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Trisha McAuley
Chair
Grid Code Review Panel

14 October 2020

Dear Trisha,

Request to change the GC0130 implementation date

Firstly, please accept our apologies for the late notice of this letter.

I write to you today to request that the implementation date for GC0130 is moved from 27 November 2020 to 02 February 2021.

Grid Code modification GC0130 was proposed by National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO), on 13 August 2019 and seeks to simplify the process for generators to submit outage information to NGESO and to reduce duplication in the data submission process. This data is used by NGESO to calculate National Output Usable, as well as Margin and Surplus data which is published on the Balancing Mechanism Reporting Service (BMRS) as required by Section Q of the Balancing and Settlements Code (BSC). As part of GC0130, some additional data will be published, and other data that is not widely used by industry will no longer be published.

NGESO raised BSC Modification P408 on 05 May 2020 to modify Section Q of the BSC to reflect the GC0130 Grid Code changes: removing the obligations on NGESO in the BSC to publish data that is no longer mandated to be published by the Grid Code; adding obligations to publish the new data; and simplifying the obligations around the existing data.

It was agreed by the Grid Code Review Panel and the BSC Panel respectively, that GC0130 and P408 should be treated as self-governance modifications. GC0130 was approved with an implementation date of 27 November 2020 at the Grid Code Review Panel meeting on 28 May 2020 and P408 was approved with an implementation date of 03 December 2020 at the BSC Panel meeting on 09 July 2020.

As both modifications aim to achieve the same goal and the changes to the two codes are interdependent, it is essential that both are implemented at the same time to ensure that compliance with both codes can be achieved by all parties. It was understood when the implementation date for P408 was agreed that a subsequent change to one or both of the implementation dates would be required at a later date, in order to bring them in line.

Delays to the delivery of NGESO's IT solution have meant that we are no longer confident of hitting the original target of late November / early December. The main reasons for this delay are the unanticipated complexity of the project, internal competition for resources with other priorities and the impact of COVID-19 on working arrangements.

We have engaged with ELEXON and agreed a new implementation date of 02 February 2021 for both modifications, which would enable the delivery of both to be achieved. We presented to the BSC Panel on 08 October 2020, and will present to the Grid Code Review Panel on 29 October 2020 to request that both modifications are therefore given the revised implementation date of 02 February 2021.

As these modifications aim to improve the efficiency of existing processes for customers, there is no risk to compliance with the current processes in the event that the implementation of these modifications is delayed.

Please can I take this opportunity to apologise for any inconvenience caused by the delays and to thank you in advance for your understanding.

We would also like to thank ELEXON for their flexibility in accommodating this change at short notice, to enable the successful delivery of both modifications.

If you have any queries on this matter, please contact me as detailed above.

Yours sincerely,

Rob Wilson MSc CEng FIET

Technical Codes Change Manager
National Grid Electricity System Operator