

Grid Code Review Panel Meeting

Minutes and Actions Arising from Meeting No. 24 Held on 21st September 2006 at National Grid Office, Lakeside House, Northampton

Present:

Ben Graff	BG	Panel Chairman
Lilian Macleod	LM	Panel Secretary

National Grid

Mark Duffield	MD	Member
Brian Taylor	BT	Member
Nasser Tleis	NT	Member

Generators with Large Power Stations with total Reg. Cap.> 3GW

John Morris	JM	Member
Charlie Zhang	CZ	Alternate Member
John Norbury	JN	Member
Claire Maxim	CM	Alternate Member
Campbell MacDonald	CMcD	Member

Generators with Large Power Stations with total Reg. Cap.< 3GW

David Ward	DW	Member
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Generators with Small and Medium Power Stations Only

Malcolm Taylor	MT	Member
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Network Operators in England and Wales

Mike Kay	MK	Member
Graeme Vincent	GV	Member

Network Operators in Scotland

Neil Sandison	NS	Member
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Relevant Transmission Licensees

Alan Michie	AM	Member
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Ofgem Representative

Steve Argent	SA	Alternate Member
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BSC Panel Representative

Justin Andrews	JA	
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Attendees:

Duncan Burt	National Grid
Richard Scarth	National Grid

1. Introductions/Apologies for Absence

534. Apologies for absence were received from Richard Cook (Gens >3GW), Dave Carson (DNOs in Scotland), Guy Nicholson (Generators with Novel Units), Stuart Graudus (NEC), Jean Pompee (EISO), Chandra Trikha (RTL), Bridget Morgan (Ofgem) and Kathryn Coffin (Elexon).

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

535. The draft minutes of the 23rd Grid Code Review Panel (GCRP) meeting held on 20th July 2006 were APPROVED and will be accessible from the Grid Code Website.

3. Review of Actions

536. All the outstanding actions from the previous meetings have been completed or were the subject of agenda items, except for:

- Minute 319 (Intertrips)

BT informed the Panel that a generic guidance statement would be circulated to members after the meeting. The statement focuses on the technical, not commercial, aspects of Intertrips. Comments from Panel Members on the statement would be appreciated.

The Panel discussed the most appropriate placement of the statement for publication purposes. Panel Members are to indicate their preference regarding publication method i.e. incorporated within Grid Code or accessible from National Grid's Industry Information website.

Action: National Grid (BT) and GCRP Members

- Minute 458 (Reactive Capability Survey)

BT informed the Panel that the BC2 Proforma was used by the National Grid Control Room to reflect short term changes to a plant Reactive Capability. BT also indicated that a non compliant generator would require a derogation and consequently for the User to resubmit their performance chart.

JN queried whether the high level process was sufficiently understood by the User community, particularly the relationship between the Generator Performance Chart and the BC2 fax proforma. Panel Members agreed that there was a lack of clarity in process and it would be useful if there was an associated process diagram to assist Users.

BT, CM and JN to discuss the matter further and provide an update to November's GCRP meeting.

Action: National Grid (BT)

- Minute 460 (Generators Fuel Backup Status)

BT informed the Panel that generator's fuel backup status would be an annual request from National Grid as the information formed part of Winter Consultation Report which deals with Security of Supply and Generators Backup Fuel Status.

National Grid agreed to the Panel's suggestion that future letters accompanying such surveys would describe what the information would be used for and why the data was required.

National Grid also acknowledged the Panel's request for sufficient notice for any future requests for Generators Backup Fuel Status data with the GCRP being considered as a possible forum where notice of a future request could be given.

JN indicated that it would be beneficial, as a safeguard, if the existing Grid Code

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provisions (PC2.1) regarding the submission of data to Authority and the Secretary of State were expanded to cover requests for data received outside the formal framework of PC.A.5.6. In the meantime, he suggested that any such request for data be accompanied by a similar undertaking covering confidentiality and restriction of use to that set out in PC2.1(d).

National Grid agreed to give further thought to existing Grid Code provisions regarding the submission of data to relevant the authorities.

Action: National Grid (BT)

- Minute 471 (Grid Code Governance)
BG informed the Panel that Members had indicated to him they were currently content with the existing governance structure and that hence National Grid would not be proposing any changes to the process at the moment.

MT reiterated that teleconferencing and e-mail services could be used to facilitate extraordinary meetings of the GCRP and BG agreed.

- Minute 498 (1320 MW Rule)
NT confirmed that restrictions had been placed into certain Bilateral Agreements where deemed appropriate by National Grid as a safe guard against common mode failure faults that might result in generation losses in excess of 1320 MWs.

