

Grid Code Review Panel

Minutes: 28th November 2019

Grid Code Review Panel Minutes

Date: 28/11/2019	Location: Faraday House and WebEx
Start: 10:00am	End: 14:00pm

Participants

Attendee	Initials	Company
Trisha McAuley	TM	Independent Panel Chair
Paul Mullen	PM	Code Administrator, National Grid ESO
Rob Pears	RP	Technical Secretary, Code Administrator, National Grid ESO
Guy Nicholson	GN	Generator Representative
Damian Jackman	DJ	Generator Representative
Joseph Underwood	JU	Generator Representative
Alastair Frew	AF	Generator Representative
Rob Wilson	RW	National Grid ESO Representative
Alan Creighton	AC	Network Operator Representative
Jeremy Caplin	JC	BSC Representative
Graeme Vincent	GV	Network Operator Alternate Representative
Ross McGhin	RM	Onshore Transmission Representative
Christopher Smith	CS	Offshore Transmission Operator Representative
Nadir Hafeez	NH	Authority Representative
Nisar Ahmed	NA	Code Administrator Observer
Emma Hart	EH	Code Administrator Observer

Louise Trodden	LT	National Grid ESO Observer
Gareth Davies	GD	Industry and Frameworks Governance Manager. National Grid SO
Kirsten Shilling	KS	National Grid ESO - Observer
Apologies	Initials	Company
Robert Longden	RL	Suppliers Representative
Steve Cox	SC	Network Operator Representative
Gurpal Singh	GS	Authority Representative

1. Introductions and Apologies for Absence

7437. TM opened the Grid Code Review Panel ('the Panel') meeting with introductions and acknowledged the advance apologies received from the following Panel members:

- Steve Cox (alternate Graeme Vincent);
- Gurpal Singh, Authority Representative

2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting

7438. The Panel agreed that the minutes from the Panel held on 29 October 2019 were approved as a correct record subject to the changes highlighted by Panel members in advance of the Panel meeting.

7439. ACTION (to be incorporated into minutes of 29 October 2019): TM advised the Panel on the recent discussion at the CUSC meeting regarding improving the transparency of the prioritisation process to the industry and to modification proposers. TM took an action to discuss improvements to the prioritisation process with Gareth Davies. PM also took an action to look at how best the Panel and the Code Administrator could specifically enhance transparency to proposers.

3. Action log

7440. The Grid Code Review Panel reviewed the open actions from the meeting held on 29 October 2019 which can be found on the Actions Log.

4. Chair update

7441. TM had no updates for the Panel.

5. Authority decisions

7442. NH advised that there were two decisions with Ofgem, as detailed below:

7443. GC0125 EU Code Emergency & Restoration: Black Start testing requirements for Interconnectors – Ofgem is planning for a decision to be made before Christmas but that

will be linked to GC0127/128. <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes/grid-code/modifications/gc0125-eu-code-emergency-restoration-black-start-testing-requirements>

7444. GC0129 - Updating the Grid Code to use Engineering Recommendation G5/5 – Harmonics – the decision will be issued within KPI by 17 December 2019. <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes/grid-code/modifications/gc0129-updating-grid-code-use-engineering-recommendation-g55>

6. New modifications

7445. **There were no new modifications raised at Panel this month.**

7. In flight modification updates

7446. PM highlighted that there is an amalgamation of a Plan on a Page and the modification tracker to make it easier to follow and have one version to minimise inaccuracies.
7447. PM highlighted the progress of the in-flight modifications since the last Panel meeting in October 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/document/157806/download>
7448. It was noted that the modification ***GC0132: Updating the Grid Code governance process to ensure we capture EBGL change process for Article 18 Terms and Conditions (T&Cs)*** found it challenging to gain enough membership to make the workgroup quorate. AF informed the panel that he would like to raise an alternative so, if quoracy could be achieved, it would allow the alternate to be raised at workgroup.
7449. **ACTION** JU to seek additional GC0132 workgroup members for GC0132 at the Energy UK meeting on Tuesday 3rd December 2019.
7450. This action led to RM & AC volunteering to join the GC0132 workgroup, which resulted in meeting the quoracy requirements.
7451. **ACTION** RP to co-ordinate a date for the GC0132 workgroup meeting.
GC0132 Workgroup meeting to be scheduled for the week commencing 9th December 2019.
7452. **ACTION** RW to email the legal text to GC0132 workgroup members.
7453. **DECISION GC0133: Timely informing of the GB NETS System State condition** This modification can proceed to Code Administrator Consultation and a draft will be presented at the Panel to be held on Thursday 19th December 2019.
7454. ***GC0134: Removing the telephony requirements as part of Wider Access to the Balancing Market for small, distributed and aggregated market***
JC stated that the title of the modification is misleading as it just relates to a 24-hour telephone contact rather than the type of telephone contact.
AC wanted to know if the Panel was interested in the Wholesale Line Rental (WLR) Withdrawal update from the Industry Fora PowerPoint (May 2019), as he highlighted that there could be potential implications for the Grid Code.

