G5/4 Working Group Headlines

- Working Group Initiated in October 2010 with representation from
 - Distribution and transmission network owners
 - Generation developers and manufacturers
 - Electrical equipment suppliers
- Chairman's view of Progress
 - Good progress on technical issues
 - Mixed results so far from international comparisons
 - Research work due to complete first half 2012 will allow further conclusions to be drawn
 - Further work required on
 - "Allocation of Rights"
 - Roles and Responsibilities
 - Opportunity to review group membership

Progress against ToR

Standards

- Are there international standards (eg IEC TR 61000-3-6) which could be adopted?
 - The group could not identify tangible benefits from moving to the 'IEC' approach
 - Some uncertainty within the group over how it is applied in practice
 - Some technical considerations (eg magnification) appear to be missing
- Whether other technical standards need to change
 - Subject to final conclusions

Progress against ToR

Allocation of Rights

- First come first served vs other approaches?
 - 'IEC' approach and supplemental guidance used in Australia was used as a basis of discussion
 - No clear evidence found for the benefits of a different approach
 - The group felt 'first come first served' was still consistent with the current commercial frameworks in GB and offshore
 - New commercial parameters (eg "Agreed Power") needed to implement a different approach

Next steps

- The group feels that a clearer cost benefit case is required to justify the case for any change
- Additional expertise required to complete the work
- Action is with National Grid to examine the case for different treatment at transmission voltages by March 2012

Progress against ToR

Evaluation of Background Levels

- Clarification of measurement criteria?
 - Review of measurements shows significant seasonal variations
 - Current criteria in minimum of 1 week
 - Proposal developed and included in draft document to make explicit provision for longer periods where there is a good case to do so

Roles and Responsibilities

- Roles and responsibilities of Transmission (onshore and offshore)
 Owners, Distribution Network Owners and Users
 - Consensus amongst group that G5/4 places responsibility for ensuring compliance is with the network owner
 - No case for change identified
 - Different commercial approaches applied to discharging responsibility (self assessment, sub-contracting, third party)
 - Offshore transmission issues not yet considered in detail

Progress against ToR

Technical Issues

- Are the harmonic levels in G5/4 adequate/acceptable?
 - Current levels are consistent with international practice
 - Review of relationship between planning and compatibility levels initiated via Energy Networks Association due for completion in summer 2012
- Harmonics above the 50th
 - G5/4 provides limit values up to the 50th
 - Literature and equipment supplier survey initiated via Energy Networks Association to develop proposals for criteria to be applied above the 50thdue for completion late Spring 2012
- Assessing harmonic levels for fluctuating loads
 - Proposal developed and included in draft document
- Review of guidance on approach to new connections where Planning Levels are already exceeded
 - Proposal developed and included in draft document
- Is the assessment process fit for purpose?
 - Review initiated to examine appropriate scope of assessment initiated via Energy Networks Association due for completion in summer 2012

Progress against ToR

Other Issues

- Would it be more efficient got the network owner to provide harmonic mitigation rather than connectee?
 - Mitigation is normally currently provided by customers upon connection
 - Group concluded that
 - G5/4 does not preclude a change in approach where appropriate
 - Care would need to be taken to ensure equitable treatment of customers
 - Technical and commercial justification required on a case by case basis
- Harmonic data exchange for Transmission connections
 - Concerns raised over the time taken to exchange the data required to finalise the specification of harmonic mitigation measures
 - Bilateral discussions between NGET and developer highlighted the opportunity to improve the process by:
 - Making information on network characteristics available earlier
 - Ensuring that the process was discussed and timescales agreed immediately post connection offer
 - Changes to bilateral agreement templates made as a result

Next Steps

- First draft of new document to be published Spring 2012
- Further assessment on Allocation of Rights to be concluded in 2012
- In flight research due for completion by Summer 2012
- Change proposals to be presented in September 2012