NT informed the Panel that 1320 MW was a GB SQSS term used in the definition of 'Infrequent Infeed Loss Risk' and represents the largest generation loss for which the system is planned and operated to be resilient against.

JN suggested that the words in the Bilateral Agreement should reflect the GB SQSS term of 'Infrequent Infeed Loss Risk' rather than 1320 MW as this would assist in keeping the terminology accurate if there was a future change to the GB SQSS.

National Grid to consider further the grandfathering and testing implications of the 1320 MW restrictions in the Bilateral Agreement.

Action: National Grid (NT)

Panel Members' emphasised the importance of a public debate on this matter and in particular the appropriate wording to ensure the obligations were readily understandable, unambiguous and appropriately applied.

Panel Members indicated that whilst they did not necessarily question the engineering requirement or disagreed with the need and principle to safeguard the transmission system, they did feel the process whereby such fundamental changes could be put into Bilateral Agreements, without a Grid Code change or any sort of generic flag, was flawed and expressed their deep disappointment.

MT added that it was also important to clarify how Users could demonstrate compliance with such a statement at commissioning and throughout subsequent operations of the Power Station.

National Grid agreed to consider whether this statement would be introduced as a generic requirement within the Grid Code together with any associated issues. It was acknowledged that the relevant words in the Bilateral Agreement required a substantial review.

Action: National Grid (NT)

- Minute 499 (Rated MW)
Update to be provided to next Panel Meeting.

Action: National Grid

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- Minute 525 (British Grid System Agreement - GBSC8 Appendix)
National Grid confirmed to the Panel that there was no requirement to publish the GBSC8 Appendix.
- Minute 526 (Electric Time)
National Grid confirmed that there were no plans for the removal of the Electric Time provisions (BC3.4.3) within the Grid Code due to the fact that Electric Time was still used in certain system and was a useful indicator in ensuring that the long term average for system frequency remained at 50Hz.

537. Mutil Unit BMU

BT presented the Multi Unit BMU Update to the Panel. The Panel NOTED that the process for informing National Grid of any updates/changes to the treatment of Multi Shaft CCGTs for gaining access to MW above MEL was to remain the same for the immediate future. The lack of usage of the existing system being a strong reason behind National Grid's decision not to develop an automated electronic system.

Some Panel Members reiterated their concerns regarding the inflexibility of the current fax based system for offering access to MW above MEL and the fact Generators did not believe that National Grid were acting on faxes submitted.

Panel Members indicated that if an electronic system were to be developed (particularly if accompanied by modifications to the BM process i.e. dynamic parameters) the utilisation of the service would be greater.

Panel Members also asked that if the system could be automated or at the very least made less cumbersome whether:

- a) the system would also be used to notify availability of MW below SEL
- b) whether the service would be extended to units other than CCGTs.

JN suggested that, irrespective of whether the submission is automated or not, consideration should be given to amending the Grid Code to include this process.

BT indicated that National Grid would not be able to change any thing in time for this winter and that any comments on how the process could be improved would be welcomed. It was agreed that the issue would be placed on February's GCRP agenda.

Action: GCRP Members

MT indicated that it might be beneficial for the matter to be considered at National Grid's next Operational Forum. National Grid to investigate the possibility of adding the issue onto Operational Forum agenda.

Action: National Grid (BT)

National Grid will 'cc' appropriate GCRP Members when the letter outlining the process for winter 2006/07 is circulated to the Users of multi shaft units.

Action: National Grid (BT)

4. **Grid Code Development Issues**

538. Grid Code Consultation Papers

The Panel NOTED that B/06 (Regional Differences) had been implemented on 1st September 2006.

MK informed the Panel that corresponding DCRP changes would be processed urgently in order to minimise any difference between the two codes on this issue.

The Panel NOTED that the consultation period for C/06 (Control Telephony Electrical Standard) closed on 19th September 2006, eight consultation responses had been received.

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539. Grid Code Outstanding Issues

The Panel NOTED the newly populated 'Date of Next Review' field. Panel to provide comments to National Grid regarding the applicability of proposed review dates, where appropriate.

Action: GCRP Members

5. Proposed Grid Code Changes

▪ Low Frequency Demand Disconnection Relay Settings

540. NT provided an overview of the proposed amendments to incorporate the settings of low frequency demand disconnection relays within the Grid Code Connection Conditions. Other related changes to the Operating Code were also discussed.

541. The Panel were informed that the changes were being proposed following requests by Users to improve the visibility of settings required by National Grid, which are currently included in Bilateral Agreements.

