Grid Code Review Panel

Minutes: 30 July 2020

## Grid Code Review Panel Minutes

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| Date: | 30/07/2020 | Location: | WebEx Only |
| Start: | 10:00am | End: | 14:00pm |

## Participants

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Attendee | Initials | Company |
| Trisha McAuley | TM | Independent Panel Chair |
| Nisar Ahmed | NA | Code Administrator Representative |
| Kavita Patel | KP | Panel Technical Secretary (Code Administrator) |
| Alan Creighton | AC | Panel Member, Network Operator Representative |
| Alastair Frew | AF | Panel Member, Generator Representative |
| Christopher Smith | CS | Panel Member, Offshore Transmission Operator Representative |
| Bryan Rhodes | BR | Alternate, Offshore Transmission Operator Observer |
| Graeme Vincent | GV | Alternate, Network Operator Representative |
| Gurpal Singh | GS | Authority Representative |
| Guy Nicholson | GN | Panel Member, Generator Representative |
| Jeremy Caplin | JC | BSC Panel Representative |
| Joseph Underwood | JU | Panel Member, Generator Representative |
| Richard Woodward | RWo | Alternate, Onshore Transmission Operator Representative |
| Rob Wilson | RWi | National Grid ESO Panel Member |
| Robert Longden | RL | Panel Member, Supplier Representative |
| Observers/Presenters |  |  |
| Attendee | Initials | Company |
| Anthony Johnson | AJ | National Grid ESO (GC0148) |
| Kirsten Shilling | KS | Code Administrator Observer |
| Phil Smith | PS | National Grid ESO Observer (System Incidents Reporting) |
| Robert Marshall | RM | National Grid ESO Observer (Prioritisation Process) |
| Apologies |  |  |
| Attendee | Initials | Company |
| Damian Jackman | DJ | Panel Member, Generator Representative |
| Nadir Hafeez | NH | Authority Representative Alternate |
| Ross McGhin | RM | Panel Member, Onshore Transmission Operator Representative |
| Steve Cox | SC | Panel Member, Network Operator Representative |

## Introductions and Apologies

1. TM opened the Grid Code Review Panel meeting. Apologies were received from Damian Jackman, Nadir Hafeez, Ross McGhin and Steve Cox. TM noted that the meeting would continue to be recorded.

## Minutes from previous meeting

## TM noted that there were two sets of minutes for Panel to approve. These were the May 1 2020 Special Panel and the 25 June 2020 Panel minutes.

**DECISION** Panel approved the May Special Panel minutes with no further comments.

1. TM noted that AC had some minor amendments for the June 2020 Panel minutes. In particular line 8052 was discussed. It was agreed by all that the action was not clear in its current form and so should be updated to reflect that it was a general note for Matthew Deitz to take the point away regarding the interaction with the DNO’s.
2. **NEW ACTION** for NA to invite MD to the August/Sept GCDF and for the Code Administrator to update the June minutes accordingly.

**DECISION** Panel agreed that the minutes were approved, subject to the agreed change to line 8052.

## Action Log

8140. The Panel reviewed the open actions from the meeting held on 25 June 2020 which can be found in the Actions Log:  
[**https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/meetings/grid-code-Panel-meeting-25-june-2020**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/meetings/grid-code-panel-meeting-25-june-2020)

1. A number of actions from the special panel meetings of 1 and 6 May were reviewed and confirmed to have been completed so were recorded as closed in the log.
2. **NEW ACTION** Following action 248 in relation to GC0126, RWi would contact the ESO Information Services (IS) team regarding the delivery of Dynamic SIL/SEL functionality and ask them to attend a future Panel meeting to get an update.
3. **NEW ACTION** Code Administrator to check that the June minutes align to action 346 in the action log.

## 4. Chair update

1. TM advised that she had no updates for the Panel.

## 5. Authority decisions

1. GS advised the Panel that the decision for [**GC0133**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/modifications/gc0133-timely-informing-gb-nets-system-state) is still pending with the Authority and hoped to provide an update in two weeks’ time.
2. There were no further comments.

