## Minutes and Actions Arising from Meeting No. 34 Held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at the National Grid House, Warwick

**Present:** 

Nasser Tleis NT Panel Chairman Richard Dunn RD Panel Secretary

**National Grid** 

Brian Taylor BT Member

Mark Perry MP Alternate Member

Lilian MacLeod LM Member

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

John Morris JM Member John Norbury JN Member Campbell McDonald CMc Member

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

David Ward DW Member

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

Barbara Vest BV Member

**Network Operators in England and Wales** 

Alan Creighton AC Member Mike Kay MK Member

**Network Operators in Scotland** 

Neil Sandison NS Member

**Relevant Transmission Licensees** 

Alan Michie AM Member

**Generators with Novel Units** 

Sigrid Bolik SB Alternate Member

Ofgem Representative

Bridget Morgan BM Member

**BSC Panel Representative** 

David Jones DJ Alternate Member

By Invitation

Richard Wood RW National Grid – Minute 988 only
Shafqat Ali SA National Grid – items 14 & 15 only
Jonny Hosford JH National Grid - item 16 only
David M Smith DS National Grid - all items

## 1. Introductions/Apologies for Absence

1044. Apologies for absence were received from Claire Maxim (Generators with Large Power Stations with total Reg. Cap.> 3GW), Yvonne Ryan (Generators with Large Power Stations with total Reg. Cap.> 3GW), Dave Carson (Network Operators in Scotland), Chandra Trikha (Relevant Transmission Licensees), Guy Nicholson (Novel Units), Steve Hale (NEC), Jim Barrett (Generators with Large Power Stations with total Reg. Cap.> 3GW), Kathryn Coffin (BSC Panel Representative) and Jean Pompee (EISO).

## 2. Minutes of Last Meeting

1045. The draft minutes of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Grid Code Review Panel (GCRP) meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008 were APPROVED, subject to minor amendments and will be accessible from the Grid Code Website.

## 3. Review of Actions

- 1046. All the outstanding actions from the previous meetings have been completed or were the subject of agenda items, except for:
  - Minute 800 (Basic Electrical Safety Competence (BESC))
     Panel Members requested an update on the proposed letter to Generators on this issue following the letter to Peter Roberts of the ENA. National Grid agreed to report back on progress on this issue at the next meeting.

Action: National Grid (RD)

Minute 945 (System to Generator Operational Intertripping Schemes)
 National Grid was discussing the outstanding issues with relevant Panel Members by e-mail and would issue a consultation paper in due course.

Action: National Grid (LM)

• Minute 986 (Electricity Generation from Gas Networks (Blue NG))
National Grid reported that Ofgem had now approved two trial sites for the introduction of Blue NG in an announcement on 31<sup>st</sup> October. A link to the announcement on the Ofgem website is below:

http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Pages/MoreInformation.aspx?file=Blueng%20decision%20doc%2020081031.pdf&refer=Networks/GasDistr/otherwork

Minute 988 (Delegations of Authority - DOAs )

National Grid updated the Panel on progress with the review of the DOA contracts and their advantages for Users. Advantages were:

- Minimisation of the amount of time that the Generator is out of service;
- Safer since all switching is co-ordinated by one party hence less risk of mistakes being made;
- Quicker due to one control person and one authorised person carrying out the switching;
- Increased system security through the minimisation of switching time and hence the period that other Users' systems are potentially at risk to faults during the switching.

The new contract drafts were now only two pages long with Site Responsibility Schedules (SRS) detailing the assets that are subject to the DOA contracts. The intention was to write to existing contracted parties inviting them to sign the revised contracts. Panel Members suggested that existing contracted parties should be invited to comment on the draft form of the contract. It was therefore agreed that the revised draft contract plus a standard SRS should be circulated to

Panel Members and the existing commercial contacts of contracted parties for comment.

Any queries on the contracts should be addressed to Sue Stewart at National Grid at sue.stewart@uk.ngrid.com.

Action: National Grid (RW & RD)

## Minute 1041 (Changes to Arrangements for Access to TOPAM Data)

BT reported that a further letter had been sent to Generators about the security arrangements for authorised access to TOPAM Data. BT would feedback comments to interested Panel Members.

Action: National Grid (BT)

## 4. Grid Code Development Issues

## **Grid Code Consultation Update**

1047. The Panel noted that National Grid had issued Grid Code Consultation E/08 (Requirements for Forecast Generation Output for Embedded Exemptable Large Power Stations) on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008 with a request for comments by 28<sup>th</sup> November 2008.

