

# Grid Code Review Panel

## Minutes: 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019

### Grid Code Review Panel Minutes

<b>Date:</b> 19/12/2019	<b>Location:</b> Faraday House and WebEx
<b>Start:</b> 10:00am	<b>End:</b> 14:00pm

### Participants

Attendee	Initials	Company
Trisha McAuley	TM	Independent Panel Chair
Nisar Ahmed	NA	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
Alastair Frew	AF	Generator Representative
Rob Wilson	RWI	National Grid ESO Representative
Alan Creighton	AC	Network Operator Representative
Jeremy Caplin	JC	BSC Representative
Graeme Vincent	GV	Network Operator Alternate Representative
Richard Woodward	RWO	Onshore Transmission Alternate Representative
Christopher Smith	CS	Offshore Transmission Operator Representative
Joseph Underwood	JU	Generator Representative
Robert Longden	RL	Suppliers Representative
Gurpal Singh	GS	Authority Representative
Paul Mullen	PM	Code Administrator Observer

Phil Smith	PS	National Grid ESO Observer
Matt Baller	MB	National Grid ESO Observer (Presenter GC137)
<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Initials</b>	<b>Company</b>
Steve Cox	SC	Network Operator Representative
Tony Johnson	TJ	National Grid ESO Alternate Representative
Ross McGhin	RM	Onshore Transmission Representative
Nadir Hafeez	NH	Authority Representative
Sigrid Bolik	SB	Generator Alternate Representative

### 1. Introductions and Apologies for Absence

7490. TM opened the Grid Code Review Panel ('the Panel') meeting with introductions.

### 2. Minutes from previous meeting

7491. The Panel agreed that the minutes from the Panel held on 28 November 2019 would be reviewed in the January Panel meeting.

### 3. Action log

7492. The Grid Code Review Panel reviewed the open actions from the meeting held on 28 November 2019 which can be found in the Actions Log.

### 4. Chair update

7493. TM had no updates for the Panel.

### 5. Authority decisions

7494. GS advised the Panel that Ofgem's publishing moratorium begins today, on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and finishes on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2020.

7495. The decisions on the Emergency & Restoration mods GC0125, GC0127, GC0128 will be circulated on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019 or Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2019.

Some member states haven't finishing implementing Requirement for Generators (RFG) yet, which was due in April 2018.

7496. **ACTION** Code Admin to provide clarification on the implementation date for GC0129.

7497. RWO will communicate the implementation of GC0129 to NGET Power quality team.

## 6. New modifications

### **GC0136: Non-material changes to the Grid Code following implementation of the EU Connection Codes**

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes/grid-code/modifications/gc0136-non-material-changes-grid-code-following-implementation-eu>

7498. PS informed the Panel of the critical friend checks and recommendations given to the Proposer, Tony Johnson, for GC0136 by Code Admin, he noted that the recommendations were all accepted, and changes were reflected in the proposal.

7499. PS advised the Panel of the defect that GC0136 aimed to fix.

#### *What's the defect?*

- In 2018, the Grid Code was updated to implement RfG, HVDC and DCC Connection Network Codes.
- After implementation, a number of issues, relating to the effective date and minor errors, were identified which required amendment.
- GC0116 corrected the effective dates, but didn't address the housekeeping changes.

#### *What's the purpose of this modification?*

- To correct all outstanding errors identified following the implementation of RfG, HVDC and DCC Connection Network Codes; and.
- To correct a number of other general housekeeping issues.

#### *Recommended governance route:*

- One pre-CAC meeting; and
- Followed by Code Administrator Consultation.

#### *Why?*

- Most of the issues are minor housekeeping changes, which are not material and not of a controversial nature.
- Some issues do require discussion but not to the extent that a workgroup is necessary.

7500. AC advised the Panel that for the proposed informal meeting to review and check the documents, a small group of volunteers would be beneficial to ensure we proceed efficiently.

7501. RL noted that he would like to make sure we proceed efficiently but follow correct governance.

7502. PS advised that the legal text changes that would benefit from discussion where NGENO has made an interpretation of the meaning of the current Grid Code have been highlighted in yellow.

7503. TM advised that we should proceed based on the fact the changes are non-material, but that a small number of the Panel membership will review the changes and, if they identify any proposed changes that are deemed to be material then the Panel will review them at a future Panel meeting.

7504. RWI requested Panel members to identify who will have the time to look at the GC0136 changes, and then for the discussions to be held outside of the Panel and to provide comments to the Proposer.
7505. **DECISION** the Panel has provisionally agreed that this mod meets the self-governance criteria on the basis that none of the changes identified are material.
7506. RWI asked for feedback on the proposed Grid Code changes for GC0136 to be emailed by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020; they will be reviewed and discussed at the next Panel in January 2020.
7507. **ACTION** PS to circulate the GC0136 changes to Panel members for review, highlighting those proposed changes that would benefit from discussion including to consider whether they may be material.