542. The Panel NOTED that the proposals would also remove the annual review of the low frequency demand disconnection settings. NT informed the Panel that experience had shown that a less frequent review period would be more appropriate and that it is proposed that reviews would be conducted only when there had been significant changes on the Transmission or Distribution Systems.

543. MK noted that the proposed relay settings table did not contain geographically specific data. NS replied that such data was included in the annual Week 24 data submission. GV indicated that the data table presented by National Grid as part of the proposals was in line with his expectations.

544. MK also queried whether the new proposals would eliminate the discussions which currently take place between the relevant parties on this issue. NT indicated that such discussions would continue when appropriate.

545. The Panel NOTED that in the event of the Authority approving and implementing the proposals, the Bilateral Agreements would be amended to cross reference the new Grid Code provisions.

546. The Panel AGREED that the proposals should proceed directly to Industry Consultation.

Action: National Grid (MD)

▪ Control and System Telephony Proposals

547. MD provided an overview of the proposed Grid Code Control and System Telephony changes which were twofold i) introduction of a new telephony service – 'System Telephony' and ii) to amend existing Grid Code telephony provisions in response to a recent review of the Black Start procedures which would ensure that operational communication between Users and National Grid is not compromised through an emergency.

548. The Panel were informed that System Telephony is intended as a complementary service to Control Telephony and would only be used where operational requirements are such that Control Telephony is not practical. System Telephony would not be used at critical site e.g. LJRP parties or at Black Start Stations.

549. MD informed the Panel that System Telephony would comprise a dedicated PSTN line and telephone number whose sole purpose would be for operational communication between National Grid and the User.

550. JN queried the cost associated with the installation and maintenance of the System Telephony service. It was his understanding that Control Telephony was an infrastructure cost, incurred and reclaimed by National Grid. MD acknowledged that

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Control Telephony was an infrastructure cost and would enquire to the classification of System Telephony expenditure and inform the Panel accordingly.

Action: National Grid (MD)

551. DW queried whether control points could be moved as it was his understanding that it had to be static. MT queried the number of sites affected by National Grid proposals to introduce System Telephony and over what timescale the new provision would be introduced. MK asked whether the new provisions reflected the National Infrastructure Security Co-ordination Centre guidelines on telephone lines. National Grid agreed to further investigate these issues and provide an update to November's GCRP.

Action: National Grid (MD)

552. The Panel AGREED that the amendment should proceed directly to Industry Consultation following the completion of associated legal text. The Panel AGREED that the Consultation document should clarify Panel Members queries over the proposals.

Action: National Grid (MD)

553. With reference to C/06 (Control Telephony Electrical Standard), which was discussed at July's GCRP meeting which proposed a new Electrical Standard for Control Telephony in England and Wales, JN queried whether there were similar plans for the introduction of such a standard within Scotland.

554. NS informed the Panel that the provisions for Control Telephony were slightly different in Scotland due to the fact that the relevant TO's had responsibility for providing the service as outlined in the SO-TO Code and associated SO-TO Code Procedures.

555. JN queried why Scottish Power Station obligations were included in the STC and not the Grid Code, given that the Grid Code was the User facing document. The issue of a Control Telephony Standard for Scotland is to be brought to the attention of STC Committee.

Action: National Grid

▪ Management of 'No System Connections'

556. RS provided an overview of the revised Grid Code changes resulting from 'Management of No System Connection' proposals.

557. The Panel NOTED that the proposals now include provisions for the recording of the cancellation of a RISSP in Safety Logs.

558. Panel to provide comments on the proposal, including legal text, to the relevant party representatives (RS, NS and AM), prior to the Industry Consultation.

559. The Panel AGREED that the amendment should proceed directly to Industry Consultation.

Action: National Grid (MD)

▪ Housekeeping Amendments

560. MD provided an overview on the proposed Housekeeping Amendments.

561. JN informed the Panel of an additional Housekeeping Amendment, a grammatical error in PC.A.5.5.

562. The Panel AGREED that the amendment should proceed directly to Industry Consultation.

Action: National Grid (MD)

563. National Grid acknowledged DW request that the Housekeeping Amendments be

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implemented along with another Grid Code proposal to minimise minor revisions to the Grid Code.

6. Working Group Reports

▪ P2/5 Working Group

564. MD gave the Panel an update on the P2/5 Working Group.
565. The Panel NOTED that the revised legal text had been circulated to the Working Group. A further meeting of the Working Group will be scheduled for the end of October to discuss the revised legal text.
566. The Panel NOTED that it was the intention of the Working Group to present their findings and recommendations to February 2007 GCRP meeting to maximise the likelihood that the proposals could be implemented in time for 2007 Week 24 submissions, should the Authority be minded to approve the changes.

