Grid Code Review Panel Minutes: 26 August 2021

## **Grid Code Review Panel Minutes**

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| Date: | 26/08/2021 | Location: | Microsoft Teams |
| 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 |
| Alastair Frew | AF | Panel Member, Generator Representative |
| Christopher Smith | CS | Panel Member, Offshore Transmission Operator Representative |
| Gurpal Singh | GS | Authority Representative |
| Graeme Vincent | GV | Alternate, Network Operator Representative |
| John Harrower | JH |  Panel Member, Generator Representative |
| Jeremy Caplin  | JC | BSC Panel Representative |
| Nadir Hafeez  | NH | Authority Representative |
| Robert Longden | RL | Panel Member, Supplier Representative |
| Rob Wilson | RWi | Panel Member, National Grid ESO |
| Roddy Wilson | RW | Panel Member, Onshore Transmission Operator Representative |
| Sigrid Bolik | SB | Panel Member, Generator Representative |
| **Observers/Presenters** |  |  |
| Attendee | Initials | Company |
| Banke John-Okwesa |  BJO | Observer - National Grid, ESO |
| David Halford  |  DH | Observer - National Grid, ESO |
| Iain Dallas |  ID | Observer - Moray Offshore Renewable Power Limited |
| Kirsten Shilling |  KS | Observer - National Grid, ESO |
| Antony Johnson |  AJ | Presenter – National Grid ESO |
| Laura Gordon  |  LG | Presenter - National Grid, ESO |
| Matt Baller  |  MB | Presenter - National Grid, ESO |
| Rob Marshall  |  RM | Presenter - National Grid, ESO |
| Stephen Baker |  SB | Presenter – National Grid ESO |
| Apologies | Initials | Company |
| Alan Creighton  | AC | Panel Member, Network Operator Representative |
| Guy Nicholson | GN | Panel Member, Generator Representative  |
| Steve Cox | SC | Panel Member, Network Operator Representative |

## **Introductions and Apologies**

Apologies were received from Alan Creighton, Steve Cox and Guy Nicholson.

1. **Hybrid Working**

Rob Marshall from National Grid ESO delivered a short presentation to Panel in relation to new Hybrid Working arrangements. There has been an upgrade to the ESO conference suite capabilities in Faraday House to facilitate hybrid meetings where appropriate. RM advised that the ESO continues to maintain social distancing measures at Faraday House.

Panel Members raised the following queries and suggestions:

* Arranging an induction or orientation session for Panel members to familiarise them with this process.
* The hybrid arrangement might work for Panel meetings as they are structured but it may be less suitable for workgroup meetings.
* Consideration of technical issues that may occur, poor sound and background noise etc.
* Plan a full face to face Panel meeting every quarter, virtual Panel meetings for the rest of the year with cameras turned on during each virtual meeting.

The Chair, RM and KS thanked Panel for its feedback.

## **Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings**

The meeting minutes from the Grid Code Panel held on 24 June 2021 and 29 July 2021 were approved by Panel.

## **4. Review of Action Log**

The Panel agreed to close four pending ‘proposed to close’ actions: **399**, **404**, **405** and **406**. No further updates on other actions. NA advised Panel of the remaining open actions.

## The actions log can be found [**here**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/206751/download)**.**

## **5. Chair Update**

TM had no further updates for the Panel.

## **6. Authority Decisions**

[**GC0134 Removing the telephony requirements for small, distributed, and aggregated market participants who are active in the Balancing Mechanism**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/modifications/gc0134-removing-telephony-requirements-small)

GS confirmed that the Authority decision for **GC0134** was made on 18 August 2021 and due for implementation on 1 September 2021. There were no further updates.

**7. New Modifications**

[**GC0152 Updating the Grid Code governance process to ensure we capture network code on electricity emergency and restoration (NCER) change process for Article 4 Terms and Conditions (T&Cs)**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/modifications/gc0152-updating-grid-code-governance-process)

Steve Baker from National Grid ESO delivered a presentation on **GC0152** to the Panel. SB explained that **GC0152** seeks for a minor amendment to be made to the Grid Code to ensure the minimum consultation period of not less than one calendar month as stated in NCER Article 4 is adhered to. The SSE had raised queries to the ESO around lack of clarity of Ofgem’s decision on the Terms and Conditions and the proposed self-governance route.

However, GS read the Ofgem letter of 13 July 2021 to Panel, re-iterating that Ofgem supports the Proposer’s suggested governance route (Self-governance). GS remarked that the letter provides clarity to cross-referencing and to the Terms and Conditions and does not impose any new requirements.

