

A scenic landscape featuring snow-capped mountains under a dramatic, cloudy sky at sunset. A winding road is visible, with bright, glowing light trails following its path, suggesting long-exposure photography. The foreground shows a grassy, hilly area.

SQSS Panel – Jan 2021

RIIO T2 deliverable A12 – SQSS Review

# Key Points in T2 Submission – content of review

Based on stakeholder feedback a targeted review was proposed. See pages 91-92 of the [final plan](#).

Areas to consider included:

- Approach to deterministic standards to reflect the NOA process
- Developing the offshore transmission section to reflect the growth of this sector

It was noted that the review could potentially go beyond the SQSS to include the distribution standard P2/6108, would need to be supported by TOs, DNOs and other affected stakeholders and could also consider feedback received on the need to take a broader, whole system view of technical codes and frameworks, along with the need to make these areas more accessible.

# BEIS Review of Engineering Standards

The SQSS is within scope of this review as referenced in the T2 plan:

*'We expect that this review will outline key areas of change that are required, but not explore these in detail. We therefore continue to propose a targeted SQSS review, building on the recommendations from the BEIS work, and to drive forward the changes with the highest consumer benefit.'*

The review was subsequently [published](#) on 14 December 2020 and was summarised by Cornwall as follows:

## **Panels advises fundamental changes to electricity standards assessment**

**The government published its final report on its Electricity Engineering Standards Review on Monday 14 December. This follows the commissioning of an independent panel by Ofgem and BEIS to undertake a review of electrical engineering standards. On specific engineering matters, the Panel recommends revisiting how the value to customers of supply reliability is assessed. This would include duration of power interruptions and consider how customers may value reliability differently for different electrical devices. It also recommends creating a new standard, setting out what different customer types can expect from the system's recovery from extraordinary events. To create a framework for electricity engineering standards for net zero, the Panel recommends reframing the system of standards around what customers can expect from the system, and what they are expected to provide in return.**

The next steps on this are unclear – but in terms of the SQSS this may be considered in conjunction with the BEIS/Ofgem. [Energy Codes Review](#); the latest progress on this was that the results of an earlier consultation were published on 14 Dec 2020 with another more targeted consultation likely in 2021.



# Ofgem Comments in Final Determination

*‘The ESO has provided a clearer view of the process that it will follow in its review of the SQSS (A12) and has expedited the timelines that it will work towards. It intends to prioritise identification and implementation of “quick wins”, and if it can deliver these solutions without delays, we consider that the ESO could exceed our expectations for the first two years of RII02.’*

# Key Points in T2 Submission – timeline

- The targeted review is planned to begin at the start of RII0-2 and run for four years.
- A potentially larger-scale review could take place if recommended by the BEIS/Ofgem work, or if the early stages of the targeted SQSS review indicated a need.
- Costs and timeframes for this potential wider review were not included in the T2 plan