

## Grid Code Review Panel Meeting

### Minutes and Actions Arising from Meeting No. 25 Held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2006 at National Grid Office, Lakeside House, Northampton

#### Present:

|                |    |                 |
|----------------|----|-----------------|
| Duncan Burt    | DB | 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           |
| John Norbury       | JN   | Member           |
| Campbell MacDonald | CMcD | Member           |
| Richard Cook       | RC   | Alternate Member |

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

|            |    |        |
|------------|----|--------|
| David Ward | DW | Member |
|------------|----|--------|

#### Generators with Small and Medium Power Stations Only

|                |    |        |
|----------------|----|--------|
| Malcolm Taylor | MT | Member |
|----------------|----|--------|

#### Network Operators in England and Wales

|                |    |        |
|----------------|----|--------|
| Mike Kay       | MK | Member |
| Graeme Vincent | GV | Member |

#### Network Operators in Scotland

|               |    |        |
|---------------|----|--------|
| Neil Sandison | NS | Member |
|---------------|----|--------|

#### Relevant Transmission Licensees

|             |    |        |
|-------------|----|--------|
| Alan Michie | AM | Member |
|-------------|----|--------|

#### Generators with Novel Units

|               |    |                  |
|---------------|----|------------------|
| Simon Cowdroy | SC | Alternate Member |
|---------------|----|------------------|

#### Ofgem Representative

|                |    |        |
|----------------|----|--------|
| Bridget Morgan | BM | Member |
|----------------|----|--------|

#### BSC Panel Representative

|                |    |        |
|----------------|----|--------|
| Kathryn Coffin | KC | Member |
|----------------|----|--------|

## 1. Introductions/Apologies for Absence

593. Apologies for absence were received from Claire Maxim (Gens >3GW), Charlie Zhang (Gens >3GW), Dave Carson (DNOs in Scotland), Stuart Graudus (NEC), Jean Pompee (EISO) and Chandra Trikha (RTL).

## 2. Minutes of Last Meeting

594. The draft minutes of the 24<sup>th</sup> Grid Code Review Panel (GCRP) meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2006 were APPROVED, subject to minor amendments and will be accessible from the Grid Code Website.

## 3. Review of Actions

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

- Minute 319 (Intertrips)

The Panel NOTED and discussed the intertrips guidance statement which had previously been circulated for comment to the Panel. The statement focused on the technical, not commercial, aspects of Intertrips.

JN noted that the draft statement circulated on the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2006, although welcome, did not provide sufficient guidance to generators and developers regarding the technical capability and performance that may be required as a condition of connection. In addition, the Grid Code text is weak in certain areas, for example, the different categories of intertrips are defined in the Grid Code but are not cross referenced anywhere else in the Code.

BT informed the Panel that the design of an intertrip was based on point of disconnection which could not be specified within a generic statement.

The Panel AGREED that it would be useful if the guidance notes provided further clarification on key elements of intertrips e.g. timings and that understanding would be further enhanced by the use of illustrative examples.

Alternative wording for the guidance note to be provided by Panel Members which would provide the level of detail and clarity on intertrips which the Panel believe would be beneficial to the industry. National Grid to provide illustrative examples.

**Action: National Grid (BT), SC, JN & MT**

The publication of the statement will be agreed once the wording of the guidance note has been finalised i.e. whether it is to be incorporated within the Grid Code or whether it is to be made accessible as a standalone document on National Grid's Industry Information website.

- Minute 458 (Reactive Capability Survey)

The Panel NOTED that the fax proforma in BC2 was used to notify National Grid's operational staff at the Electricity National Control Centre of a change in Reactive Capability. BT informed that Panel that the fax proforma contained both technical and commercial information and requires reactive information to be declared in accordance with the Registered Capacity of the Generating Unit.

The Panel was informed that the Performance Chart (OC2.4.2.1) was used as part of National Grid's compliance process and made reference to Rated MWs.

The Panel NOTED that there remained an outstanding issue regarding clarification of the relationship between data submitted via the BC2 fax and the Performance Chart. For example, it was not clear whether a revised

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Performance Chart submitted in respect of a generating unit when a plant was returning from a capability reduction would supersede a previous BC2 fax submission. BT indicated that this information should be provided by the generator and not National Grid. Panel Members indicated that in some instances the numeric values required to complete the BC2 fax were not generally available to the operational engineers at the power station (noting that the telephone is the normal means of Mvar revision under the Grid Code and the BC2 fax is optional) .