AF pointed out some anomalies he had found in the proposal, suggesting that the ESO should review and modify the legal text accordingly. Proceeding straight to Code Administrator Consultation would mean that the discrepancies are not resolved and transferred onto later stages of the final report.

RWi advised that since a legal question has been raised on this Modification, the next step will be to resolve this issue. The ESO would ensure that the issues raised are resolved then re-present to Panel for approval at the next Panel meeting.

JH agreed that this is a simple Modification and should not require a Workgroup but that, before it proceeds to Code Administrator Consultation, comments from SSE around T&Cs needs to be considered, clarified with the Authority, and resolved.

**DECISION:** Panel concluded that the ESO should resolve legal issues raised with the relevant parties and present the amended proposal to Panel at the next meeting on 30 September 2021, with the same asks.

**ACTION 407**: The Proposer to seek additional feedback from the Ofgem Policy team to confirm legal issues are all clear and liaise with SSE addressing legal concerns they had raised.

## **8. Online Voting Template**

Matt Baller from National Grid ESO delivered a presentation to Panel talking through a Demo for the new online voting template. MB explained that the reason for wanting to introduce this system is to reduce manual effort used, and time spent, collating and analysing votes. The plan is to roll it out first in Workgroups then Panel.

CS responded that there may be potential issues for external users around accessibility and compatibility such as Microsoft authentication or firewall blocking. Therefore, testing this process thoroughly before implementing is essential.

RL commended this system and suggested testing how this system will work where several Alternatives have been raised from Workgroup members. RL also asked if it is possible to request receipts once a voter casts the vote. During the Panel meeting, MB tested this and confirmed that it is possible to get receipts of recorded votes and also possible to receive acknowledgement once the email address of the voter is added into the required fields from the settings.

The Chair concluded that there was no disagreement from Panel, only constructive feedback for MB to consider and work on. Based on this, Panel welcomes trialling it.

NA agreed to follow up implementation of an external SharePoint site for Panel alongside this on-going MS Forms testing project.

## **9. In flight modification updates**

NA thanked Panel members who had participated and provided support to the Workgroup phase of **GC0151**. NA advised that the Workgroup vote will be held on 27 August 2021 to agree that the terms of reference have been met. The Workgroup report will be presented to Panel on 6 September 2021 at the Special Panel Meeting.

NA talked Panel through the progression of the in-flight modifications as outlined below:

[**GC0138/**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/modifications/gc0138-compliance-process-technical)[**GC0138/GC0141Compliance process technical improvements (EU and GB User) & User Compliance Processes and Modelling following 9th August Power Disruption**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/modifications/gc0141-compliance-processes-and-modelling)

NA explained that there are about 100 permutations for **GC0141** and about 15 submitted Alternatives. GS suggested keeping them coupled as there will not much value decoupling them at the current stage. The Panel was asked to agree whether this Modification should remain decoupled.

The majority of the Panel supported decoupling. Some Panel members suggested keeping them coupled until there is clear evidence that one will significantly delay the progress of the other. As there was no unanimous decision to couple, it will remain decoupled as previously decided by Panel. The Chair however proposed keeping this Modification under review with the aim of submitting reports of both to the Authority on the same day.

[**GC0117 Improving transparency and consistency of access arrangements across GB by the creation of a pan-GB commonality of PGM requirements**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/modifications/gc0117-improving-transparency-and)

NA advised that the next Workgroup meeting will be held on 28 September 2021. NA advised that only 1 response was initially received from the survey, hence the response submission deadline was extended. The questionnaire had been shared with the **Balancing Settlement Code** parties. NA advised that the survey results will be included in the September panel papers.

The Chair asked for updates on [**GC0146**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/modifications/gc0146-solutions-frequency-control-power) *‘*[*Solutions for frequency control of Power Park Modules*](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/modifications/gc0146-solutions-frequency-control-power)*’.* Antony Johnson from the ESO advised that the ESO had provided Orsted with a response to the legal issue previously raised. The ESO is currently awaiting confirmation from Orsted to confirm that response received from the ESO is satisfactory to proceed to Workgroup.

## **10. Discussion on Prioritisation**

The Panel reviewed the Prioritisation Stack. This is available in the Headline Report accessible via the following link: <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/207386/download>

## **11. Workgroup reports**

[**GC0137 Minimum Specification Required for Provision of GB Grid Forming (GBGF) Capability (formerly Virtual Synchronous Machine/VSM Capability)**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/modifications/gc0137-minimum-specification-required)

AJ advised that comments from GV have been adopted to the workgroup report as per discussions held at the July Grid Code Review Panel meeting. AJ also stated that he worked with Code Admin to ensure that the amendments suggested by AF around legal text have been incorporated.

