

Grid Code Review Panel

Proposed GCRP Meeting Governance Review

1. This paper proposes National Grid's recommendations for the next steps for the development of the governance for Grid Code Review Panel **meetings**.
2. There are two triggers for the governance review of GCRP meetings; the recent rise in volume of GCRP meeting business and the Code Governance Review:
 - During 2010 the volume and complexity of the issues being brought to the GCRP meetings has steadily increased and this has resulted in insufficient time being available to consider all issues. Following the November 2010 meeting, an additional Extraordinary meeting had to be convened in order to complete the agenda.
 - The Code Governance Review was initiated by Ofgem in 2007, with final proposals made in March 2010 via licence changes. The review was principally focused on the Connection and Use of System Code, Balancing and Settlement Code and gas Uniform Network Code. That notwithstanding, the intention has always been that, once the principles have been implemented and tested, the Code Administrators of the other codes look to apply best practice. The licence changes require all the CUSC, BSC and UNC code changes to be implemented by 31st December 2010, after which a tripartite Code Administration standing group is to be established to share best practice and reflect this in the Code Administration Code of Practice.
3. The Panel is being asked to consider and agree to National Grid's recommendation in order to ensure that all business is satisfactorily concluded in the GCRP meeting slot and we start to align processes with the best practice of other codes.
4. The recommendations are made up of 2 stages; the first, minimum step, is to ensure that the GCRP more rigidly follows its existing processes and procedures and additional guidance is published to communicate in more detail how the Panel should operate. These quick wins should be applied as soon as practical. An assessment would then be made of whether sufficient improvement had been achieved and whether one or both of the remaining steps should be applied, with the scheduling of additional meetings.
 - **Step 1: Seek to clarify/ streamline existing process.** National Grid to produce a document detailing best practice under the existing governance framework. An initial list of improvements are detailed in Appendix 1.
 - **Step 2(a): Additional GCRP meetings** - Schedule six meetings per year, to minimise the duration between meetings. Potentially these could be held in January, March, May, July, September and November.
 - **Step 2(b): Establishment of a Grid Code Issues Group** – The Issues Group would report to the GCRP and would consider and make recommendations on specific issues prior to Panel meetings. The GCRP

meeting would continue to sanction new development issues, the establishment of Working Groups and final WG Reports.

5. Recommended Timeline: A document clarifying the revised processes under Step 1 will be published prior to the February 2011 GCRP meeting and an agenda item would be added to the following meeting (May) in order to assess whether or when either of steps 2a or 2b should be implemented.
6. GCRP members are invited to agree for National Grid to implement the proposed actions to the agreed timeline.

Appendix 1: Step 1 – Examples of clarifications of existing processes

Ensure minutes are thoroughly commented upon prior to meeting – Final approval at meeting only.
Consultation Update and Development Issues paper only discussed by exception.
Working Group Update – Limited to update of progress – detailed discussions taken out of GCRP.
Avoid detailed “workshopping” of issues in GCRP meeting - Use of one- off Issues Group meetings or bilateral discussions – (pre scheduled slots available).
Firmer adherence to core GCRP business i.e. as expressed within Section 4 fo the Constitution and Rules (Web link to C&R)
Clear, timely and brief papers to be produced with unambiguous recommendations. Panel will be asked to accept, reject or send back for further work.
To ensure meeting efficiency, meeting attendance should be consistant with that described in Setion 5 fo the Constitution and Rules e.g. Alternates only attend in place of a member or when required as an Advisor.
Clear, consise presentations, with specific recommendations, circulated for comment one week prior to meeting.
Summary of actions paper – More detailed update of progress so only ‘ongoing’ and complex actions require additional comment.