National Grid will publish a process chart indicating at what stage in the process the Performance Chart and BC2 Proforma are used and the interaction between the two methods of declaring a plant's reactive capability.

**Action: National Grid (BT)**

- Minute 460 (Generators Fuel Backup Status)

BT informed the Panel that future requests for generators' fuel backup status be accompanied by a similar undertaking covering confidentiality and restriction of use to that set out in PC2.1(d).

JN suggested that, should there be an ongoing requirement for this data, it would help matters if an appropriate Grid Code change was proposed to provide for this requirement

The Panel NOTED that the next request for generators' fuel backup status will be sent out in February 2007.

- Minute 498 (1320 MW Rule)

NT informed the Panel that the restrictions will not be placed into future Bilateral Agreements. Existing Bilateral Agreements affected by the restrictions will be reviewed accordingly.

NT indicated that any proposals to introduce generic requirements within the Grid Code could only be considered after a detailed analysis has been completed by National Grid.

NT informed the Panel that National Grid had provided an initial high level view to a group of companies interested in building new nuclear power stations. The information outlined the implications and associated issues on the GB Transmission System of nuclear reactor connections exceeding the 1320 MW rating.

The Panel NOTED that OTEG SQSS subgroup was also looking at this issue, in the context of Offshore GB SQSS, with a 1500 MW limit imposed on the associated analysis.

It was agreed that the Panel would be kept informed of future developments regarding this issue.

- Minute 499 (Rated MW)

MD informed the Panel that National Grid was conducting a review of the Grid Code capacity terms (including Rated MWs) and an update would be provided to next Panel Meeting.

**Action: National Grid (MD)**

Panel members indicated the urgency for this review to take place as National Grid were introducing obligations within relevant Bilateral Agreements which were placing restrictions on the operational output of Generating Units.

MD agreed that it would be beneficial to codify an enduring mechanism which would reflect the issue of Generating Units exceeding their Rated MWs and associated implications on the Reactive Capability of that Unit.

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JN suggested that it would also be helpful if the recognised variability in output with ambient temperature of CCGT generating units is recognised in this review.

- Minute 537 (Multi Unit BMU)

The Panel were informed the National Grid was in the process of reviewing the current procedure. Proposals will be presented to the Panel for consideration at February 2007 GCRP meeting.

**Action: National Grid**

- Minute 550 - 552 (Control & System Telephony)

With reference to the associated expenditure relating to System Telephony, MD informed the Panel that National Grid would expect the User to provide and fund the dedicated PSTN phone line and where requested by the User, National Grid would provide the Green Phones and associated extension bell.

The Panel NOTED that System Telephony would be installed at 50 control points (20% of the total number). System Telephony would be rolled out as soon as practicable after the relevant provisions have been incorporated into the Grid Code.

MD confirmed that provided there was no adverse impact upon the efficient, economic and secure operation of the GB Transmission System then the physical location at which a Control Point for a Power Station is located is permitted to move. The Panel discussed the reliability and compliance which may impact non static control points, especially overseas control points.

National Grid to confirm whether the System Telephony provisions reflect the National Infrastructure Security Co-ordination Centre (NISCC) guidelines on telephone lines.

**Action: National Grid (MD)**

MD confirmed that all points of clarification requested by the Panel would be included in the consultation document for the Control and System Telephony proposals which would be circulated for industry comment in due course.

- Minute 555 (Scottish Control Telephony Standard)

The Panel NOTED that the issue of a Control Telephony Standard for Scotland was being considered by the STC Committee.

The Panel NOTED that it would be beneficial to incorporate a Scottish Control Telephony Standard within the Grid Code as this was a user facing document unlike the STC which was between the Scottish TOs and the GB SO.

National Grid to investigate the possibility of establishing a Scottish Control Telephony Standard for the Grid Code and will provide an update to February's GCRP meeting.

**Action: National Grid (MD)**

- Minute 559 (Management of No System Connection)

A revised version of the proposal has been circulated to the relevant Scottish TO representatives for comment prior to industry circulation. Discussions are on going to minimise any regional differences regarding this issue.

- Minute 587 (Access Procedure for Power Staff into National Grid's Substations)

The Panel NOTED that a guidance note which outlined the access procedures for Power Staff that were required to undertake planned work on non-National Grid plant or apparatus within a National Grid substation had been produced and would be circulated to Panel members.

