

# Meeting Minutes

## Grid Code Review Panel

<b>Date:</b> 26/09/2019	<b>Location:</b> Faraday House, Warwick and Webex
<b>Start:</b> 10:00	<b>End:</b> 14:00

## Participants

Attendee	Attend/Regrets	Attendee	Attend/Regrets
Trisha McAuley, Independent Chair (TM)	Attend	Jeremy Caplin, BSC Representative (JC)	Attend
Paul Mullen, Code Administrator Representative (PM)	Attend	Graeme Vincent, Network Operator Alternate Representative (GV)	Attend
Emma Hart, Technical Secretary (EH)	Attend	Alan Creighton, Network Operator Representative (AC)	Attend
Robert Longden, Suppliers Representative (RL)	Attend	Ross McGhin, Onshore Transmission Representative (RM)	Attend
Guy Nicholson, Generator Representative (GN)	Attend	Christopher Smith, Offshore Transmission Operator Representative (CS)	Attend
Damian Jackman, Generator Representative (DJ)	Attend	Gurpal Singh, Authority Representative (GS)	Attend
Joseph Underwood, Generator Representative (JU)	Attend	Nadir Hafeez, Authority Observer (NH)	Attend
Alastair Frew, Generator Representative (AF)	Attend	Kirsten Shilling, Code Administrator Observer (KS)	Attend
Rob Wilson, National Grid ESO Alternate Representative (RW)	Attend	Phil Smith, National Grid ESO Observer (PS)	Attend
Graham Stein, National Grid ESO, Presenter of Technical Report on the events of 9 August 2019 (GS1)	Attend	Simon Sheridan, National Grid ESO, Presenter of GC0132 (SS)	Attend

## Discussion and details

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### 1 Welcome and introductions

7310. TM opened the Grid Code Review Panel ('the Panel') meeting with introductions and acknowledged the advance apologies received from the following Panel members:

- Colm Murphy (alternate Rob Wilson); and
- Steve Cox (alternate Graeme Vincent).

7311. RW informed the Panel that he would be replacing Colm Murphy as the National Grid ESO representative going forward and his alternate would be Tony Johnson.

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### 2 Minutes of the Panel Meetings held on 29 August 2019 and 10 September 2019

7312. The Panel agreed that the minutes from the Panel held on 29 August 2019 are approved as a correct record.

7313. The Panel agreed that the minutes from the Panel held on 10 September 2019 are approved as a correct record.

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### 3 Review of the Actions within the Action Log

7314. The Grid Code Review Panel reviewed the open actions from the meeting held on 29 August 2019 which can be found on the Actions Log.

7315. The Panel agreed to close actions 246, 266, 273, 274, 276, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283 and 285.

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### 4 Chair's Update

7316. TM informed the Panel that she had no items to discuss with the Panel.

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### 5 Authority Decisions

7317. GS informed the Panel that there are currently no decisions currently pending with the Authority. In addition, the Authority have issued no decisions since the August Panel meeting.

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### 6 New Modifications

#### **GC0131: 'Quick Win' Improvements to Grid Code Open Governance Arrangements**

7318. RW presented the slides in relation to the GC0131 modification proposal.

7319. AF raised concern about the assessment of Workgroup Alternative Grid Code modifications (WAGCMs) being made against the Original as opposed to the current assessment against the baseline. AF stated that it may restrict the range of options that could be raised by the workgroup. DJ agreed that this is an area of concern.

