

GRID CODE REVIEW PANEL

13th September 2001

Use of E-Mail for the communication of data, information and notices.

Introduction

1. When the Grid Code was first produced approximately 10 years ago data and information was exchanged between Users using traditional methods and the technology of the day. This generally made use of the postal system. The use of e-mail was then in its infancy, but with the advent of quicker and more powerful computing devices the use of e-mail for transmitting information and data has become routine.

Background

2. Throughout the Grid Code there are many references to the provision of data and communications 'in writing' or 'written', which are defined in Section 2 (vi) of the Glossary and Definitions to include typewriting, printing, lithography and producing words in other non-transitory forms.
3. In OC2.4.1.3.3 (h) (iii) there is also reference to the provision of information 'by post'. The General Conditions GC.6.1.1 and GC.6.1.2 further address delivery of data and notices.
4. In many instances data, information and notices could effectively be provided by e-mail, but in so doing non-compliance with the Grid Code may result unless e-mail is included as a method of communication.

Proposals

5. The Grid Code contains many references to 'in writing' or 'written', so rather than amend each reference to include e-mail in the text, it is proposed that GC.6.1.1 is amended to include 'electronic mail to a specified address' in the list of delivery methods.
6. It is further proposed that GC.6.1.1 could be clarified such that it is clear that data and notices can either be sent to NGC or to Users. It is also proposed that the terms 'registered' and 'telex' can be deleted from the text as it is unlikely that either of these forms are used.

7. In addition it is proposed that the Glossary and Definitions – Construction of References (vi) is amended to include ‘electronic communication’ in the list of references and that this paragraph is relocated to GC.6. as this is a more logical location. The proposed amendments to the Construction of References and GC.6 are given in Appendix 1.
8. There are several Grid Code paragraphs where the terms ‘in writing’ or ‘written’ are used but the context is not appropriate to e-mail. However the text of these paragraphs is such that it is immediately apparent that e-mail is not applicable. For information the Grid Code paragraphs referred to above are as follows:
 - OC1.6.2
 - OC7.4.8.1
 - OC8.2.2
 - OC8.4.3.5
 - OC9.4.7.11(b)(vii)
 - OC12.4.6.1
 - G&D – Definition of RISSP.

The Way Forward

Grid Code Review Panel members are invited to:

- CONSIDER the Grid Code amendments proposed in this paper;
- AGREE that National Grid should issue a consultation paper to progress the proposed Grid Code changes.

The National Grid Company plc
13 September 2001

APPENDIX 1

Extract from Glossary and Definitions – Construction of References.

-
- ~~(vi)~~ references to "in writing" or "written" include typewriting, printing, lithography and other modes of reproducing words in a legible and non-transitory form;
 - (vii) where the **Glossary and Definitions** refers to any word or term which is more particularly defined in a part of the **Grid Code**, the definition in that part of the **Grid Code** will prevail over the definition in the **Glossary & Definitions** in the event of any inconsistency;
 - (viii) a cross-reference to another document or part of the **Grid Code** shall not of itself impose any additional or further or co-existent obligation or confer any additional or further or co-existent right in the part of the text where such cross-reference is contained;
 - ~~(ixviii)~~ nothing in the **Grid Code** is intended to or shall derogate from **NGC's** statutory or licence obligations;
 - (ix) a "holding company" means, in relation to any person, a holding company of such person within the meaning of section 736, 736A and 736B of the Companies Act 1985 as substituted by section 144 of the Companies Act 1989 and, if that latter section is not in force at the **Transfer Date**, as if such latter section were in force at such date;
 - (xi) a "subsidiary" means, in relation to any person, a subsidiary of such person within the meaning of section 736, 736A and 736B of the Companies Act 1985 as substituted by section 144 of the Companies Act 1989 and, if that latter section is not in force at the **Transfer Date**, as if such latter section were in force at such date;
 - (xii) references to time are to London time; and
 - (xii) Where there is a reference to an item of data being expressed in a whole number of MW, fractions of a MW below 0.5 shall be rounded down to the nearest whole MW and fractions of a MW of 0.5 and above shall be rounded up to the nearest whole MW.

< End of GD >

Extract from General Conditions

GC.6 MISCELLANEOUS

GC.6.1 Data and Notices

GC.6.1.1 Data and notices to be submitted either to **NGC** or to **Users** under the **Grid Code** (other than data which is the subject of a specific requirement of the **Grid Code** as to the manner of its delivery) shall be delivered in writing either by hand or sent by ~~registered~~ first-class pre-paid post, or by ~~telex or facsimile transfer~~ or by electronic mail to a specified address previously supplied by **NGC** or the **User** as the case may be.

GC.6.1.2 References in the Grid Code to “in writing” or “written” include typewriting, printing, lithography, electronic communications and other modes of reproducing words in a legible and non-transitory form.

GC.6.1.23 Data delivered pursuant to paragraph GC.6.1.1, in the case of data being submitted to **NGC**, shall be addressed to the National Grid Control Centre at the address notified by **NGC** to each **User** prior to connection, or to such other Department within **NGC** or address, as **NGC** may notify each **User** from time to time, and in the case of notices to be submitted to **Users**, shall be addressed to the chief executive of the addressee (or such other person as may be notified by the **User** in writing to **NGC** from time to time) at its address(es) notified by each **User** to **NGC** in writing from time to time for the submission of data and service of notices under the **Grid Code** (or failing which to the registered or principal office of the addressee).

GC.6.1.34 All data items, where applicable, will be referenced to nominal voltage and **Frequency** unless otherwise stated.