## 6. New modifications

1. NA noted that there were two new modifications raised for the July Panel.

[**GC0147**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/modifications/gc0147-last-resort-disconnection-embedded) **- *Last resort disconnection of Embedded Generation – enduring solution***

1. RWi presented this new modification, noting firstly that this followed on from the previous urgent modification [GC0143](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/modifications/gc0143-last-resort-disconnection-embedded) which was implemented on 7 May 2020 with a sunset clause expiring in October 2020.
2. In relation to GC0143, the Authority had emphasised that this should apply only in the last resort once all commercial actions had been exhausted and that there was an expectation that the order of disconnections would be designed to minimise risks. The Authority also stressed the need for an enduring solution.
3. RWi noted that there were three main themes that emerged from the consultation responses. These were firstly, how the mod was developed; secondly, how emergency instructions would be carried out; and thirdly, the impacts of emergency disconnection.
4. The ESO have taken various steps to address concerns raised in GC0143 including the publishing of an open letter, joint guidance from the ESO and DNOs and a summary of the GC0143 consultation responses, all of which are in the decision tab of the GC0143 web page.
5. RWi noted that the new ODFM service allows the ESO to access more flexibility from embedded generators. This was over the Bank Holiday weekends in May 2020, helping the ESO to balance the system without the need to use Emergency Instructions.
6. RWi advised the Panel that the ESO would develop a successor to ODFM to be used in 2021. Overall though, the ESO’s preference for accessing services from generators is to achieve this through wider access to the BM, but this and any other commercial mechanism would be exhausted before issuing Emergency Instructions.
7. The ESO recognised the need to make all of this clear in its communications around this modification as noted by RL.
8. AF noted a Significant Event (SER089\_20) that occurred on 27July 2020, where Emergency Instructions were issued to two embedded hydro stations in the Dumfries and Galloway group. RWi explained that in this case, emergency instructions needed to be used due to urgency and that a Local NRAPM System Warning had been issued, but that commercial trades were employed afterwards.
9. **NEW ACTION** RWi to report back to Panel on the 27 August 2020 on the Dumfries and Galloway incident.
10. AC suggested that the title of GC0147 could be changed to reflect pre-last resort generation control as well as last resort emergency disconnection.
11. After discussion, it was agreed that no change would be made but that the Terms of Reference (ToR) would be updated to reflect that the modification would consider not only last resort emergency disconnection of embedded generation, but also pre-last resort control of embedded generation.
12. **NEW ACTION** RWi to update the GC0147 ToR and reflect changes as discussed in Panel.
13. The ToR were also updated to reflect consideration of arrangements in place under Applicable Balancing Services Volume Data (ABSVD).
14. It was also agreed that the first action of the GC0147 workgroup should be to review the ToR and feedback any suggested changes to Panel.
15. Given that it was expected that there would be a lot of interest for this workgroup, Panel Members expressed their views that it would be important to ensure an efficient process taking into account workgroup nominations and ensuring that the meetings stayed in scope.
16. GN raised a point on nuclear power stations submitting offers to turn down generation, but not being used. Particularly in the period of concern in May 2020, RWi confirmed that the situation did not require nuclear to be turned down.
17. RWi noted this but also explained that there is a technical issue with nuclear in that they cannot be instructed too far down without significant delay in getting them back up again and therefore the ESO would continue to make decisions that would be the most cost effective for consumers.
18. There was a discussion about the different definitions of Small, Medium and Large Power Stations in different TOs in Great Britain, which is being addressed by GC0117. Revising the thresholds could potentially lead to more generators becoming Balancing Mechanism participants, which would benefit the ESO in balancing the system.
19. **NEW ACTION** NA to circulate the ToR for GC0147 to the Panel Members for review.
20. TM invited Panel to agree on what governance route the new modification should take and if it should proceed to workgroup.

**DECISION** Panel agreed that GC0147 should follow Standard Governance and should proceed to a Workgroup.

[**GC0148**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/modifications/gc0148-implementation-eu-emergency-and-0) ***Emergency & Restoration – Phase II***

1. This new modification was presented by TJ and is the second phase of GB implementation required by the EU Emergency and Restoration (E&R) Code. EU Law specifies that it must be implemented by 18 December 2022.
2. The Panel recognised that there would be a great deal of work involved and noted their concerns with this.
3. Panel were mainly concerned that the proposal also incorporated elements of the Distributed Restart project which had similar timelines but would potentially risk delivery of the E&R phase II requirements.

