

Grid Code Review Panel

Minutes: 27 August 2020

Grid Code Review Panel Minutes

Date: 27/08/2020 **Location:** WebEx Only
Start: 10:00am **End:** 14:00pm

Participants

Attendee	Initials	Company
Trisha McAuley	TM	Independent Panel Chair
Nisar Ahmed	NA	Code Administrator Representative
Kavita Patel	KP	Panel Technical Secretary (Code Administrator)
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
Nadir Hafeez	NH	Authority Representative
Sigrid Bolik	SB	Alternate, Generator Representative
Jeremy Caplin	JC	BSC Panel Representative
Richard Woodward	RWo	Alternate, Onshore Transmission Operator Representative
Robert Longden	RL	Panel Member, Supplier Representative

Observers/Presenters

Attendee	Initials	Company
Antony Johnson	AJ	National Grid ESO (Alternate for Rob Wilson)
Joe Henry	JH	Code Administrator Presenter (Elections process)
Jennifer Groome	JG	Code Administrator Presenter (Forward Plan Update)
Phil Smith	PS	National Grid ESO Presenter (Systems Incidents Reporting)

Apologies

Attendee	Initials	Company
Alan Creighton	AC	Panel Member, Network Operator Representative
Joseph Underwood	JU	Panel Member, Generator Representative
Rob Wilson	RW	Panel Member, National Grid ESO
Guy Nicholson	GN	Panel Member, Generator Representative
Steve Cox	SC	Panel Member, Network Operator Representative
Ross McGhin	RM	Panel Member, Onshore Transmission Operator

1. Introductions and Apologies

8222. TM opened the Grid Code Review Panel meeting. Apologies were received from Alan Creighton, Joe Underwood, Rob Wilson, Guy Nicholson, Steve Cox, Ross McGhin.

8223. TM reminded the Panel members that the meeting would continue to be recorded.

2. Minutes from previous meeting

8224. **DECISION** Panel approved the July minutes with no further comments.

3. Action Log

8225. The Panel reviewed the open actions from the meeting held on 30 July 2020 which can be found in the Actions Log:

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/meetings/grid-code-panel-meeting-27-august-2020>

8226. **NEW ACTION [GC0126](#) (Implementing Profiled Stable Import and Export Limits and reversing unimplemented aspects of GC0068)**, ESO to clarify timescales on modification and, thereafter, to report back on any developments. ESO advised at the last Panel meeting that this modification will follow the same timeline as the delivery of the functionality as some further analysis of this needs to take place. Therefore, the timescales for the modification will also take place in 2021.

4. Chair update

8227. TM advised that there had been some management changes at senior level within the ESO and Code Administration team. Gareth Davies had moved to another area of the ESO and has been replaced by David Wildash, who reports to Katye O'Neil (Head of Markets). TM would continue to have regular catch ups with the management team and had discussed the value of their increased visibility with the Panel.

5. Authority decisions

8228. GS advised Panel that the decision for [GC0133](#) (**Timely informing of the GB NETS System State condition**) was still pending with the Authority and was hoping for a decision the following week, followed by the publication of the outcome, the week after.

6. New modifications

8229. There were no new modifications submitted.

7. In flight modification updates

8230. NA outlined the progress of in-flight modifications:

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/meetings/grid-code-panel-meeting-27-august-2020>

8231. The Draft Final Modification Report (DFMR) for [GC0131](#) (**'Quick Win' Improvements to Grid Code Open Governance Arrangements**) would be presented at the September Panel meeting.

8232. NA advised Panel members that [GC0136](#) (**Non-material changes to the Grid Code following implementation of the EU Connection Codes**) would have to go through a rebase line as a few implementations have taken place. This would then be followed by a Code Administration Consultation next month.

8233. TJ advised Panel that if modification [GC0137](#) (**Minimum Specification Required for Provision of Virtual Synchronous Machine (VSM) Capability**), was further delayed, it would be more expensive to operate the system in the longer term. It also had a close interaction with the Stability Path Finder work. This work is very important at achieving Net Zero carbon target by 2025.