**Action: National Grid**

JN indicated that there still remained a lack of clarity regarding National Grid's procedure for non-National Grid staff to gain access to substations to access

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their assets, the level of National Grid supervision required and the procedure for booking a National Grid person and also confidence that the relevant National Grid staff were available when required. JN also noted that the process for the associated payments for a National Grid person to be in attendance remained unclear.

The Panel AGREED that it would be useful for the relevant procedure(s) to be made publicly available on the Grid Code website.

National Grid to confirm and circulate procedure to the Panel. The Panel NOTED that this was also an issue for DNOs who required access to National Grid's substations.

**Action: National Grid**

JN indicated that the access procedure for contractors was unclear. National Grid will clarify the process to the Panel.

**Action: National Grid**

▪ Minute 591 (Operation Phoenix)

MD gave the Panel an update on the findings from the Phoenix Report. The report recommends that the Black Start process be "firmed up" and highlights the following areas as examples of where a review of the existing arrangements may see some benefits:

- Process of LJRP design, review and agreement with signatories;
- Explanation to and training of prospective operational role players;
- The introduction of a regular and formalised operational liaison programme involving LJRP participants at the working level;
- An enduring approach to exercise and practice of procedure and
- Resilience of key substation auxiliary equipment

MD informed the Panel that the target date, contained within the Phoenix Report, for the changes was August 2007. The Panel NOTED that the detail behind the proposals contained in the Phoenix Report requires building up prior to the development of Grid Code proposals.

The Panel NOTED that the recommendations from the Operational Phoenix Report would have implications for the Grid Code, SO-TO Code and Distribution Code.

The Panel AGREED to the establishment of a preliminary Working Group (in association with other industry representatives who have been involved in Operation Phoenix) which will identify the scope and Terms of Reference for the consequential Grid Code amendments.

**Action: National Grid (MD & JM)**

The report and the associated documentation will be circulated to the Panel.

**Action: National Grid (MD)**

#### 4. Grid Code Consultation

596. Grid Code Consultation Update

The Panel NOTED that the consultation period for D/06 (Consequential Changes from B/06 and Housekeeping Amendments) closed on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2006; four consultation responses had been received.

The Panel NOTED that the consultation period for E/06 (Low Frequency Demand Disconnection Relay Settings) closed on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2006; three consultation responses had been received.

### 5. Control Telephony Electrical Standard

597. The Panel discussed the proposed introduction of a new Control Telephony Electricity Standard. The Panel AGREED that the standard would increase transparency regarding Control Telephony.
598. The wording of Section 11 will be reviewed to clarify the exact nature of a LJRP i.e. event or associated document.
599. The Panel NOTED the two issues of principles concern to Users i.e. Retrospectivity and the duration of Secured Supplies. The Panel AGREED that it may be beneficial if the Secured Supplies provisions were reviewed by the Grid Code Phoenix Working Group.
600. The Panel AGREED that it would be beneficial to obtain an appreciation of the associated capital investment costs which may be required with the introduction of the Electrical Standard.
601. National Grid to confirm the material impact of the Electrical Standard on existing users. Some Panel indicated their preference for the new standard to be applicable to new users only and the issue of retrospectivity (and associated monies) to be reviewed in line with the Phoenix Report.
602. The Panel NOTED that it was still unclear who was responsible for the expenditure relating to Backup Secure Supplies.
603. The Panel AGREED the incorporation of the new standard will be postponed until National Grid has provided clarification on the responsibility of Control Telephony obligations and how the requirements are discharged.

**Action: National Grid (MD)**

### 6. Working Group Reports

#### ▪ P2/5 Working Group

604. MD gave the Panel an update on the P2/5 Working Group.
605. The Panel NOTED that the Working Group had been reconvened to discuss the revised proposals. A number of useful comments on the proposals have been provided by the Working Group and as such a further meeting of the Working Group has been scheduled for the beginning of December to further discuss these suggested changes.
606. MD informed that Panel that the proposals would introduce a step change in the volume of information between National Grid and DNOs.
607. The Panel NOTED that it remained 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.

**Action: National Grid (MD)**

#### ▪ Power Park Modules and Synchronous Generating Units Working Group

608. MD presented to the Panel the recommendations of the Power Park Modules and Synchronous Generating Units Working Group.
609. The Panel NOTED that the Working Group had reached agreement on the majority of the complex issues discussed.
610. The Panel AGREED that the outstanding issue regarding Power Park Modules

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Extensions would be included on the Grid Code Outstanding List and reviewed in due course. The Panel NOTED that there were no issue of materiality regarding this matter in the interim period.