### **GC0137: Minimum Specification Required for Provision of Virtual Synchronous Machine (VSM) Capability**

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes/grid-code/modifications/gc0137-minimum-specification-required-provision-virtual-synchronous-0>

7508. MB informed the Panel of the critical friend checks and recommendations given to him, as the Proposer for GC0137, by Code Admin, he noted that the recommendations were all accepted, and changes were reflected in the proposal.
7509. MB informs the Panel that the draft specification for GC0137 has been circulated to around 65 people so far.
7510. MB discusses the defect for GC0137 with the Panel

#### *The Defect*

- Proposal to add minimum technical specification to Grid Code relating to Virtual Synchronous Machine (“VSM”) capability as this is not in the Grid Code at present
- This will outline the minimum technical capabilities required for any company wishing to engage in subsequent commercial arrangements emerging from current/ongoing discussions
- Lack of codified specification means appropriate commercial markets cannot be created with any degree of confidence due to the inherent variables and thus risk.

#### *Changes Required*

- New section to be added to Grid Code, detailing the minimum technical specification for a VSM.

7511. There was a detailed discussion around why there is a need to codify a minimum technical specification if the provision of ‘VSM Services’ is voluntary and why the baseline spec was being agreed before the service has been developed.

GN noted that he had some significant reservations, because Stability (which is the service that VSM’s (Virtual Synchronous Machines) are looking to contract for) is an ancillary service under development using a Pathfinder process. The purpose of Pathfinders is to develop contracting processes and technical specifications; therefore it is premature to codify specifications in the Grid Code whilst the Pathfinder process is still in train.

RW noted that the development of a minimum specification would help stakeholders considering participation in the service by being transparent and by having involved relevant parties in agreeing what was technically achievable.

7512. MB explained to the Panel that giving an initial baseline specification gives parties clarity so they can understand what is being proposed and whether they might want / be able to participate in the commercial market. It also means there is more confidence / certainty for any potential market participants that the technical requirements can't just suddenly change overnight, and if the VSM specification modification was left until the service is codified it may also delay the overall development.

7513. **DECISION** Panel agreed that this mod meets the standard governance criteria.

7514. The Panel reviewed the GC0137 Terms of Reference (ToR); NA included the points below in the ToR:

- a) Implementation and costs;
- b) Review draft legal text should it have been provided. If legal text is not submitted within the Grid Code Modification Proposal the Workgroup should be instructed to assist in the developing of the legal text;
- c) Consider whether any further Industry experts or stakeholders should be invited to participate within the Workgroup to ensure that all potentially affected stakeholders have the opportunity to be represented in the Workgroup. Demonstrate what has been done to cover this clearly in the report.
- d) Agree the minimum specification for Virtual Synchronous Machine (VSM) capability and define the term clearly;
- e) Consider what the testing requirements would be;
- f) Consider if adding the minimum specification to the Grid Code is a limiting factor to innovation;
- g) Consider the related developments in the market and how that may affect the minimum specification (e.g. phase 2 of the stability pathfinder);
- h) Consider the inadvertent impact of the minimum specification for Virtual Synchronous Machine (VSM) capability on existing users;
- i) Consider other code impacts; and
- j) Consider examples of VSM technology.

7515. **DECISION** TM confirmed that the ToR have been agreed by the Panel.

7516. The Timetable for GC0137 is to be discussed at the first Workgroup meeting which should take place in February or March 2020.

## 7. In flight modification updates

7517. NA highlighted the progress of the in-flight modifications since the last Panel meeting in November 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-19-december-2019>

## 8. Discussions on Prioritisation

7518. The Panel reviewed the prioritisation stack, in order of highest priority to lowest priority including those currently on hold

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes/grid-code/meetings/grid-code-panel-19-december-2019>

7519. GS stated that the Ofgem stance is that Targeted Charging Review (TCR) mods, as are mainly in the CUSC, are implemented prior to RII02 (2021).

7520. The slides shown at Panel in the above link show the CUSC mods impact on the timeline and prioritisation. PM set out how CUSC modifications related to the delivery of TCR by April 2021 are considered to be high priority.

7521. **DECISION** The Panel agreed to defer a decision on the prioritisation of GC0137 until discussions have been held with GG as the Proposer (see below action).

7522. **ACTION** Code Admin to speak with Garth Graham regarding his modifications GC0103, GC0109 & GC0117 and his availability for Workgroups so that the prioritisation stack can be updated to accurately reflect the current stance.