8. Discussion on Prioritisation

8234. Discussions around the prioritisation of modifications took place.

8235. **DECISION** - [GC0117](#) (**Improving transparency and consistency of access arrangements across GB by the creation of a pan-GB commonality of PGM requirements**) was moved up the prioritisation stack to position 10 from position 12. It was noted as being one of the most important strategic Grid Code modifications, due to the potential to deliver (or lose) wider BM (Balancing Mechanism) participation and may also support net zero actions. GC0117 essentially is about having a common pan-GB MW threshold for a 'Large generator' as a 'Large' Generator is still required by the Grid Code to do things (see 'Control Telephony', Section ECC.6.5.4.1) which a 'small' generator is not required (despite the Type B/C/D thresholds from the European Code bands) and yet the definition of Large varies depending in which Transmission Owner zone a generator is located. The distortion this causes can be seen in the many applications for generators or batteries which are just below the 'Large' threshold (e.g. 49.9 MW in England, 9.9 MW in North of Scotland) in the TEC register. The longer this distortion is in place the more uneconomic the outcome for the consumer as they are either not benefiting from the same economies of scale of a project in England (at 49.9 MW) vs a project in the north of Scotland (at 9.9 MW) or otherwise issues such as controllability are being neglected in England.
8236. **DECISION** Panel agreed to move [GC0146](#) (Frequency Control) lower in the stack, down from position 6 to position 11 and to place [GC0144](#) (Market Suspension) below GC0146 at position 12. GC0144 is a minor modification to ensure correct alignment between definitions and TERRE/market suspension. As such it is less urgent notwithstanding any advice from Ofgem. GC0144 is also having quoracy issues in forming a workgroup. The decision on GC0144 was subject to a view from Ofgem and the relative importance compared to other in-flight modifications. The prioritisation stack will be reviewed again at the next Grid Code Review Panel.
8237. **NEW ACTION** GS would advise on the priority for modification [GC0144](#) at the next meeting. Based on this clarification, the priority stack could change.
8238. NA proposed improvements to the prioritisation process. The aim would be to create a more logical and structured process, encourage participation from all Panel members, and to facilitate more effective conversations.
8239. Panel members would be asked to vote on the relative position of each mod ahead of each Panel meeting. The votes would be collated, along with a view of each modification against the Authority's five criteria for consumer benefits, the main driver(s) for the change and any target delivery dates. Together this information would be used as the starting point for discussing and reviewing the prioritisation stack. The votes would not be formalised or published anywhere and were simply to enable the Panel to have a more rounded and considered view on which to base its decisions.
8240. TM reminded the Panel of its role in taking a strategic view on the important issues for the market and the energy transition and not to focus on operational issues which were for Code Administration to address.
8241. **NEW ACTION** NA would investigate incorporating the Grid Code objectives as well as the Authority Consumer Benefits criteria. It was noted that it was important to do so, without over complicating the process.

8242. **DECISION** Panel were supportive of this approach and this new process would be used from next month.

The new Prioritisation Stack can be found [here](#)

9. Blockers on modification progress

8243. NA delivered the quarterly update on blockers. The blocker categories required for tracking each quarter are quoracy, prioritisation, ESO delay, Code Administrator delay, industry delay, legal issues and the Authority send backs.

8244. NA updated on the instances for each of the categories for the period June 2020 to August 2020 and highlighted the key themes to Panel. The Panel noted that there were a couple of instances related to quoracy where nominations for new modifications did not get the required membership of five workgroup members.

8245. The Code Administrator will continue to engage with the proposers and industry stakeholders to attain quoracy.

8246. The Panel noted that there was one instance of an ESO delay affecting [GC0126](#) (Implementing Profiled Stable Import and Export Limits and reversing unimplemented aspects of [GC0068](#) Grid Code New and Revised Unit Data and Instruction).

8247. The Panel noted that there was a minor legal delay affecting [GC0132](#) (Updating the Grid Code governance process to ensure we capture EBGL change process for Article 18 Terms and Conditions) in June 2020.

8248. NA sought feedback on whether Panel wanted to continue having updates in the future on blockers. The Panel responded to say that they valued this information and wanted this to continue being presented on a quarterly basis.

11. Workgroup Reports

8249. There were no updates.

12. Draft Modification Reports (DFMRs)

8250. [GC0142](#) (Adding Non-Standard Voltages to the Grid Code) was presented by NA. The Panel was made aware of a few post Code Administrator Consultation changes to the Legal Text. All accepted them as being as typographical minor changes only.

8251. There was a discussion regarding the Electrical Standards - why they weren't reviewed and the consequences of not including them in this modification.

8252. **NEW ACTION** The Proposer took the action to confirm why [TGN288](#) (Technical Guidance Notes) and the other Electrical Standards were out of scope which was a question raised by DJ.

8253. **DECISION** A total of 8 yes votes were received, and the original was the most common. Therefore, the original solution is the one that will be recommended in the Final Modification Report to the Authority. The FMR would be sent to panel for 5 working days to confirm that their votes and voting statements had been accurately recorded.

13. Reports to Authority

8254. There was nothing to report.

14. Implementation updates

8255. There were no updates.

15. Electrical Standards

8256. There were no updates.

16. Governance

8257. There was nothing to report.

17. Grid Code Development Forum (GCDF)

8258. NA briefed the Panel on the GCDF workgroup days and Forum discussions in August. An update on Modification [GC0147](#) - Last resort disconnection of Embedded Generation – enduring solution update was provided by Rob Wilson.

8259. NA advised Panel of the agenda items for September:

- Industry Codes and Early Competition – Mike Oxenham (NG ESO),
- Update on findings from E3C report related to 9 August Event – Matthew Deitz (Energy UK)

18. Standing Groups

Distribution Code Panel Update

8260. It has been agreed that GC0148 (Emergency and Restoration Code Phase II) would proceed as a joint Distribution Code and Grid Code workgroup (as agreed from Grid Code side at last month's GCRP)

8261. Following approval of GC0096 (Energy Storage), an equivalent Distribution Code modification has been raised and is at workgroup stage.