**DECISION** It was decided that whilst the two projects should be approached in a co-ordinated way, it should also reflect in the ToR that the Distributed Restart should not be directly coupled with completion of the E&R Phase II modification.

1. It was noted that the parties who were already involved in Black Start competition tenders might have had to sign Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs), which might impact their ability to be involved in GC0148 if there was a conflict of interest.
2. AC noted that there was some ongoing work that the E3C group were conducting as a result of the 9 August incident and that this should be considered to ensure coordination with the workgroup for this modification.
3. RWo noted that the ToR would benefit from the wording being tightened to help with clarity.
4. **NEW ACTION** TJ to revise ToRs of GC0148, based on Panel discussions as noted and share with Panel via circulation offline to review.
5. **NEW ACTION** AC to raise GC0148 at the next Distribution Code Panel meeting and get back to TJ for it to be then presented to Panel regarding progressing this as a joint Distribution Code and Grid Code workgroup.

**DECISION** Panel agreed to proceed to Workgroup via Standard Governance.

**DECISION** To hold a joint Distribution Code and Grid Code workgroup (subject to agreement from the Distribution Code panel) and with the first workgroup to be held in Q3 2020.

## 7. In flight modification updates

1. NA discussed the progress of in-flight modifications: [**https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/meetings/grid-code-panel-meeting-30-july-2020**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/meetings/grid-code-panel-meeting-30-july-2020)
2. NA presented on issues with implementing GC0136 (Non-material changes to the Grid Code following implementation of the EU Connection Codes).
3. During quality checks, the Code Administrator found an issue when converting from Word to PDF during the Code Administrator Consultation (CAC) phase. Not all changes were shown in tracked changes from across many parts of the code in the PDF documents as consulted on. As a result, implementation could not go ahead.
4. There is no significant impact of non-implementation, as all the changes were non-material and typographical in nature.
5. The Code Administrator has learned lessons from this and has reviewed its internal processes.
6. NA shared two proposed options to take as next steps. Option one (recommended) would be to re-issue the CAC for one month (in line with EBGL A18 requirements) showing all the tracked changes correctly. Option two would be to issue the corrected text to panel without repeating CAC and then proceed to implementation.

**DECISION** Panel decided to proceed with option one as recommended.

## 8. Governance

1. Panel approved the changes to the ToR for GC0145.

9. Draft Modification Reports (DFMRs)

1. There were no DFMRs to present to Panel.

10. Reports to Authority

1. There was nothing to report.

11. Implementation updates

1. There were no updates.

12. Electrical Standards

1. There were no updates.

## 13. Standing Groups

**Grid Code Development Forum (GCDF)**

1. NA noted that there were no significant points to note, other than that the next meeting would be held on 5 August 2020 and that the sole agenda item would be an update on GC0147 to be given by RWi.

**Distribution Code Panel Update**

1. There were no updates.

**Joint European Stakeholder Group (JESG)**

1. NA presented JESG updates on Electricity Balancing Guideline (EBGL) conditions required for ESO compliance.

**System Incidents Reporting**

1. PS provided an update on the reporting developed as part of GC0105 (System Incidents Reporting).
2. The Panel was satisfied that the reporting being developed was in line with the GC0105 requirements and that more specific, detailed questions should continue to be discussed offline with the proposer GN.
3. GN noted his appreciation of the ongoing engagement from ESO.

The updated website page can be found here:   
[**https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/industry-data-and-reports/system-incidents-report**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/industry-data-and-reports/system-incidents-report)

1. **NEW ACTION** GN to ask Matt Magill to present the report at the Electricity National Control Centre (ENCC) group for wider visibility.

## 14. Updates on other Industry Codes

1. JC informed the Panel that there were no updates this month.

## 15. Forward Plan Update

1. The first ESO Code Administrator Annual report was circulated to Panel ahead of the meeting. There were no further comments. NA invited Panel Members to provide any feedback if they wished to do at any stage on this as it would be valuable for next year’s publication.

[**https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/172316/download**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/172316/download)

## 16. Any Other Business (AOB)

1. RWi raised a proposal to make a very minor change to DRC schedules. An industry stakeholder had asked if it would be possible to change certain pages from portrait to landscape to make the schedules easier to fill in electronically.