#### 5. New Grid Code Amendments

## GB Transmission System Study Network Data File (pp08/42)

1048. National Grid presented pp/08/42 and explained that the issues had been considered at the May and September meetings. Panel Members agreed with National Grid that the key issue was to ensure the wording and obligations in the Grid Code regarding the exchange of information via the GBTSSNDF made clear that the exchange applied to the Programming Phase as well as the Operational Phase. This would provide greater clarity and transparency to Users regarding the scope of the existing clauses and avoid unnecessary confusion. It was suggested that greater clarity could be achieved by amending the wording to concentrate on utilisation of the data and clarifying what was meant by technical analysis. National Grid agreed to consider this suggestion and then proceed with an industry consultation.

Action: National Grid (BT & LM)

#### Protection - Fault Clearance Times and back-up protection (pp08/43)

1049. National Grid presented pp08/43 and explained that protection issues had been discussed at a number of recent Panel meetings. The main outstanding issue was the need to provide the right level of discrimination in the Grid Code wording for C.6.2.2.2.2(b) where two main protection systems operate and there is also back-up protection. Panel Members agreed that whether the wording provided adequate discrimination in such cases was now essentially an issue for protection specialists to comment on. It was agreed that National Grid would ensure that the issue was discussed by protection specialists from the industry prior to the proposals proceeding to industry consultation. National Grid would extend a formal invitation to protection specialists via the GCRP to participate in the discussion regarding the proposals.

Action: National Grid (LM)

1050. The associated obligations for the DNOs will be reviewed due to ensure that the wording is accurate, concise and transparent. An update will be provided to the GCRP in due course.

Action: MK

## 6. Working Groups

#### Compliance

1051. The Chair of the Compliance Group provided a summary of the progress to date in the Working Group. At its meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2008 the Working Group had considered consolidated drafting to codify the guidelines that currently existed for the Compliance process. The Group would meet again on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2008 to progress the drafting. The Group had also considered the interaction between the timing of the submission of the Compliance drafting and the baseline incorporating Grid Code amendments for the introduction of the Offshore regime. The overlap was not considered significant however and the current plan was to incorporate the Offshore baseline text if available next year before the Compliance text was submitted to the Panel as part of the Working Group report.

#### Rated MW

National Grid updated the Panel on the work of the Working Group. The intention had been to provide a Working Group report to the Panel proposing an interim solution allowing Generators to operate above their Rated MW via provisions in the bilateral agreement. The general requirements for reactive power provision by plant across its full operating range would then be considered further by the proposed Reactive Power Working Group. However, further issues had recently been raised by WG Members in connection with Rated MW for CCGTs and a further Working Group meeting would now be required to discuss these issues before the WG Report could be provided to the Panel.

**Action: Rated MW Working Group** 

## Gas Insulated Switchgear

1053. National Grid reported that the Working Group meeting scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> November 2008 had been postponed. The next meeting of the Group would be held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2008.

## Frequency Response Revised Terms of Reference (pp08/45)

- 1054. National Grid reported that the first meeting of the WG had been held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2008. Good progress had been made and in particular an agreed methodology for the studies of Frequency Response capability from new plant had been identified. The next meeting would be held towards the end of January 2009. The WG would try to progress Grid Code and CUSC consultations on any changes to the Codes that the WG identified in parallel as far as possible. The revised Terms of Reference for the WG (pp/08/45) proposed that the WG should report back to the November 2009 Panel meeting rather than the May 2009 Panel. The Panel agreed that revised Terms of Reference for the Working Group.
- 1055. During discussion it was agreed that the implications of the Frequency Response excursion incident on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2008 for embedded generation should be taken forward separately from the work of the Group for now, although there could be implications for the Group in due course.

## 7. Pending Authority Decisions

#### D/08 – Technical Performance

1056. The Panel noted that the Report to the Authority on Grid Code consultation D/08 had been provided to the Authority on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

## 8. Authority Decisions

#### C/07 – Data Exchange

1057. The Panel noted that the Authority had approved C/07 on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008 and implementation had taken place on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2008.