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7320. RW stated that the assessment against the Original proposal as a basis for assessment of WAGCMs is the same assessment as utilised by Elexon in its management of the Balancing and Settlement Code. In addition, the Chair of the Workgroup is able to save a WAGCM if they believe that it better facilitates the Grid Code Objectives.
7321. JC stated that Elexon were in a different position to National Grid ESO as Elexon do not raise modifications in relation to the Balancing and Settlement Code. JC further stated that despite this, he is not aware of any issues.
7322. AC expressed that the assessment of WAGCMs may be the most contentious aspect of the proposal. AC queried whether the modification could be structured in a way that should this be found to be too contentious, it does not prevent the remainder of the modification progressing. RW stated that if the assessment of WAGCM is too contentious within the Workgroup, he would consider removing it from the Proposer's solution as the intention is that these are 'quick wins', however the reason that it was included was to try to allow a workgroup to proceed more efficiently. Also, if a workgroup or the proposer of an alternative did not agree with an original proposal and proposed an alternative as being somewhat more acceptable but still not supported, assessment of this could find it to not be 'better than the baseline' and therefore it would not be developed unless instead it was assessed against being 'better than the original'. EH confirmed the scope of the defect as drafted is broad and non-prescriptive; therefore, it would be possible for the Proposer to withdraw part of the proposed solution.
7323. RW informed the Panel that he was proposing that the modification would progress under the standard governance route with a Workgroup to consider the proposals.
- Self-governance
7324. The Panel considered whether this modification met the self-governance criteria. The Panel agreed that this modification did not meet the self-governance criteria and therefore would proceed as a standard governance modification. The Panel agreed that, given there are areas that need further consideration, the modification would proceed with a Workgroup being established.
7325. The Panel set the Workgroup's Terms of Reference.
- GC0132: Updating the Grid Code governance process to ensure we capture EBGL change process for Article 18 Terms and Conditions (T&Cs)**
7326. SS presented the slides in relation to the GC0132 modification proposal.
7327. AF queried the rationale for only applying a one month consultation to the modifications affected by Article 18, rather than streamlining the process to apply to all modifications. AF raised concerns that having different consultation periods applying to different modifications may be confusing for industry.
7328. RW advised that by only applying the one month consultation period to the modifications affected by Article 18, flexibility is retained for the remaining consultations as these can be shorter and therefore assist with expediting the modification process. In addition, under Article 18 there is a requirement that National Grid ESO responds directly to all consultation responses and this may not be a proportionate allocation of resource for unaffected modifications as often the majority of responses can be grouped together and dealt with within the Workgroup report.
7329. GN stated that it was not clear who the affected parties are. GN stated that it refers to a Balancing Service Provider but this is not defined in Grid Code.
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7330. SS clarified that all parties that raise a modification where the Article 18 Terms and Conditions are impacted will need to adhere to the new process. It was agreed that defining Balancing Service Provider within the solution should be considered.

**ACTION 286:** SS to consider defining Balancing Service Provider within the GC0132 solution.

7331. SS stated that his recommendation was that this modification proceed straight to Code Administrator Consultation under standard governance route.

7332. AF stated that the only issue with going to Code Administrator Consultation is that it is not then possible to raise a WAGCM to the solution. AF stated that having a standardised one month consultation period for all modifications is a valid alternative.

7333. AC queried whether other industry participants been involved in the development of the proposed solution. SS confirmed that the engagement had been primarily with other Code Administrators.

7334. DJ stated that it could be useful to have one Workgroup meeting to enable industry input. RW highlighted that given the nature of the modification, there may be issues with quoracy and National Grid ESO would want to expedite this modification as it is linked to a compliance date of 4 April 2020 and the Final Modification Report needs to be sent to Ofgem by no later than February 2020.

Self-governance

7335. The Panel agreed that GC0132 did not meet the self-governance criteria and therefore should proceed through the standard governance route. Given the concerns raised, the Panel agreed that this modification should have a Workgroup.

7336. The Panel set the Workgroup's Terms of Reference.

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## 7 Governance

7337. PM provided an update to the Panel in relation to the number of Workgroup meetings the Code Administrator is planning to facilitate across the Connection and Use of System Code and the Grid Code for the following three months:

- 10 Workgroup meetings in October 2019;
- 10 Workgroup meetings in November 2019; and
- 8 Workgroups meetings in December 2019.

7338. PM highlighted the Workgroup meetings that were already in the diary for these months and noted that there may need to be a reprioritisation of the Workgroup meetings planned for November 2019 depending on where the new modifications being presented to the Connection and Use of System Code and the Grid Code Review Panels were placed by the respective Panels in their prioritisation stack.

