

Headline Report – Grid Code Review Panel

Meeting Name	Grid Code Review Panel
Meeting Number	31
Date of Meeting	7 th February 2008
Time	10:00am – 2:00pm
Venue	National Grid House, Warwick

This note sets out the headlines and key decisions of the Grid Code Review Panel on the 7th February 2008. Full minutes of the meeting will be produced and subsequently approved at the next Panel meeting and will then be published on the website.

1) Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Grid Code Review Panel (GCRP) meeting held on 15th November 2007 were APPROVED subject to minor amendments. The minutes will be accessible from the Grid Code website in due course.

2) Working Group Reports

Compliance

The first meeting of the Working Group took place on 15th January 2008. The main focus on the meeting was the codification of the technical performance requirements currently specified in the relevant guidance notes. The recommendations from this aspect of the Working Group discussions will be presented at May 2008 GCRP for review/approval.

The Panel AGREED that the remit of the Working Group would be expanded to incorporate a review of National Grid and Users' compliance responsibilities for Licence Exempt Embedded Medium Power Stations (LEEMPS).

The group's terms of reference would be amended accordingly with the Working Group providing a revised timeline for the completion of work to the May 2008 GCRP meeting.

Data Exchange

The Working Group has identified a preferred solution which is being further developed by group members. The preferred solution will identify, within the body of the Grid Code, as to which data (specifying associated clauses) is being transferred to the Scottish Transmission Owners. It is anticipated that the Working Group will present its final recommendations at May 2008 GCRP meeting.

Low Voltage Demand Disconnection (LVDD)

The Report to the Authority was submitted on 22nd November 2007. The Panel noted that the Working Group had been stood down until a decision had been received from Ofgem regarding next steps.

Rated MW

The Working Group continues to evaluate possible generic solutions, identifying the associated advantages and disadvantages for each. The Working Group noted that it may be possible to combine a technical and commercial solution which would be highlighted to the Balancing Services Standing Group (BSSG) for further investigation.

Gas Insulated Switchgear

The first external meeting of the joint Grid Code/CUSC GIS Working Group is scheduled to take place on 26th February 2008. The Working Group terms of reference would be submitted for Panel approval at the May 2008 GCRP meeting.

3) Small Embedded Generation Loss Risk on System High Frequency Excursions

The Panel were INFORMED of a risk to the security of the total GB power system caused by the possible simultaneous tripping of an unknown amount of Small Embedded Generation Power Stations under a system high frequency excursion. The Panel NOTED that such plant is not subject to the Grid Code requirements of continuous operation up to

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52Hz and may have been set to meet the 50.5Hz trip requirement of Engineering Recommendation G59/1.

National Grid has requested assistance from the DNOs to provide information on the amount of small generation and its high frequency trip setting within their licensed area. The information will allow National Grid to quantify, assess and manage the current level of risk to the security of the GB Transmission System should a frequency excursion above 50.5 Hz occur.

National Grid will provide a table summarising the information required and provide additional clarification which will assist DNOs in how to quantify the maximum simultaneous loss and the submission of data.

The Panel NOTED that the DNO would submit data based on the worst case scenario i.e. loss of generation, demand remains. This would enable National Grid to complete an initial risk assessment. National Grid would report back to the Panel should any further information be required, providing sufficient justification.

4) Planning Data

The Panel NOTED that the submission of accurate detailed planning data within 28 days of accepting a CUSC contract was proving problematic given the long lead time of projects i.e. procurement contracts not signed until closer to the actual completion date. The Panel NOTED that National Grid required the information such that it could assess offers against an accurate contracted background.

National Grid AGREED to undertake a review of the current provisions outlining the existing obligations and highlighting any potential issues.

5) New Technologies

The Panel NOTED that National Grid will provide an update on potential Grid Code issues regarding the utilisation of new generation technologies at the May 2008 GCRP meeting. It was noted that any information from industry participants would be informative when discussing the matters in detail.

6) Protection

A review of CC.6.2.2.2(b) has indicated that the provisions do not provide for adequate discrimination between National Grid's and the Generator's protection systems where two Main Protections and one Back-Up protection has been installed on the Generator's system. Panel Members agreed to input the various policies of their Companies to National Grid so that an assessment could be made of the appropriateness of the proposed transitional arrangements with a view to bringing the issue back to a future Panel meeting.

7) Operational Metering for LEEMPS

National Grid presented a paper outlining the Operational Metering System for LEEMPS. The Panel were invited to review the paper providing any comments to National Grid. It was agreed that CC.6.4.4 and CC.6.5.6 should be reviewed in order to determine whether any consequential Grid Code changes would be required.

8) Offshore Transmission

National Grid gave a summarised update of the latest developments in the establishment of an Offshore Transmission regime.

The Panel NOTED that publication of the final policy proposals was due in April 2008 with the consultation paper on the full regime changes (inclusive of associated legal text changes in the Codes) due in June 2008. The Group noted that the proposed Go-Active (December 2008) and Go-Live (December 2009) dates for the Offshore Transmission regime would be reflective of the Energy Bill timetable and may be subject to change.

9) Impact of Other Code Modifications

The Panel NOTED that CAP148 (Deemed Access Rights to the GB Transmission System for Renewable Generation) was submitted to the Authority for determination on 14th

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December 2007. Significant changes to the Grid Code would be required should the Authority approve CAP148 or alternative.

The Panel NOTED that CAP149 (TEC Lite) was submitted to the Authority for determination on 4th February 2008. In the event of CAP149 being approved (and dependant on which opinion was selected), the proposal may necessitate consequential changes to the Grid Code.

10) Any Other Business

AOB1

The Panel NOTED that the patent application from a European wind farm manufacturer regarding wind farm technology had been rejected by a UK court; this decision was currently under appeal by the claimant. The Panel NOTED that a similar case had also been rejected by a court in Germany.

The Panel AGREED that the decision was a good result for the industry for ensuring competition within the market place.

AOB2

National Grid informed the GCRP that it would shortly be offering the service of subscribing to e-mail notifications of changes to the Codes on the National Grid website similar to the service currently provided by Elexon for the BSC. Notification of the alerts service will be communicated to the Grid Code community.

AOB3

The Panel NOTED the proposed May 2008 implementation date for the MW Profile Interface application which would allow Users with a Bilateral Embedded Licence Exemptable Large Power Station Agreement (BELLA) to submit PNs. The Panel were informed that User testing for the new application would take place during March 2008 and that volunteers from the User community were being sought to facilitate the testing programme.

11) Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 15th May 2008 at National Grid House, Warwick. The meeting will commence at 10:00am.