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STC Modification Panel Minutes: 24 November 2021

STC Modification Panel Minutes: Meeting Number 194

Date:	24/11/2021	Location:	Microsoft Teams
Start:	10:00am	End:	11:10am

Participants

Attendee	Initials	Company
Ian Ascroft	IA	Chair, Code Administrator, National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO)
Rashpal Gata-Aura	RGA	Tech Sec, Code Administrator, National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO)
Jennifer Groome	JG	Code Administrator, National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) Presenter
Sally Musaka	SM	Code Administrator, National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) Observer
Rob Wilson	RWI	National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO)
Steve Baker	SB	National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) Observer
Terry Baldwin	TB	National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) Alternate
Richard Woodward	RWO	National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)
Milorad Dobrijevic	MD	Scottish Power Transmission plc. (SPT)
Neil Bennett	NBE	Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc. (SHET)
Neil Sandison	NS	Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc. (SHET)
Mike Lee	ML	Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO)
Felix Chitifa	FC	Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO) Alternate

Jonathan Coe	JC	Ofgem
Apologies	Initials	Company
Nicola Bruce	NB	National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO)
Joel Matthews	JM	Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO)

1. Introductions and Apologies for Absence

5524. Apologies were received from Joel Matthews and Nicola Bruce.

2. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

5525. The Panel approved the minutes from the meeting held on 27 October 2021. The Panel Secretary will arrange publication of the minutes.

3. Review of Actions

5526. The Panel reviewed the open actions from the meeting held on 27 October 2021 which can be found on the Actions Log.

5527. RW clarified **ACTION 5491** around what could be done in STC, to avoid going through the full code modification governance workgroup process, instead reach recommendations on STC changes rather than do a formal process.

5528. RW questioned also whether this process would be acceptable to Ofgem or would the preference be the full impact statements/WACAMs/votes etc., on the STC. Alternatively offering Ofgem the full package on both codes if impacted or whether the STC could do some half-way house.

5529. RWI asked that if there was difference between a change that was consequential to a CUSC modification to the **core** STC in which case it would be expected to get a decision from Ofgem or would Ofgem prefer to make single co-ordinated decision on packages of code modifications.

5530. RWI emphasised the important to make this distinction here for clarity.

5531. JC confirmed that Ofgem would expect and prefer to make decisions on full package of modifications both CUSC and STC and any other impacted codes as well.

5532. JC advised the Panel that the Ofgem team do not feel they would be in a position to make the decision on the CUSC modifications until they had seen consequential or substantial changes to the STC. The suggestion was that the STC changes were raised and progressed as soon as possible.

5533. The Chair questioned that if there were changes to the STCPs as well as core STC, could it be assumed that Ofgem would like to see that as information only and leave the decision with the Panel on the STCP once the CUSC decision had been made.

5534. JC confirmed that Ofgem would like to have all the information to hand to ensure an informed decision was made.

5535. RW said that he was comfortable that Ofgem required the complete package. The STC changes need to be proposed, convened and set up quicker than they are being done presently.

5536. The Chair stated that the draft CMP328 which was briefly discussed at the last Panel and following behind the scenes works and meetings with David Halford, potentially there will be something presented at the December Panel.

5537. RW voiced his disapproval stating that if CMP328 was relying on a large amount of interface to be established under the STC, which has not started in the window of Ofgem's decision making KPI, then from NGET's prospective there are fundamental processes in the STC needed, to make the proposal work. Without those processes, it was questionable how Ofgem would be able to make a decision.

5538. RWI clarified that an STCP changes can be agreed by Panel where it does not add additional requirements for any party that are not already covered by their licence. If the party go beyond the licence and put another requirement on someone that is not covered within their licence then it should go to Ofgem.

5539. RWI sad that whilst he agreed with RW it was difficult to strike a balance as it was difficult sometimes with CUSC modifications to establish what actually might need to happen in terms of the CUSC modification and the STC modification is another step removed. Whilst it is pertinent to ensure what happens in the STC is part of the overall solution, starting at the beginning may not be good use of everyone's time and the right balance, it may need to be case by case.

5540. RW endorsed RWI's comments and said that he would still advocate to have an STC workgroup maybe midway but before consulting industry. If an STC impact is perceived then it would be good to get ahead of the game even though the specifics may not be known. With this information it could be established if the STC or the STCP is required to be changed.

5541. JC clarified that CMP328 was with Ofgem for a decision and that they will not be in a position to make a decision until the consequential impact on the STC is seen.

4. Authority Decisions

5542. The Chair informed the Panel there had been no Authority decisions on STC modifications since the last STC Panel meeting.

5. STC/STCP Modification Proposals for Panel Decision

5543. The Chair told the Panel there had been no draft modifications submitted for this Panel.

5544. The Chair invited RW the proposer of the formally submitted CM079 to give a refresher.

5545. RW confirmed that this modification could be perceived as consequential potential STC/STCP changes in relation to a CUSC modification where a developer was thinking to extend the scope of user build from connection assets through to infrastructure assets and using concepts of sharing to establish that. This has far reaching consequences and the connection journey is quite substantial in both the CUSC and the STC and therefore NGET were quite keen that consideration on STC side is given as much time as possible so that a package of change can be fully presented to Ofgem with the full picture of the extent of the change.

5546. RW confirmed conversations with ML (OFTO) had taken place to establish if some of the offshore connections need to be incorporated into this scope.