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## 8 In-flight Modification Updates

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7339. PM highlighted the progress of the in-flight modifications since the last Panel in August 2019. The in-flight modifications can be found within the Panel papers pack on the National Grid ESO website via the following link:
- <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes/grid-code/meetings/grid-code-panel-26-september-2019>
7340. The Panel noted the slide on “blockers” to the progress of modifications and agreed that this should be discussed as a quarterly agenda item.
- ACTION 287:** The Code Administrator to add the slide on blockers to modifications to be added to the agenda on a quarterly basis.
- GC0127: EU Code Emergency & Restoration: Requirements resulting from System Defence Plan / GC0128: EU Code Emergency & Restoration: Requirements resulting from System Restoration Plan**
7341. PM outlined the proposed timetable in light of Ofgem’s decision letter stating that legal text for the 3 workgroup alternatives should be prepared by National Grid ESO prior to this being issued for Code Administrator Consultation.
7342. AF queried whether the Proposer will have an opportunity to review the legal text prior to it being circulated to the Workgroup.
7343. RW stated that in order to expedite this modification to Code Administrator Consultation, there is a preference to share the legal text with the Proposer and Workgroup at the same time. However, RW stated that he accepted the view that the Proposer does not need to accept the Workgroup views and it is the Proposer that needs to be content that the legal text is fit for purpose for their alternatives.
7344. The Panel considered the risks to the proposed timetable that were highlighted by PM, which are as follows:
- Agreeing suitable legal text in a 2-week period
  - Unknown what types of responses will be received in response to the Code Administrator Consultation, which means Panel may decide to send back to Workgroup to review and add further delay.
  - Ofgem will have only have 3 weeks to make a decision due to the compliance deadline of 18 December 2019.
7345. RW stated that the main issue will be whether the legal text embodies the three workgroup alternatives.
7346. AF stated that he believed the legal text in relation to storage needed to be considered by manufacturers. AF further stated that should Ofgem agree the System Defence Plan in its current form, the WAGCMs raised in relation to this modification will not apply.
7347. NH stated that he was concerned about the lack of time left for Ofgem to make a decision in respect of this modification but noted that the legal text is required to aid its decision.
7348. Noting the risks, the Panel were content with the proposed timetable outlined by PM.
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**ACTION 288:** Code Administrator to contact manufacturers and trade organisations to raise awareness of the Code Administrator Consultation for GC0127/GC0128.

7349. The Chair drew the Panel's attention, in governance terms, to the importance of the "lessons learnt" part of Ofgem's letter, namely:
- The importance of initiating code modification processes sufficiently in advance of legal deadlines
  - That requests under GR21.5 should be made on an exceptional basis
  - The importance of ensuring enough time for alternative modifications to be raised and for their corresponding legal text to be fully developed ahead of the consultation.

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**9 Discussions on Prioritisation**

7350. The Panel reviewed the current prioritisation stack and inserted GC0131 and GC0132 into the stack.
7351. GC0131 was inserted into position five within the stack as this is a key enabler modification.
7352. GC0132 was inserted into position four within the stack as this is linked to a compliance deadline.

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**10 Reports to the Authority**

7353. There were no new reports submitted to the Authority for decision.

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**11 Implementation Updates**

7354. GC0123: Clarifying references to NGET and Relevant Transmission Licensees, was implemented on 4 September 2019.

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**12 Electrical Standards**

7355. There were no updates in relation to the electrical standards since the last Panel.

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**13 Grid Code Development Forum and Workgroup Day(s)**

7356. EH informed the Panel that Peter Dennis, Ecotricity, presented his proposed modification at the Grid Code Development Forum on [12 September 2019](#). This modification proposed to make changes to Connection Condition 6.5.
7357. EH advised that National Grid ESO and GV attended. The proposal received positive feedback. EH stated that the next step was for Peter Dennis to draft a modification proposal form and submit this to the Code Administrator for critique. This was likely to be raised in advance of the October 2019 Panel.

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**14 Standing Items**

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Distribution Code

7358. There was no update in relation to the Distribution Code Review Panel as that panel had not met since the August Grid Code Review Panel meeting.