**DECISION**: Panel agreed the Terms of Reference have been met and approved that the Modification should proceed to Code Administrator Consultation.

## **12. Draft Final Modification Reports (DFMR)**

[**GC0150 Housekeeping change post- GC0147 implementation**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/modifications/gc0150-housekeeping-change-post-gc0147)

 NA advised Panel that **GC0150** seeks to implement Ofgem’s decision on ‘[**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’ recommended that a minor housekeeping change should be made to clarify an area of cross-referencing in the new ‘Embedded Generation Control’ section OC6B of the code’.*

The Grid Code Panel held their determination vote on **GC0150**.

**DECISION:** Panel unanimously determined this Modification should be implemented.

*(Post Meeting Note: The Appeals Window was opened from 7 September 2021 and will close 5pm on 29 September 2021. If no appeals are received by 5pm on 29 September 2021,* ***GC0150*** *will be implemented on 4 October 2021).*

**13. Reports to Authority**

There were updates at this Panel.

## **14. Implementation updates**

[**GC0134 Removing the telephony requirements for small, distributed, and aggregated market participants who are active in the Balancing Mechanism**](https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/modifications/gc0134-removing-telephony-requirements-small)

NA advised that Ofgem approved Panel decision made on 18 August 2021 and had agreed that the Original proposal of this Modification can be implemented on 01 September 2021.

## **15. Governance**

 There were no updates at this Panel.

## **16. Grid Code Development Forum (GCDF)**

NA advised that RWi’s team will host GDDF going forward. RWi advised that there won’t be any fundamental changes. The plan is to conduct GCDF similarly to how the Transmission Charging Methodology Forums (TCMF) are conducted. The next GCDF will be held on 7 September 2021, and invites are to follow.

## **17. Standing Items**

**Distribution Code Panel Update**

GV advised that the changes to the Distribution Code for Energy Storage Devices had been approved and implemented on 1 August 2021 and there will be consultations on Generator Compliance that had been published at the beginning of August 2021.

**Joint European Stakeholder Group**

NA advised that the presentation slides are being updated and the link to access online is available in the slides. The Panel was advised that the next meeting will be held on 14 September 2021.

**18. Updates on other Industry Codes**

JC provided an update on NCR Terms and Conditions saying that the ESO is not allowed to delegate BSC Modifications relating to NCR Terms and Conditions. There is likely to be a Grid Code consultation as well as a Balancing and Settlements Code consultation.

**19. Blockers to Modification progress (February, May, August, November)**

NA talked through the Blocker data available in the Grid Code Panel pack. GV noted that **GC0151** should be included as it caused delays to **GC0117** which resulted in the cancellation of workgroup meetings.

## **20. Horizon Scan (*February, May, August, November)***

NA presented the Horizon Scan to Panel. GV suggested including the upcoming project on Electricity Restoration Standards. RWi stated that the commencement date is not decided but can be included in the Horizon Scan against November.

## **21. Electrical Standards**

There were no updates at this Panel.

## **22. Forward Plan Update**

There were no updates at this Panel

## **23. Any Other Business (AOB)**

**ESO Plug in Newsletter**

Laura Gordon from National Grid ESO delivered a presentation to Panel in relation to the new plug in newsletter published by the ESO. Panel was informed of an on-going project to develop a new feature on the ESO website calendar. LG asked the Panel if this has been useful and whether there was any feedback to report.

RL remarked that the ESO website is not user-friendly as it is difficult knowing where to navigate for certain enquiries.

Code Admin will circulate Panel feedback to LG.

LG also provided an update on current developments on the ESO website, due to feedback received from stakeholders. The ESO calendar is being upgraded to cover all events that will be taking place across the ESO. This will go into testing and will be shared with the Panel once it is rolled out. In addition, there is an ongoing User-testing programme seeking to create and personalise website User key journeys and key tasks and ensure Users have a smooth website navigation experience.

RL commented that a unified industry calendar will be useful, even if it only features activities and events the ESO is responsible for.

**General Discussion on Covid-19**

This was covered off in RB’s presentation at the start of the Panel meeting. The Panel had no further comments.

**The next Grid Code Panel meeting will be held on Thursday 30 September 2021 via Microsoft Teams.**

**New Modification Proposals to be submitted by 15 September 2021**

**Grid Code Review Panel Papers Day is 22 September 2021.**