7455. **ACTION** AC to forward the PowerPoint presentation from the Wholesale Line Rental (WLR) Withdrawal update on to Code Admin.
7456. PM highlighted to the Panel the Workgroup meetings that are scheduled in the diary for the next three months.
7457. PM confirmed that there had been no changes since October 2019 in terms of the number of workgroups that the code administration was planning to hold.

8. Discussions on Prioritisation

7458. The Grid Code Panel reviewed the prioritisation stack, in order of highest priority to lowest priority including those currently on hold.

JU fed back there is still an industry perception that the ESO and Code Admin have too much power in terms of the prioritisation of mods. However, the Panel was clear that it makes these decisions, but noted the already agreed action to explore how to improve the transparency of the process.

The Panel agreed that the prioritisation stack should remain the same – no change.

9. Blockers on Modifications Progress

7459. PM started a discussion on the blockers to the modification process, as part of the quarterly checkpoint process for Panel.

The Panel reviewed the blockers and how effectively these had been managed to date.

The number of instances per blocker was monitored over the last few months.

The Panel then discussed whether the current list encompassed all the blocker categories and the Panel wanted to consider if the list needed to be updated to provide further clarity on the types of blockers.

These categories were listed as the main blockers.

Categories:

- Quoracy
- Prioritisation
- ESO delay
- CA delay
- Industry delay
- Legal issues
- Ofgem sent back

A clear distinction between ESO delay, Code Administrator delay, and Industry delay was made.

7460. **DECISION** It was decided that the list should not be updated.

10. Workgroup Reports

7461. There were no Workgroup reports presented at the Panel

11. Draft Final Modification Reports

GC0096: Energy Storage

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes/grid-code/modifications/gc0096-energy-storage>

7462. PM delivered a presentation on GC0096, to facilitate the Panel to vote.
7463. The Panel was advised that two consultation responses were received to the second Code Administrator Consultation which closed on 18th October 2019
- One respondent agreed that the proposal better facilitates the Grid Code objectives without further qualification; and
7464. One respondent stated that the modification generally better facilitates the objectives but omitted to clarify Black Start testing for Electricity Storage Modules within OC5.7. However, ESO is of the view that no change is required to the Legal Text. RW stated that Black Start is voluntary for Electricity Storage Modules and therefore they do not need to be included in this modification. GC0125 has also been written in a flexible way that, when implemented, can include storage if necessary, and should it become mandatory, in the future.
7465. AC asked that RW's summary be included in the draft report. He also had a few editorial points on the DFMR that he could communicate to Code Administration offline.
7466. The Panel agreed that these minor editorials could be made offline and that the FMR could be sent to Ofgem for decision.
7467. **DECISION** The Panel voted unanimously that the **Original** better facilitated the Grid Code objectives.

EU Code Emergency & Restoration:

GC0127 Requirements resulting from System Defence Plan

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes/grid-code/modifications/gc0127-eu-code-emergency-restoration-requirements-resulting-system>

GC0128 Requirements resulting from System Restoration Plan

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes/grid-code/modifications/gc0128-eu-code-emergency-restoration-requirements-resulting-system>

7468. PM delivered a presentation on GC0127/GC0128, to facilitate the Panel to vote. The Panel noted the issues raised in the CAC and discussed the issues.
7469. It was noted that the Workgroup vote was undertaken prior to the legal text being drafted for WAGCM 1, WAGCM2 and WAGCM3.
7470. The Panel agreed to use GR.22.4 to make minor amendments to the legal text as highlighted in the CAC.