▪ Power Park Modules and Synchronous Generating Units Working Group

567. MD gave the Panel an update on the Power Park Modules and Synchronous Generating Units Working Group.
568. The Panel NOTED that the Working Group had reached general agreement on issues discussed. It was the intention of the Working Group to present their findings and recommendations to November's GCRP meeting.

Action: National Grid (MD)

▪ Low Voltage Demand Disconnection Working Group

569. BG gave the Panel an update on the Low Voltage Demand Disconnection (LVDD) Working Group, on behalf of Emma Carr (Working Group Chairperson).
570. The Panel ACKNOWLEDGED National Grid's apology for the delay in progress which was primarily due to resourcing problems.
571. The Panel NOTED the revised timescale of Q1 2007, for the next scheduled meeting of the Working Group.

7. Authority Decisions

572. There were no recent Authority Decisions to discuss.

8. Annual Summary Report for Significant System Events

573. BT presented the key findings of the Annual Summary Report for Significant System Events to the Panel.
574. The Panel NOTED the Annual Summary Report now reflects Scotland in its data.
575. NS mentioned that he had provided comments to the format and content of the report to National Grid last year, and queried why they had not been incorporated.
576. National Grid apologised for the delay in incorporating the comments and requested that NS resend his comments to BT in order to ensure that they are included in next years report.

Action: NS

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9. Review of Regional Differences

577. MD gave the Panel an update on the outstanding regional differences that exist within the Grid Code noting that there were three broad areas where changes might be appropriate to be taken forward:
- “Consequential” changes following on from B/06:
 - Definition of Control Point
 - Registered Capacity Definition
 - Other areas where AEOs noted change could be made through responses to B/06 (but where the changes were out of the scope of B/06):
 - Demand BMU classification
 - Use of ‘England and Wales’ and ‘Scotland’ throughout the Grid Code rather than referring to individual Transmission Areas
 - Those other areas identified in July 2005:
 - Technical requirements in Connection Conditions & the Planning Code
 - Operation processes in Operating Codes (OC1 & OC2, OC7, OC9)
 - Safety Rules (OC8A and OC8B)
578. The Panel AGREED to progress with the changes to the definitions of Control Point and Registered Capacity which would form part of the Housekeeping Amendment Proposal previously discussed under minutes 560-563.
579. The Panel AGREED that the other outstanding items should be included on the Grid Code Outstanding Issues with a review date of September 2007.

10. Impact of Other Code Modifications

580. MT informed that Panel that there were no significant amendments being presented to other code panels.
581. The Panel NOTED that P205 (Increase in PAR level from 100MWh to 500MWh) had been submitted to the Authority for determination.

11. GCRP 2007 Meeting Dates

582. The Panel NOTED and AGREED to the proposed GCRP 2007 meeting dates which would be published on National Grid Industry Information website:
- Thursday, 15th February 2007
 - Thursday, 17th May 2007
 - Thursday, 20th September 2007
 - Thursday, 15th November 2007
583. The Panel NOTED that the 2007 GCRP meetings would be held at National Grid Offices at Warwick.

12. Any Other Business

AOB1

584. BG informed the Panel that he would be standing down as Chairman of the GCRP. From 1st October 2006 Duncan Burt will be assuming this role. The GCRP membership would be updated accordingly and published on the National Grid Industry Information website. BG thanked the GCRP and said how much he had enjoyed working with everyone.

Action: Panel Secretary

AOB2

585. JN queried National Grid's process for the booking of a Senior Authorised Person,

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who is required to escort non National Grid personal whilst they are undertaking planned work on non-National Grid plant or apparatus within a National Grid substation.

586. RS informed JN that non National Grid personal where allowed to access National Grid substations without the attendances of National Grid escort, if that person was trained to the relevant National Grid safety competencies.
587. RS informed the Panel that there was four different classification of National Grid safety person:
- Person
 - Competent Person
 - Authorised Person
 - Senior Authorised Person
588. RS stated that in any event, National Grid would still need to be informed of any persons intending to access the relevant site.
589. Panel AGREED that additional transparency of the relevant booking process was required. RS and JN to discuss the matter further after the meeting.

Action: RS and JN

AOB3

590. JM informed the Panel that the recommendations of the E3C Report (Operation Phoenix) may require GCRP to undertake a review of current Black Start governance provisions.
591. The Panel ACKNOWLEDGED that the findings and recommendations of the report were yet to be made public. National Grid to investigate further and report back to November's GCRP meeting.

Action: National Grid (MD)

13. Date of Next Meeting

592. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 23rd November 2006 at National Grid's Offices in Northampton. The meeting will commence at 10:00am.