## 9. Planning Data – PC.4.4.2 (Email Exchange - National Grid and RWE)

- 1058. National Grid referred to the recent exchange of e-mails with RWE Trading on this issue and explained that it had good reasons for requesting planning data under PC.4.4.2. For the seven year ahead horizon this was essential for compiling the SYS based upon the CUSC contracted generation background. NGET is required to offer connections to generators within 3 months of application regardless of how far in the future the connection will be and consequently need to know details of all nearby plant at the time of connection. National Grid did acknowledge however that provision of data to accompany an offer for connection 10-12 years out could be problematical for the developer and pointed out that PC.4.4.2 did allow for provision of the data in a longer timescale than 28 days after acceptance by the developer of the offer.
- 1059. A Panel Member confirmed that either the data was not available for such distant connection offers or it was of poor quality and believed it was generally unhelpful for National Grid to ask for such data within 28 days in the circumstances. The Panel Member also commented that the default in PC.4.4.2 should preferably be the other way round i.e. provision of data to National Grid within x years (with x linked to the connection date) unless there was a good reason why it should be provided earlier.
- 1060. National Grid noted that the SYS studies, the making of offers to customers, the impact of Users on other Users and the long lead times for some system reinforcements constitute clear and valid reasons for receiving the DPD data from customers as PC4.4.2 requires. A Panel Member suggested that it should be possible to provide a typical or generic data for those generation technologies known today whilst accepting that some technologies may evolve over the next 10 or 15 years. National Grid agreed with this and suggested that the formulation of such data could be facilitated by the BWEA on behalf of Developers and this is expected to be of benefit for some Developers.
- 1061. During discussion a Panel Member suggested that one solution might be to consider provision of generic data only for connection offers beyond the SYS horizon, perhaps on similar lines to the Register of Data being considered by the Compliance Working Group. Other potential solutions were also discussed. It was agreed that National Grid would undertake further work to assess the issues around the provision of DPD for the SYS horizon and beyond and report the outcome to the February Panel meeting. Any further input to this work from Panel Members would be welcome.

Action: National Grid (MP) and Panel Members

#### 10. Short Circuit Ratio (pp08/50)

1062. National Grid presented pp08/50 and explained that following the discussion of this issue at the September Panel meeting it had been in contact with manufacturers of large turbo alternators up to 2000MVA to determine whether the current Grid Code requirements for SCR and reactive power capability will be achievable for proposed large units. Only limited data had been received from Manufacturers to date and therefore this issue would need to come back to the February Panel meeting. Any assistance that Generator Panel Members could provide to National Grid in establishing data on this issue would be welcome.

Action: National Grid (MP) and Panel Members

# 11. Embedded Generation Loss Risk of High System Frequency Incident (pp08/51)

- 1063. National Grid presented pp08/51 and explained that data was still required from certain DNOs in order to assess the possible risk to the security of the GB power system likely to be posed by the loss of an unknown but significant amount of small embedded generation at the time of high frequency excursions. A revised table attached to pp08/51 including further data received since pp08/51 was circulated to Panel Members at the meeting. National Grid indicated that the data suggested that there was some 4-5 GW of small embedded generation in GB expected to be set to have an over frequency relay setting of 50.5Hz. This number would increase when the outstanding data submissions were received from the DNOs. As a result up to 6GW of such plant could trip off the system during a Frequency excursion event of over 50.5Hz.
- 1064. This situation was of considerable concern to National Grid since this figure was larger than the amount of generation reserve available to National Grid at any time and thus this amount of generation tripping would inevitably cause frequency collapse and blackouts to protect the total GB system from a total shutdown. National Grid would brief the E3C regularly on this issue and the steps that the industry was taking to address it. However, further clarification of the data was being sought from the DNOs to assess whether the problem was of the magnitude suggested by the data. For example, if the data included Standby Generation this could be excluded from the total as such generation was not normally designed to operate in parallel with the transmission system. Panel Members noted the concerns of National Grid, the progress on data collection for this exercise and agreed that National Grid should continue to collect and clarify the nature of the data in discussions with DNOs and report back to the February 2009 Panel meeting.

