Operational Metering – Consequential Amendment to CC.6.4.4

Background

On 14th June 2006 the Authority approved CUSC Amendment Proposal CAP097 – Revision to the Contractual Requirements for Small and Medium Embedded Power Stations under 6.5. This proposal was implemented within the CUSC on 14th July 2006. CAP097 introduced a separate means of identifying through a "Request for a Statement of Works" whether the energisation of a Licence Exempt Embedded Medium Power Station might be conditional on transmission reinforcements or other "site-specific requirements".

Alongside this CUSC process, the Grid Code (CC.6.4.4) currently sets out the provisions through which National Grid is able to request, via the "host" Network Operator, an Operational Metering service from an Embedded Medium Power Station. This clause is also applicable to Licence Exempt Embedded Medium Power Stations (LEEMPS) through the Grid Code clause, CC.3.4. It is here that the issue arises that this paper seeks to address.

The Issue

The existing CC.6.4.4 requires the "host" Network Operator to ensure that the Operational Metering equipment listed in CC.6.5.6 is installed at the Embedded Medium Power Station. In order to do this it states that National Grid would notify the Network Operator of the requirement for Operational Metering within 3 months of National Grid receiving an application to connect under the CUSC.

For a LEEMPS however the timescales over which such a requirement for Operational Metering may be identified are different. Under CAP097 the process may take as long as eight months before a formal notification in the form of a modification offer is submitted to the host DNO. E.g. in the case of a LEEMPS that triggers transmission reinforcements, after 1 month National Grid would notify the DNO of this fact, the DNO then has 90 Business Days (approx 4 months) to discuss this with the generator, then should the generator wish to proceed National Grid then has three months to produce the Modification Offer to the DNO. It would be through the Modification Offer where the requirement to have Operational Metering installed would be notified. Clearly there is a mismatch between the potential timescales in the Grid Code and the CUSC where LEEMPS are involved and as a result National Grid would intend to take forward a consultation on a minor change to CC.6.4.4 to clarify the application of this clause to LEEMPS.

Recommendation

The Grid Code Review Panel are invited to:

- APPROVE National Grid developing detailed legal drafting for the above proposals (may be based around that appended at Appendix 1 to this paper); and,
- APPROVE National Grid subsequently issuing a consultation paper on the above proposals.

Appendix 1: Draft Legal Text

Operational Metering

CC.6.4.4

Where NGET can reasonably demonstrate that an Embedded Medium Power Station or Embedded DC Converter Station has a significant effect on the GB Transmission System, it may require the Network Operator within whose System the Embedded Medium Power Station or Embedded DC Converter Station is situated to ensure that the operational metering equipment described in CC.6.5.6 is installed such that NGET can receive the data referred to in CC.6.5.6. In the case of an Embedded Medium Power Station subject to, or proposed to be subject to a Bilateral Agreement NGET shall notify such Network Operator of the details of such installation in writing within 3 months of being notified of the application to connect under CUSC and in the case of an Embedded Medium Power Station not subject to, or not proposed to be subject to a Bilateral Agreement in writing in accordance with the provisions of CUSC 6.5. In either case the Network Operator shall ensure that the data referred to in CC.6.5.6 is provided to NGET.