5547. ML stated that following a long conversation with the Codes team it was felt that they preferred not to incorporate their works within the scope above as it would create more work that may slow the process down.

5548. ML told the Panel that there was some parallel work going on at OFTO connections which was quite complex and at this stage he did not wish to expand as this would make the situation more complicated.

5549. **ACTION** Panel Secretary to send out a reminder that the CM079 closes at 5pm on 3 December 2021.

5550. The Chair invited all to consider submitting their nominations to join the workgroup.

5551. RW emphasised to all TO and ESO colleagues the importance of this modification and that attendance was not optional but considered mandatory.

5552. RW told the Panel that they all need to understand how this would affect the various businesses from pre-app to commissioning assets as well as price control. This was an important process change and should not be ignored.

5553. The Chair advised the Panel that Critical Friend Checks had been completed and all the suggested changes incorporated into the Proposal.

5554. The Panel unanimously agreed that CM079 should:-
(a) follow the Standard Governance route (Ofgem decision)
(b) that this modification should proceed to Workgroup
(c) agreed Workgroup Terms of Reference
(d) agreed draft timeline with first workgroup to be held on 17 January 2022.

5555. **ACTION** JC to confirm the Ofgem representative for CM079 workgroup.

6. Draft STC/STCP Modifications

5556. The Chair advised the Panel that there were no draft modifications and that at the last meeting a communication had been sent through by RWI to provide their feedback however, no comments had been received to date.

5557. RWI was invited to take this forwarded and provided a refresher to the Panel.

5558. RWI asked Panel members to review this document and provide any feedback as the intention is to present this modification formally at the next Panel meeting. If any feedback can be incorporated before the modification is proposed then that would be good.

7. Potential Future Modifications

Modification Tracker and Horizon Scan

5559. The Panel reviewed the STC Modification Tracker. The amendments to this tracker can be found via the following link.

Authority Update

5560. JC provided an update on Access SCR Consultation on Minded to Positions, stating that the Consultation closed in August 2021. Ofgem were now reviewing the responses received and were looking to provide a decision in the first quarter of 2022.

5561. JC stated that at the beginning of November another consultation had been published seeking views on the proposal to take forward the review of BSUoS charges under a separate SCR – de-scoping it from the original Access SCR and taking this forward as a stand alone SCR. The deadline for this consultation is on 6 December for any interested parties.

European Network Code impacts

5562. RWI advised the Panel that there were no further updates and that this item can be removed from the agenda as a standing item.

8. Reports from Sub- Committees

Joint Planning Committee – JPC

5563. No update from JPC.

Network Access Policy Workgroup – NAP

5564. The next NAP meeting is to be held in December 2021.

Transmission Charging Review Group - TCRG

5565. To be discussed at next Panel meeting.

9. Code Administrator Update

5566. The Chair invited Jennifer Groome from the Code Administrator Team to present:-

Forward Plan Update (Customer Journey) (January, March, May, July, September, November)

5567. JG presented the Forward Plan Update and for more information these slides can be found here. JG invited feedback and the the Panel that there was an event organised for the 6 December to which all were invited. The link to joining this event can also be found here for any interested party. Any feedback can be sent directly to Jennifer.Groome@nationalgrideso.com .

10. Any other Business

5568. The Chair requested JG to present :-

Update on Code Administrator 2021/2022 Deliverables and ESO Customer Satisfaction Survey results

5569. JG told the Panel that a new CACoP website had now been launched and all the CACoP related information can be found in one central place. Previously all the information was on each Code Administrator's website.

5570. JG provided the website address - **www.cacop.co.uk** and invited feedback/comments which will be looked at to see if further improvements could be made.

5571. The Chair invited RWI to take forward Electricity System Restoration Standard (ESRS) which was briefly discussed at the last Panel meeting.

5572. RWI said that hopefully all were aware of the standard that was produced by BEIS which requires ESO to restore a certain percentage of demand within a certain time after there has been a full blackout. Proposals were being developed to see how this can be done. Several areas have been identified for development and industry views are being sought. Working groups are being established and any interested party can contact Sade Adenola, sade.adenola@nationalgrideso.com.

5573. RW stated that whilst he was supportive of the work being carried out it was important to have representation from the STC at the Regulatory frameworks meetings group and to avoid calendar clashes where possible.

5574. **ACTION** RWI to speak to Tony Johnson the representative for Technical Codes team to ensure calendar clashes are avoided.

5575. Responses from all industry stakeholders are invited by 10 December. These will feed into the industry working groups who will be proposing any changes to industry frameworks to support implementation of the ESRS (which are planned to come into effect by September 2023 at the latest).

5576. RWI directed the Panel to the black start page here and a direct link to the consultation is here.

5577. RWI advised that the timeline was also available there. The plan was to get the code changes in place by September 2023 and compliance with the standard is required by September 2026.

5578. The Chair briefly presented the digital voting template which is being led by the Grid Code Panel and was available to all Panels. The aim is to improve the workgroup and Panel voting system to make the process smoother and user friendly by using the Microsoft forms.

5579. RWI confirmed that this digital form was already used in the Grid Code and was working well.

5580. The Chair provided the 2022 Panel dates for diary and concluded the meeting.

Date of next meeting

5581. The next STC Panel meeting will be held on **Wednesday 15 December 2021**

5582. New Modification Proposal date **Tuesday 30 November 2021**

5583. Panel papers day **Tuesday 07 December 2021**