  Action: National Grid (MP)

# 12. Provision of BM Unit Data provided by Intermittent Generation (pp08/46) Terms of Reference (pp08/47)

- National Grid presented pp08/46 & pp08/47 and explained that the papers responded to the Panel's request at the September Panel meeting for a paper illustrating why National Grid required Physical Notifications (PNs), what use PNs from intermittent generation would be put to and draft Terms of Reference for a Working Group, PNs along with other data were used by National Grid as an essential input to the calculation of market imbalance at any one time and informed strategies designed to manage system imbalance. Hence if the PN data was not representative of the output, it could lead to sub-optimal actions being taken by National Grid to rectify imbalances or provide risks to system security if generation is not available when required. With the increase in the capacity of Generating Units powered by uncontrollable sources (primarily wind), predicting the output of these Generators was becoming more onerous and therefore more difficult for National Grid to ensure efficient and economic management of the system. This was also hindering the ability of Generators to submit accurate BM data and participate in the balancing market. This situation was expected to worsen with increases in the proportion of intermittent generation to non-intermittent generation highly likely in the coming years.
- 1066. The Terms of Reference of the Group indicated it would consider particularly how changes could be introduced to facilitate provision of PNs by intermittent generation and whether changes are required to reflect the uncontrollability of the primary source of power. The Group would report back to the Panel in February 2010. The Panel agreed to the establishment of a Working Group to consider these issues. Nominations for membership of the Group should be sent to the Panel Secretary by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2009.

Action: National Grid (RD) and Relevant Panel Members

## 13. Grid Code Structure (pp08/48)

- 1067. National Grid presented pp08/48 and explained that at the September Panel meeting Panel Members had requested a paper examining the options for changes to the structure of the Grid Code consequent on the major developments since Vesting such as NETA, BETTA, Generic Provisions and the impending Offshore regime. Manufacturers were also taking an increasing interest in the Grid Code provisions. The main focus of any structural changes was expected to be the Connection Conditions.
- 1068. The paper concentrated on three options:
  - Option 1 Current Structure i.e. categorisation of the provisions by technical obligations irrespective of User type.
  - Option 2 User Categorisation i.e. categorisation of the provisions by type of User, generation type etc.
  - Option 3 Code and Standards/Procedures i.e. specification of the high level generic requirements applicable to all Users. Specific technical requirements could then be described in technical standards or procedures which could be classified by technical obligation or User category etc.

Each approach had different advantages and disadvantages which were described to the Panel. National Grid welcomed any suggestions from the Panel for any alternative approaches not listed in pp08/48.

During discussion a Panel Member suggested that increased use of Guidance notes could be one way forward but it was noted that there was a significant move already away from this approach in the context of Codification of the Compliance Requirements. Another Panel Member suggested that an approach that described the obligations of Users on the website with references to the Grid Code provisions could be another solution. This approach was supported by other Panel Members and National Grid agreed to consider the website approach in more detail and report back to the Panel in due course.

Action: National Grid (LM)

## 14. BM Replacement

- National Grid gave the Panel a presentation on the recent consultation about the Balancing Mechanism (BM) System Replacement. The current BM system had delivered major industry projects such as NETA and BETTA but, given that the current system had evolved form the operational systems built in the 1980s, the underlying technology was approaching the end of its normal lifecycle. Reliability was diminishing and the requirement for support was likely to become more intensive particularly in a few years time. The industry perceived the system as inflexible. Finally, developments such as the evolving generation mix and European legislation would require a more up-to-date system. The replacement project would be in 2 phases - the system development in the 1st phase would be internal to National Grid and the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase would involve potential changes to external interfaces. The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase issues were out of scope of the recent National Grid consultation exercise. It was important that the new system should be able to accommodate developments in future market requirements such as information about the running pattern of windfarms. The overall project duration was nearly four years with expected Go-live in Q3 2012. Eleven responses had been received to the industry consultation which had been launched on 7th October 2008. The consultation report analysing the responses from the industry and any modifications would probably be available in December 2008.
- 1071. Panel Members were concerned to ensure that adverse industry exposure to National Grid systems was minimised. In response to questions from Panel Members, National Grid confirmed that an Ofgem report issued in 2001 on potential improvements to the BM mechanism following a BM system fault had been

considered by the Panel in that year. However, National Grid agreed to reconsider the issue as part of its analysis of the responses to the consultation. National Grid also agreed to consider bringing forward the planned phase 2 consultation with the industry to improve the visibility and consideration of the issues. It was agreed that progress with the BM replacement project should be the subject of regular updates to the Panel.