**DECISION** Panel was in agreement that this change could be made.

1. RL noted Coronavirus and the risk of a second wave. RL asked if the ESO is considering potential longer-term impacts.
2. RWi noted RL’s points and confirmed that the ESO are taking a longer-term view on the potential impacts of coronavirus.
3. TM asked that any significant updates on this subject continue to be shared with Panel.

## 17. Prioritisation Process

1. RM noted that the prioritisation process had not been working exactly as planned and so thanked Panel for the opportunity to discuss it further. The slides presented by RM can be found [**here**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/meetings/grid-code-panel-meeting-30-july-2020).
2. It was noted that it would not possible to provide a perfect solution, but that the aim was to agree on the process, so that in the event that a modification got delayed due to this process, there would be a credible explanation.
3. To provide context, RM noted that wider industry was undergoing significant change and the Code Administrator had been seeing much higher numbers of new modifications. Across the industry, it was noted that there was limited time/ resource for engagement but that the number of workgroups was growing year on year meaning greater challenges for all involved.
4. RM noted that there was no codified process for prioritisation of different modifications, but it was one of the subjects being considered in the Energy Codes Review.
5. It was important that the process should be impartial, transparent, regular and informed and therefore Panels are the most suitable decision makers and the role of the Code Administrator should be as facilitators.
6. It was noted that urgency, consumer benefit and cross code impacts should all be considered when prioritising.
7. Following this explanation, the following points were discussed:
8. Panel supported following the CUSC panel approach for Grid Code with RM agreeing that it was important to make sure that proposers would be kept up to date with suitable frequency.
9. RM also explained that there is a limit to what the Code Administrator can deliver as well as limits to what industry can contribute when considering the constraints mentioned earlier.
10. How to identify industry resource was also discussed and RM noted that insight was available from engaging with the stakeholders that were signing up for modifications and also from the CACOP survey.
11. It was noted that in relation to this topic, GC0131 proposes reducing the quoracy limit and is currently at CAC stage.
12. The Panel discussed the different factors that might impact positioning in the prioritisation stack and how to balance them. The main themes were urgency / upcoming compliance deadline, long-term strategic importance, number of workgroup meetings required to complete the mod development and amount of support work required by the Code Administrator.
13. Panel Members noted a previous suggestion of having a red line added to the stack to show the point below which work would not proceed. After discussions on how best to prioritise, TM moved the conversation on to focussing on the stack and inviting Panel Members to prioritise with the information provided.

18. Discussions on prioritisation

1. The Panel reviewed the Grid Code prioritisation stack: [**https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/meetings/grid-code-panel-meeting-30-july-2020**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/meetings/grid-code-panel-meeting-30-july-2020)
2. The two modifications discussed earlier were added to the stack (GC0147 and GC0148).It was noted that for GC0109, action was required from the proposer and that it would not impact the other modifications below it until the action was completed.
3. TM requested that for future discussions, Panel should be more specific with suggestions to move modifications in the stack.
4. **NEW ACTION** TM noted that she would speak further to the Code Administrator offline about prioritisation to ensure that the Panel had all the information required with a clear ask, each month.
5. RWi stated that GC0137 and GC0117 were the most strategically important modifications and that in the long term would have the most value but had not been worked on for some time. It was also noted that it would be useful to add a ‘must be completed by’ field to the file in future.
6. Generally, the Panel agreed that its role was to use its industry expertise to assess the strategic importance of modifications as opposed to the delivery of operational issues which was the role of the Code Administrator.
7. **NEW ACTION** -NA to add dates to the prioritisation stack and add any further builds mentioned above, when next circulating out to Panel.
8. **NEW ACTION** NA proposed if a voting system would be an option. NA to circulate a proposal to panel on possible ways of working differently.
9. TM closed the meeting requesting to continue to hear from the Panel Members and the ESO if there was anything impacting on the delivery of modifications, or progress.

**The next Grid Code Review Panel meeting will be held on 27 August 2020 at 10:00 via WebEx.**

**Modification Proposals to be submitted by 12 August 2020.**

**Grid Code Review Panel Papers Day is 19 August 2020.**