SQSS Review Panel.

Best Regards



David Wright
Chair, NETS SQSS Review Panel

CC Sheona Mackenzie (Ofgem)