Action: National Grid (SA)

## 15. BM IT Systems Issues

- 1072. National Grid gave the Panel a presentation on actions it was taking in response to a number of recent unplanned BM system outages. These outages had a range of causes including performance retuning issues following upgrades and a Network switch fault. National Grid were undertaking a number of short, medium and long term initiatives including support enhancements and asset refreshers. National Grid assured Panel Members that resources are being allocated to ensuring the efficient operation of the current BM system independent of the resources that would be allocated to the BM replacement project.
- 1073. During discussion National Grid agreed to provide the Panel with future periodic updates on the performance of the current BM system.

Action: National Grid (LM)

## 16. Generator Target Voltage Operation

- National Grid explained the background to a letter that had been sent to Generator Panel Members dated 12th September from National Grid concerning Target Voltage Ancillary Services Instructions. Target voltage was a form of ancillary services instruction recognised in the Grid Code (BC.A.2.6). Most (but not all) stations had retained HV metering with readings displayed in the Control Room since Vesting. Where there is no HV indication, National Grid and the Generator discuss and agree equivalent voltage levels for the corresponding LV indication. National Grid wished to re-instate the use of periodic target voltage ancillary services instructions to maintain operator familiarity and provide ongoing assurance that this would be operationally successful in contingency (High Impact Low probability) circumstances (e.g. failure of SCADA equipment). The purpose of the letter was therefore to raise the visibility of the potential for this instruction, give Generators notice that National Grid wished to start exercising this instruction and assess the extent of site specific issues with help from Control rooms. It was expected that this process would take some 6 months after which National Grid would take stock and decide what further action was appropriate which might involve future changes to the Grid Code.
- 1075. During discussion it was noted that there was no specific Grid Code requirement for high accuracy HV metering to be displayed in the power station control room. However, there was a clear requirement for Generators to be able to operate to target voltage type instruction (BC.A.2.6). Panel Members also enquired about the extent of feedback from Control rooms to date and National Grid confirmed that this had been limited. It was agreed that National Grid should continue to gather information about the extent of any site specific issues associated with target voltage operation and report back on progress to the February Panel meeting.

**Action: National Grid (JH)** 

## 17. Grid Code Copyright (pp08/49)

1076. National Grid presented pp08/49 and explained that it was proposing to amend the copyright statement that appears on the cover sheet of the Grid Code so that the wording would provide adequate protection against potential misuse whilst providing greater flexibility to Users when reproducing the Grid Code or sections thereof. National Grid acknowledged that the statement did not necessarily cover every eventuality for legitimate use of the Grid Code but would provide a written statement to the relevant User granting permission to reproduce the Grid Code in such rare

circumstances. National Grid intended to introduce the revised statement into the Grid Code for the next revision i.e. Issue 3 Revision 32.

1077. National Grid agreed to consider recent similar wording that had been adopted for the GBSQSS and consider if it could provide greater coverage for Grid Code Users and re-circulate the wording to Panel Members for their comments.

Action: National Grid (LM)

## 18. System Incident Report - 27th May 2008 (Update)

- 1078. National Grid updated the Panel on developments relating to the System Frequency Incident that occurred on 27<sup>th</sup> May since the discussion at the September Panel meeting. The investigation had made good progress since the report to the September Panel meeting. The key findings from the investigation were that:
  - The root cause was the coincident loss of 1582MW of generation;
  - there was an additional loss of 371MW of embedded generation within 3.5 minutes;
  - the overall system was protected by the LFDD arrangements avoiding a total shutdown;
  - The arrangements for generation and demand tripping and demand control in response to the frequency excursion met the overall requirements;
  - Loss of embedded generation had occurred above 48.8Hz;
  - Frequency would have reached 48.8Hz and thus LFDD would have operated in any case;
  - Coordination under the Grid Code and BSC was effective in responding to the initial event and subsequent recovery.
- 1079. The E3C had received a report by National Grid and had verified the conclusions through an independent expert. The E3C had made a number of recommendations in the light of the report which the Panel would need to take forward in the coming months. These recommendations were:
  - Recommendation 1: Action GCRP Chair by December 2009
     The GCRP to address the lack of an explicit frequency range requirement on small embedded generation plant in the Distribution Code. Review and align the Grid and Distribution Codes as far as reasonably practicable;
  - Recommendation 2: Action GCRP Chair by June 2009
     Modify where reasonably practicable the frequency range settings on existing small embedded generation to improve their resilience to frequency excursions;
  - Recommendation 4: Action GCRP Chair by June 2009
     Work with AEP to gather further data on embedded generation performance to establish as far as possible the timing and causes of such losses in support of recommendations 1 and 2;
  - Recommendation 3: Action GCRP Chair by June 2009
     Review LFDD scheme (OC.6.6) in light of experience to ensure effectiveness of all LFDD disconnection stages and share best practice including on design approaches, demand restoration and control room awareness;
  - Recommendation 5: Action GCRP Chair
     Update the E3C on progress of actions 1 to 4.

