

Implications for the Grid Code of the CUSC Transmission Access Amendment Proposals

CUSC Transmission Access Amendment Proposals

This paper outlines the Grid Code issues which arise from CUSC Amendment Proposals CAP161 - CAP166¹. The CUSC Amendment proposals were raised in response to the issues discussed and identified from Ofgem's Transmission Access Review (TAR)². The intention of the suite of Amendment Proposals is to improve access arrangements to facilitate the anticipated connection of large volumes of generation whilst maintaining an efficient and reliable network.

- CAP161 – SO Release of Short-term Entry Rights
Allows National Grid to release via auction an incremental volume of shorter term access rights where it believes these exist.
- CAP162 – Entry Overrun
Allows generators to export MW at a level above their contracted TEC level, subject to the payment of an overrun charge which is reflective of the operational costs that such running has resulted in.
- CAP163 – Entry Capacity Sharing
Allows TEC to be more easily shared between multiple Power Stations.
- CAP164 – Connect and Manage
Allows the introduction of a connection regime whereby a new Power Station would be able to connect to the GB Transmission System at the later date of the completion of its "local" connection works or another pre-defined minimum lead time of 4 years.
- CAP165 – Finite Long-term Entry Rights
Redefines the existing TEC product as a finite right with fixed start and end dates rather than the existing rolling right which has no end date but instead can be terminated with 6 months notice (or reduced with 5 days notice)
- CAP166 – Long-term Entry Capacity Auctions
Proposes to fundamentally restructure the allocation of TEC rights through the use of a competitive auction rather than the existing first come first served, invest then connect regime.

The Amendment Reports for CAP161- CAP165 were presented to the December 2008 CUSC Amendment Panel. These Amendment Reports have been delivered to Ofgem for their consideration and ultimately a decision by the Authority on whether the amendments will be made. CAP166 has been granted an extension and will be delivered to Ofgem in March 2009. Subject to Authority's approval, the proposals will become effective from April 2010.

Grid Code Implications

From a Grid Code perspective the proposals will have minimal impact on the fundamental technical and operational requirements specified, as any User, utilising the new access products, must continue to be compliant with the applicable parts of the Grid Code.

All of the CUSC Transmission Access Amendment Proposals will introduce a new commercial capacity term into the CUSC: Local Capacity Nomination (LCN). LCN (allocated on a Power Station not Unit basis) will act as an upper limit on the volume of short-term (including overrun) and long-term access that a User may purchase. LCN cannot exceed CEC (Power Station not Unit allocation).

The introduction of this new capacity will have both planning and operational implications and as such will necessitate a formal Grid Code review such that:

¹ <https://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/systemcode/amendments/currentamendmentproposals/>

² <http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/Networks/Trans/ElecTransPolicy/tar/Pages/Traccrw.aspx>

1. the term is crossed referenced in the appropriate places (within the Code) and
2. the existing rules, governing the submission of data during operational timescales aligns with the new capacity term³.

Way Forward

National Grid invites the GCRP to:

- Acknowledge the development (and progress) of the CUSC Transmission Access Amendment Proposals and the associated impact on the Grid Code.
- Note that National Grid will instigate a formal Grid Code review, reporting back to the GCRP (at May 2009 panel meeting) with the associated findings and recommendations. Any subsequent proposals identified will be progressed in a timely manner such that it aligns with the proposed implementation date of CAP161 - CAP166.

³ [Data Validation, Consistency & Defaulting Rules](#)