7471. The Panel expressed a view that a succinct summary of the differences between the original and alternatives would have been useful.
7472. RW stated that the ESO summarised that the original was a minimum solution for compliance with E&R which basically takes the view, backed up by legal opinion, that while the ESO is 'entitled' to seek services from various parties this is not an obligation, and therefore the minimum solution is only to seek these from existing providers. WAGCM 1 takes the view that the ESO must seek services from all those parties where they could be entitled to, and therefore codifies the requirements on these additional parties. This includes all SGUs so is broader than the original which is based on CUSC parties. WAGCM 1 (and 3) therefore also require consequential Distribution Code changes to obligate non-CUSC parties who are not bound by the Grid Code. WAGCM 2 is a very specific addition to require storage providers to trip at a low frequency threshold and where technically capable to reverse flows. Again, the original is a minimum compliance solution which relies on the affected users being as set out in the system defence/restoration plans, while WAGCM 2 takes a more inclusive view.
7473. **ACTION:** The ESO to insert a paragraph in to the FMR report for GC0127/0128, in relation to retrospectivity.
7474. RW, on behalf of the ESO, again summarised that the E&R code has no concept of new and existing equipment so, by default, any changed requirement applies retrospectively. In the original, since broadly there are no significant changes for any users, then retrospectivity is not an issue. WAGCMs 1 & 3, in extending the requirements for services to non-CUSC parties, is a significant retrospective change. WAGCM 2, while retrospective, represents a minor change for a limited number of existing users (possible changes to relay settings for existing pumped storage generation and an additional requirement for the very limited numbers of existing transmission connected storage projects).
7475. **DECISION** The Panel voted on the modification and agreed by majority (7) that the **Original** better facilitated the Grid Code objectives, with one vote for WAGCM2 and one vote for WAGCM3.

12. Standing Groups

Grid Code Development Forum (GCDF)

7476. PM advised that no GCDF was held in November. The meeting had been scheduled for 7th November and was cancelled due to a lack of agenda items.

Workgroup Days

GC0130 – 6 November 2019 meeting held.

GC0131 – 7 November 2019 meeting cancelled due to quoracy.

December Grid Code Development Forum

GCDF scheduled for - 12 December 2019.

Distribution Code Panel update

The next meeting is scheduled for 12th December.

13. European Updates

Joint European Stakeholder Group (JESG)

7477. PM advised the Panel that the JESG was held on 12 November 2019. He stated that National Grid ESO provided updates on the Clean Energy Package and Emergency and Restoration Codes.

7478. The presentation slides from the JESG meeting can be found via the following link:

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes/european-network-codes/meetings/jesg-meeting-12-November-2019>

14. Updates on other Industry Codes

7479. PM provided an update on the other industry codes.

15. Reports to the Authority

7480. There were no new reports submitted to the Authority for decision.

16. Implementation Updates

7481. No modifications have been implemented since the Panel held on 26th September 2019.

17. Electrical Standards

7482. There were no updates in relation to the electrical standards since the last panel.

18. Governance

7483. There were no items relating to Governance considered by the Panel.

19. CACoP update

7484. KS delivered a presentation on the results from the Code Administrators' Performance Survey (CACoP). KS advised that the results show a significant decrease within the three codes that National Grid ESO administer; however, this decrease is also apparent across all industry codes. KS stated that the key messages from the survey are: Reduced Industry Resource, ESO Code Governance is not perceived to be acting independently and the need for website improvements.

GN suggested that improving the current website is key, rather than making wholesale changes to it at this time.

JU stated that it would be good to have a page for the Panel papers.

RP agreed that this was something that can be incorporated and asked that any other suggestions for improving the website be forwarded to him.

7485. KS advised the Panel to contact her if they have any further feedback on the CACoP results. The Survey results can be found on the National Grid ESO website via the following link:

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/156551/download>

AF stated that the quality of reports needs to improve. Engineering reports have been replaced by accounts of what people discussed.

CS said that the size of the documents and reports are too much to digest. Summaries and differences between originals and WAGCMs are needed away from the bulk of the legal text.

AC agreed that the reader wants to understand the key issues, not the general discussion.

GD advised that these are step changes and that Code Administration is focussing on prioritising them and putting them into place by the end of the year.

20. Forward Plan Update

7486. PM advised the Panel that there was no update to provide to the Panel in relation to the Forward Plan and that an update will be provided at the December Panel meeting.

21. Any Other Business (AOB)

7487. DJ asked how the consultation requirements for EBGL impact on the Grid Code?

Action – DJ to email Ofgem requesting its definitive opinion on the consultation and approval process to be followed for changes to the T&Cs of balancing services as per Article 18 of the EBGL.

7488. NH advised the Panel that Ofgem's last publishing day of 2019 would be Wednesday 18 December 2019 and that it would begin to publish documents again on Thursday 2 January 2020.

7489. On behalf of the Panel, TM thanked Emma Hart for her contribution and work in relation to the Panel.

The next Grid Code Review Panel meeting will be held on Thursday 19th December 2019.