- 1080. Two Working Groups (a joint Grid Code and Distribution Code Working Group and an additional Grid Code Working Group) would need to be established to progress the findings and associated recommendations from E3C. The joint Grid Code/Distribution Code Working Group would be tasked with considering recommendations 1, 2 and 4. The DNO representatives on this Working Group will be required to represent all seven DNO companies in GB and the AEP would be invited to assist with the progress of recommendation 4.
- 1081. The Grid Code Working Group will be tasked with recommendation 3 with representation from DNOs and other interested/affected parties. National Grid would shortly request nominations for membership of the Working Groups no later than 5<sup>th</sup> December in preparation for the first meetings of the Working Groups early in 2009. National Grid would draft Terms of Reference for the Groups for agreement by Panel Members via e-mail.

Action: National Grid (LM)

## 19. EWEA/EWIS Developments

## Harmonisation of European Grid Codes

- 1082. The Panel representative for Generators with novel units gave the Panel a presentation outlining the progress made by EWIS/EWEA/Tradewind towards harmonisation of European Grid Codes. Extensive co-operation would be required in order to increase the integration of wind power in to the European networks in order to meet the EU's target of 20% of generation consisting of renewables by 2020. EWIS and EWEA/Tradewind had therefore embarked on studies to examine how this could be achieved. The penetration of wind power in the EU area had increased from 41GW in 2005 to 67GW in 2008 although concentrated mainly in only 3 countries representing more than 70% of the total installed capacity. By 2020 wind penetration was expected to be 200GW (medium scenario). The EWIS study first phase results had confirmed that high wind power production causes regional overloading of transmission lines but that Grid reinforcement to cater for this was already under investigation at the national level and TSOs had already started the local necessary grid reinforcements. The final report from the EWIS group considering the harmonisation of Grid Code requirements within the EU was expected at the end of October 2009. The EWEA/Tradewind position paper produced in February 2008 proposed a two step approach to Grid Code harmonisation:
  - a structural harmonisation exercise establishing a Grid Code template
  - a technical harmonisation exercise adapting existing Grid Code parameters to the new template
- 1083. A joint EWIS/EWEA/Tradewind Working Group meeting would be held on 12<sup>th</sup> December. The aim was to develop the technical basis for the Grid Code requirements in joint effort with EWIS and other interested bodies, work towards production of a generic European Wind Grid Code and set a strong precedent for the rest of the world. The Panel thanked the representative for the presentation and agreed that this should continue to be a regular item on the Panel agenda so that developments could be monitored closely.

Action: National Grid (RD)

#### 20. Offshore Transmission

1084. The Ofgem representative reported that Ofgem were publishing on 20<sup>th</sup> November a Joint Policy update by Ofgem and DECC on Offshore Transmission. (Post meeting note: the deadline for responses to the update was 9<sup>th</sup> January 2009 although Ofgem would appreciate any substantive comments provided by 18<sup>th</sup> December. The paper also announced that Go Active would now be June 2009 and Go Live June 2009.). An external communication workshop hosted by Ofgem to explain the thrust of the proposals would be held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2008 and National Grid

would also hold a workshop about getting connected offshore on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008.

## 21. Impact of Other Code Modifications

#### BSC

#### - Timing of Gate Closure and Related Matters

1085. Issue Group 35 was currently considering the issues associated with any future move to half-hour Gate Closure which may potentially have implications for the Grid Code.

## - Black Start & Fuel Security

1086. Two modification proposals would be put forward to the BSC Panel early next year by National Grid. It was noted that the BSC modification may instigate a Grid Code review of the relevant provisions.

#### CUSC

#### - Transmission Access Modifications - CAP161-166

1087. A special CUSC Panel would be held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2008 to consider the CAP161-165 Working Group reports. The CAP166 Working Group (Auctions) report was running slightly behind the other Groups and would be considered at the CUSC Panel meeting scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> December 2008.