**Action: Panel Secretary**

611. AM informed the Panel that the proposed changes to the harmonisation of point of voltage control would result in additional costs for the Scottish Transmission Owners, the materiality of which could not be specified at this time.

612. JN suggested that, until the generic requirements are incorporated in the Grid Code, it would be beneficial for the CUSC to include an example of a populated Schedule 2 Exhibit 1 Appendix F5. It was agreed that this issue would be raised at the CUSC Amendments Panel.

**Action: DB & MT**

613. The Panel NOTED that the introduction of the proposals would codify technical specification currently included in Appendix F5. JN queried whether there was addition information currently included in Appendix F5 which would benefit from codification e.g. System Monitoring.

614. JN to identify issues that are currently included in Appendix F5 which are in addition to the requirements specified in the Grid Code.

**Action: JN**

615. NT informed the Panel that National Grid is currently in the process of updating the compliance guidance notes for Power Park Modules and Synchronous Generating Units.

616. The Panel queried the materiality of the proposals. NT indicated that the majority of applications being submitted were for Power Park Modules and that the proposals were timely and eagerly awaited by the Industry.

617. The Panel AGREED that given the urgency/importance of the proposals, National Grid would proceed to industry consultation as soon as possible.

**Action: National Grid**

618. The Panel suggested that it may be beneficial for the consultation process if the consultation document highlighted which elements of the proposals did not obtain agreement from all Working Group members.

### **7. Authority Decisions**

619. There were no recent Authority Decisions to discuss.

### **8. Impact of Other Code Modifications**

620. The Panel NOTED that the DTI had posted a notice of the proposed modification to the Fuel Security Code. The Panel NOTED that the DTI were not carrying out a full consultation process but were inviting interested parties to make any comments on the proposal by 13<sup>th</sup> December 2006.

### **9. Any Other Business**

#### AOB1

621. The Panel NOTED the Offshore Transmission Expert Group (OTEG) has recommended that more detailed work should now be progressed by the industry in a number of areas:

- Access, Compensation and Charging
- DNO integration
- Grid Code
- Connection Process

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622. The Panel NOTED the request for nominees to attend the Grid Code subgroup. Nominations are to be sent to Bridget Morgan at Ofgem.
623. BM informed the Panel that the Grid Code subgroup would be looking at the technical aspects/implications of Offshore Development on the Grid Code and STC.
624. GCRP Chairman will keep the Panel up to date on the discussion/decisions of the OTEG subgroups. The issue will become a regular item on forthcoming GCRP meeting agendas.

**Action: Panel Secretary**

### AOB2

625. NT informed the Panel that a European Wind Farm Manufacturer had acquired patents relating to wind farm technology. The patents may impact the ability of other manufacturers from using technical solutions to ensure compliance with the Grid Code.
626. The Panel NOTED that legal proceeding were ongoing regarding this matter. The Panel will be kept informed of future developments.

### AOB3

627. DW queried whether National Grid had anything to report regarding the recent European Blackout. BT confirmed that the analysis from the incident was ongoing and National Grid will provide an update to the Panel when the information and associated learning experiences are available.

**Action: National Grid (BT)**

### AOB4

628. SC suggested that it would be beneficial if a review could be undertaken of the Reactive Capability from Embedded Generators and its usage to support the GB Transmission System. This was a proposal from the Power Park Modules Working Group which was to amend the Grid Code such that the requirement will be dealt with on a case by case basis. SC queried whether the usage of Embedded Generators' Reactive Capability was the most cost effective way of managing this issue.
629. SC, BT and NT to discuss the matter further and provide an update to February 2007 GCRP meeting.

**Action: National Grid (BT)**

### AOB5

630. The Panel enquired as to the progress of National Grid's review of the Delegation of Authority for Busbar Switching contracts. The Panel queried whether such provisions should be included in the Site Responsibility Schedules or other document. National Grid will provide an update to February 2007 GCRP meeting.

**Action: National Grid**

### AOB06

631. The Panel was informed that in line with the Grid Code Constitution and Rules, notification regarding next year's Panel appointments would be circulated to GCRP Members and Authorised Electricity Operators in early December 2006.

**Action: Panel Secretary**

632. The Panel NOTED that the position for a Suppliers Representative on the GCRP remains vacant.

## **10. Date of Next Meeting**

633. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> February 2007 at National Grid House, Warwick. The meeting will commence at 10:00am.