Joint European Stakeholder Group (JESG)

7359. PM informed the Panel that at the last JESG meeting the following topics were discussed:

- An update on Trans European Replacement Reserves Exchange (TERRE);
- A presentation given in relation to the Market European Stakeholder Committee (MESCC); and
- Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) update in relation to Brexit.

**ACTION 289:** PM agreed to send an update to Panel after the meeting (Post Meeting Note: this was sent 26 September 2019).

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**15 Horizon Scan**

7360. PM presented the slide on horizon scanning and reiterated that we expect to see both a housekeeping modification from National Grid ESO and a modification from Peter Dennis at Ecotricity being presented to October Grid Code Review Panel.

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**16 Code Administrator Code of Practice (CACoP) Update**

7361. PM informed the Panel that CACoP was considering a joint CACoP website platform and therefore he was seeking views from the Panel. The Panel did not express a view in relation to whether CACoP should proceed with a joint website platform.

7362. GS informed the Panel that the CACoP survey results were likely to be available week commencing 30 September 2019.

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**17 Forward Plan Update**

7363. PM advised the Panel that there was no update to provide to the Panel in relation to the Forward Plan.

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**18 Any Other Business**

Code Summary Document

7364. TM highlighted that JC had raised concern that a code summary document had previously been circulated within the Panel's papers which included an update on all of the modifications but that this had been withdrawn. PM advised that this was no longer circulated as the Modification Tracker, which is published on the National Grid ESO website had replaced the Code Summary Document.

**ACTION 290:** Code Administrator to include a link to the Modification Tracker within Panel papers.

220kV issue

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7365. RW informed the Panel that it had been raised with him that 220kV assets are not currently covered by the Grid Code as a transmission voltage. The question that has arisen is whether this should be raised as a future Grid Code modification.

7366. AF stated that there was an SQSS modification previously raised to include this voltage but it was rejected by Ofgem.

7367. It was agreed that this would be looked into further and the outcome circulated around the Panel.

**ACTION 291:** National Grid ESO to review previous SQSS modifications to establish the reasoning for rejection of the modification raised in relation to 220kV. An update is to be provided to the Panel with the next steps. (Post Meeting Note: Update provided confirming that SQSS Modification was rejected by the Authority and the reasons why it was rejected).

#### Brexit

7368. PM advised that GC0121 is currently being held back pending the outcome of Brexit. PM advised that an internal review of all Brexit modifications across the codes is being undertaken on 11 October 2019 to ensure they are still fit for purpose and the results of this will be advised to Panel. PM noted that the Draft Final Modification Report will be sent to Panel by no later than 24 October 2019 in preparation for a no-deal Brexit on 31 October.

#### Blackout Incident Report

7369. GS1 presented the key findings in relation to National Grid ESO's technical report, which can be found at the following link:

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/information-about-great-britains-energy-system-and-electricity-system-operator-eso>

7370. GS1 stated that the information gathered in relation to this event will inform some of the changes National Grid ESO can make to the current processes.

7371. DJ stated that his main concern is in relation to software and software updates in generation plant / control systems. At present, issues would not be found until a similar event occurs and then the fault would be highlighted. RL stated that he agreed with this point and highlighted that there is very robust testing for nuclear generation unlike other forms of generation. RL stated that there may be value in there being a dialogue between National Grid ESO and those Generators that rely heavily on software.

7372. GN stated that he thought it was a great report and it raises a range of questions. GN stated that it would be good to have a detailed discussion on the report in a forum where the technical detail could be discussed.

7373. GS1 stated that he would return to the Panel with an update following the Ofgem investigation, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of October 2019.

**ACTION 292:** GS1 to provide an update to the Panel on the Blackout Incident of 9 August 2019 following the Ofgem investigation conclusion.



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7374. JC stated that from a Balancing and Settlement Code perspective, the communications were slower than they should be.

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**19**                    **Next meeting**

7375. The next Panel meeting will take place at SSE Offices, Glasgow and WebEx on **29 October 2019** commencing at **10am**.

**ACTION 293:** Code Administrator to update the calendar meeting invite with the location. (Post Meeting Note: this has been completed)

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