## 9. Blockers on Modifications Progress

7523. There was no discussion at the Panel, Blockers are discussed quarterly in February, May, August and November.

## 10. Workgroup Reports

**GC0107: The open, transparent, non-discriminatory and timely publication of the generic and/ or PGM specific values required to be specified by the relevant TSO(s) and / or relevant system operator et al., in accordance with the RfG**

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes/grid-code/modifications/gc0107-open-transparent-non-discriminatory-and-timely-publication>

**GC0113: The open, transparent, non-discriminatory and timely publication of the generic and user specific values required to be specified by the relevant TSO(s) and / or relevant system operator et al., in accordance with the DCC**

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes/grid-code/modifications/gc0113-open-transparent-non-discriminatory-and-timely-publication>

7524. PM delivered a presentation on GC0107/GC113. PM discussed the background of the modifications with the Panel.

- GC0107 and GC0113 were proposed by SSE Generation Limited in November 2017 and April 2018 respectively.
- GC0107 and GC0113 seek to obligate Network Operators to publish the technical requirements of general application and the technical requirements of specific application that arise from the application of the Requirements for Generators (GC0107) or the Demand Connection Conditions (GC0113) in GB.
- In April 2018, the Panel decided to amalgamate GC0107 and GC0113 so that these modifications would be considered by a single Workgroup.
- 11 Workgroup meetings were held, and the Workgroup consulted separately on GC0107 and GC0113.



7525. TM queried if the panel was able to agree that the GC0107/GC113 Workgroup had met the terms of reference, it could not be agreed. Therefore, the decision was deferred to the next Panel meeting in January because of the legal text; which is still being discussed via Workgroup circulation to ensure it is fit for purpose.

## 11. Draft Final Modification Reports

### GC0105: System Incidents Reporting

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/codes/grid-code/modifications/gc0105-system-incidents-reporting>

7526. NA delivered a presentation on GC0105, to facilitate the Panel vote.

7527. The Panel was advised that four consultation responses were received from the Code Administrator Consultation which closed on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019:

- The majority of respondents agreed that the Original best met the Grid Code Objectives whilst the ESO respondent supported the Baseline;
- 2 respondents commented that the level of reporting proposed under WAGCM1 was insufficient whilst the ESO respondent noted that it is being published as part of our System Operability Framework (SOF) and therefore does not need codifying;
- All respondents agreed with the proposed implementation approach with 1 respondent welcoming the retrospective reporting to ensure historic records are available to stakeholders; and
- No changes to legal text proposed by any of the 4 respondents.

7528. **DECISION** The Panel voted by majority that the **Original** better facilitated the Grid Code objectives.

## 12. Standing Groups

### Grid Code Development Forum (GCDF)

7529. RP informed the Panel that GCDF was held on 12th December 2019; two potential modifications were discussed.

7530. RP advised the Panel that the GCDF scheduled for 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020 will likely be cancelled due to a lack of agenda items.

### 7531. Workgroup Days

GC0132 – 07 January 2020.

## 13. European Updates

### Joint European Stakeholder Group (JESG)

7532. RP advised the Panel that the JESG Meeting scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019 was cancelled due to a lack of agenda items.

## 14. Reports to the Authority

7533. There were no new reports submitted to the Authority for decision.

## 15. Implementation Updates

7534. No modifications have been implemented since the Panel held on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

## 16. Electrical Standards

7535. There were no updates in relation to the electrical standards since the last Panel.

7536. AF questioned if there has been an update to the Relevant Electrical Standards (RES) numbering?

7537. **ACTION** AF to clarify if there has been an update to the Relevant Electrical Standards (RES) numbering in an email to RWI.

## 17. Governance

7538. There were no items relating to Governance considered by the Panel.

## 18. Updates on other Industry Codes

7539. JC informed the Panel that a new modification has been raised on open data.

## 19. CACoP update

7540. There was no discussion at the Panel, CACoP is discussed in February, April, June, August, October & November.

## 20. Forward Plan Update

7541. NA advised the Panel that there was no update to provide in relation to the Forward Plan and that an update will be provided at the January Panel meeting.

## 21. Any Other Business (AOB)

7542. NA advised the Panel that Code Admin is considering introducing a new template to accompany change proposals. It provides a summary of the Modification Proposal and its potential impacts to assist industry in assessing whether they want to be involved in the Workgroup or respond to the consultation.

7543. Improvement suggestions and comments included:

- RWO suggested the Proposer should be encouraged to develop the document with help from Code Admin.
- RWI we should be avoiding creating more work for the Code Admin.
- AC suggested that the executive summary should be identical to the executive summary contained in the Final Modification Report.
- Avoid being too prescriptive of the parties impacted.

7544. GCRP meeting dates will be published on the website.

7545. CA to recirculate the GCRP meeting dates.

**The next Grid Code Review Panel meeting will be held on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020.**