Joint European Stakeholder Group (JESG)

8262. There were no updates.

System Incidents Reporting

8263. PS provided an update on the reporting developed as part of [GC0105](#) (System Incidents Reporting).

8264. **DECISION** Panel agreed that they no longer required a presentation on GC0105 every month. The report would be submitted as part of the Panel Papers in line with the Grid Code requirements and a link provided to the ESO website where the report would be published. Further presentation to Panel would only be required by exception.

The updated website page can be found here:

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/industry-data-and-reports/system-incidents-report>

20. Updates on other Industry Codes

8265. JC informed the Panel that ESO has integrated the Power Available Signal into their control room systems and processes. This now marks the implementation in the ESO systems of GC0063 which was implemented in January 2015. In their decision letter on GC0063, Ofgem noted that the modification offered the potential to achieve greater accuracy in the settlement of BOAs for intermittent generators, and they encouraged industry to progress this under the BSC. They also encouraged NGET (as it then was) to explore whether the publication of information submitted via the PA signal would further achieve competition and efficiency in the market.

The BSC Panel noted that the data was now fully integrated but felt that an Issue Group to discuss future options could be deferred until the industry was less stretched post Covid.

21. Horizon scan (February, May, August, November)

8266. NA provided the quarterly update on the horizon scan to show Panel the pipeline of potential future modifications and their likely submission timings.

8267. CS advised on HVDC Data Modules – this can be removed from the horizon scan. It depends on GC0141, which might cover it without the need with a specific modification.

8268. The Whole System Technical Code Digitisation – would cover both Grid Code and Distribution Code but was not yet progressing.

8269. A panel member referred to rumours of an energy white paper which could lead to significant impacts in a lot of areas

8270. Offshore transmission network review which is potentially going to result in a significant amount of code work and could possible lead to a code for the offshore transmission system.

Horizon Scan

	2020				2021				2022										
	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	
HVDC Data Modules (Chris Smith)																			
SOGL Article 118 & 119																			
Distributed Restart <i>Might be covered as part of E&R Phase II</i>																			
GC0117 - Aligning GB thresholds for Small / Medium / Large Power Stations																			
Energy Codes Review																			
Whole System Technical Code Digitisation																			
RFG Phase 2																			

22. Forward Plan Update

8271. NA presented the Critical Friend Checks to Panel. 6 Grid Code and 9 CUSC (The Connection and Use of System Code) were checked and sent to TM to fulfil the obligation in the Grid Code.
8272. Feedback had been provided to Proposers where acronyms should have been expanded, and a table to be included in the proposal for reference.
8273. The whole Code Administration team had also undertaken a Plain English training session to improve its service to stakeholders.
8274. NA asked Panel if this agenda item on a quarterly basis was still valuable and Panel stated that it was.
8275. **DECISION** NA to continue to provide a quarterly update to Panel on the Critical Friend role and its findings every quarter.
8276. Jennie Groome presented the new proposal form template to Panel for review and feedback. The new format had received positive feedback from other Panel meetings as well as CACoP, prior to being presented at Grid Code Panel.
8277. The Panel asked if these forms would be available online. Jennie Groome suggested that this has not been considered and will share this with the wider Code Admin team for discussions.
8278. AF raised a point on the Legal Text and how various submissions through the modification process don't track the changes. Therefore, it was not always clear which version of the legal text was current.
8279. **NEW ACTION** The Code Administrator would consider how the Legal Text could be better displayed in the proposal form as a 'change' to help readers, as well as making the form accessible online.
8280. RWo, suggested to add possible drivers in the proposal form from the new prioritisation stack to help drive discussions in the Panel meeting.
8281. **NEW ACTION** The Code Administrator would consider how the drivers and stakeholder/consumer benefits be added into the new proposal form to align with the information being captured on the prioritisation stack.

23. Any Other Business (AOB)

8282. Joseph Henry provided an update to the Panel on the Grid Code Elections Process. The Elections guide has been sent to industry for a high-level insight before elections open. RWo and Graeme Vincent have been liaising with JH to seek clarity on the Governance rules in relation to how OFTOs and ONTOs are to be treated in the elections process as they are not CUSC Schedule 1 parties.

ANNEX GR.A Election of Users' Panel Members Grid Code Review Panel Election Process. The Code Administrator will establish an Electoral Roll from representatives of parties listed on CUSC Schedule 1 or designated by the Authority as a Materially Affected Party as at 31st August in the year preceding the start of each term of office of Panel Members

JH has confirmed with the Authority that parties who have been materially affected parties previously do not have to be re-designated as such for the election process.

8283. **DECISION** Relevant Panel Members would liaise with Joseph Henry on this issue offline if required.

8284. NA briefed the Panel members on the transition to Microsoft Teams from WebEx.

8285. Panel asked if a guidance was available and agreed that it would be useful to do a test meeting on Teams.

The next Grid Code Review Panel meeting will be held on 24 September 2020 at 10:00 via WebEx.

Modification Proposals to be submitted by 09 September 2020.

Grid Code Review Panel Papers Day is 16 September 2020.