#### - CUSC Environmental Standing Group

- 1088. A normal CUSC Panel meeting was scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> December and would consider the final report from the CUSC Environmental Standing Group amongst other matters.
- The final report of the Group was now published and after consideration by the CUSC Panel, the Grid Code Review Panel and other industry Code Panels would be invited to adopt the suggested guidelines for considering the carbon cost impact of Code modification proposals. The final report will be circulated to the GCRP once it had been finalised and agreed by the CUSC Amendments Panel.

Action: National Grid (RD)

#### - Industry Codes Governance Review

1090. The issues associated with this review had been separated into 6 work streams although there was some significant overlapping. Reports from the work streams were expected to be provided progressively from January 2009. A link to the Ofgem Industry Codes Governance Review Site is provided below:

http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Licensing/IndCodes/CGR/Pages/GCR.aspx

## 22. Any Other Business

#### AOB01 – GCRP Membership (Annual Appointments Process)

1091. National Grid indicated 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 2008. A vacancy currently existed for a representative for Suppliers. Panel Members were requested to confirm any re-nominations in response to the notification.

Action: National Grid (RD) and Panel Members

#### AOB02 – Note for GCRP on Market Information (pp08/44)

- 1092. National Grid referred to pp08/44 which explained the Market Information changes that had been introduced on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2008 consequent on the Authority's approval of BSC Modification Proposals P219 and P220. The changes provided a single page in the BMRS to summarise the most important information already available and also to provide additional new information (e.g. wind generation forecasts and generation by fuel type). The Panel noted these Market Information changes.
  - AOB03 Bid Offer Acceptance (BOA) Unique Identification in the Settlement System (pp08/52)
- 1093. National Grid presented pp08/52 and explained that occasionally National Grid have to insert a BOA via the BSCP18 procedure in to the system that was accepted but never sent to the Logica settlement system (e.g. a retrospective BOA for LF starts or any emergency instructions). However, the acceptance ID is currently only incremented by 1 as each BOA is accepted for that BMU. National Grid was therefore proposing that the acceptance ID should be incremented in steps of 10 to facilitate the acceptance of these infrequent BOAs but would like confirmation from Panel Members before the next Panel meeting if possible that such a change would not impact any of their Companies' internal processes. It was agreed that Panel Members should respond to National Grid on this issue before the next Panel meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

**Action: Panel Members** 

## AOB04 – Electro-Magnetic Transient (EMT) Issues

- 1094. National Grid explained that a recent energisation of an offshore windfarm had appeared to create an Electro Magnetic Transient (EMT) for a large nearby power station. The EMT or ensuing transient voltage had interfered with protective equipment at the power station and posed a significant risk of trip of the entire station. Transient voltages may be particularly onerous when switching cables or cable/transformer or composite circuits as is the case when the wind farm is being switched from the circuit breaker connecting the farm to the point of connection on the transmission or distribution systems. There was a need therefore to ensure that offshore windfarms are planned and designed so that when operated, their switching did not produce unacceptable EMT voltage transients on the host network, and other Users connected to it, be it National Grid's transmission system or a DNO's distribution system. For transmission connections, National Grid would assure itself that this is the case including where the customer intends to use appropriate mitigation measures on its network. For embedded wind farm connections, it is the responsibility of the host DNO to assure itself on this issue.
- 1095. National Grid also raised, for information, that offshore wind farms are generally sources of harmonic pollution and that their passive network (cable) may adversely magnify the pre-existing harmonic distortion at the point of connection. National Grid carries out an ER G5/4 harmonic assessment for such connections as required under CC.6.1.5(a). The DNO's are also required to meet ER G5/4 in respect of harmonics for wind farms connecting to their networks.
- 1096. It was also agreed that the DNO representatives would raise the issue at the forthcoming Distribution Code Review Panel.

**Action: Relevant Panel Members** 

## AOB05 – Outage Planning and Notification for Users with Restrictions on Availability

1097. A Generator representative raised the issue of a letter sent to Alison Kay, Commercial Director, Transmission on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2008. The letter suggested that the OC2 process was not working properly in the context of a recent outage for a power station. National Grid agreed to investigate the issue and liaise with the Panel

Member about its response.

Action: National Grid (LM)

## 23. Date of Next Meeting

1098. The next meeting will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at National Grid House, Warwick. The meeting will commence at 10:00am.