

Minutes

Meeting name	Grid Code Review Panel
Meeting number	71
Date of meeting	21 January 2015
Time	10:00am – 3:00pm
Location	National Grid House, Warwick.

Attendees

Name	Role	Initials	Company
Ian Pashley	Chair	IP	National Grid
Emma Radley	Code Administrator	ER	National Grid
Alex Thomason	Code Administrator	AT	National Grid
Julian Wayne	Authority Member	JW	Ofgem
Tom McCartan	Externally Interconnected System Operators Member	TM	SONI
Guy Nicholson	Generators with Novel Units Member	GN	Senergy Econnect
Alastair Frew	Large Generator (>3GW) Member	AF	Scottish Power
John Norbury	Large Generator (>3GW) Member	JN	RWE
Andy Vaudin	Large Generator (>3GW) Member	AV	EDF Energy
Mike Kay	Network Operator (E&W) Member	MK	ENW
Gordon Kelly	Network Operator (Scot.) Member	GK	Scottish Power
Tom Davies	Non Embedded Customers Member	TD	Magnox
Marta Krajewska	Generator (Small and/or Medium) Member	MKr	Energy UK
Richard Lowe	Transmission Licensee (SHE Transmission) Member	RL	SHE Transmission
Robert Longden	Suppliers	RLo	Cornwall Energy
Graham Stein	NGET Member	GS	National Grid
Ivan Kileff	NGET Member	IK	National Grid
Rob Wilson	NGET Member	RW	National Grid
Richard Woodward	NGET Member	RJW	National Grid
Jim Barrett	Large Generator (>3GW) Alternate	JB	Centrica
Campbell McDonald	Large Generator (>3GW) Alternate	CMD	SSE Generation
Guy Phillips	Large Generator (>3GW) Member	GP	E.ON
Richard Lavender	NGET Advisor	RLa	National Grid
Sara-Lee Kenney	NGET Presenter	SLK	National Grid
Ben Marshall	NGET Presenter (part meeting)	BM	National Grid
Jingling Sun	NGET Observer (part meeting)	JS	National Grid

Apologies

Name	Role	Initials	Company
Nick Rubin	BSC Panel Member	NR	ELEXON
John Lucas	BSC Panel Alternate	JL	ELEXON
Alan Creighton	Network Operator (E&W) Member	AC	Northern Powergrid
Sigrid Bolik	Generators with Novel Units Alternate	SB	Repower
Alan Barlow	Non Embedded Customers Alternate	AB	Magnox
Roddy Wilson	Transmission Licensee (SHE Transmission) Alternate	RWi	SHE Transmission
Mayure Daby	Authority Alternate	MD	Ofgem
Lisa Waters	Generator (Small and/or Medium) Alternate	LW	Waters Wye
Diarmaid Gillespie	Externally Interconnected System Operators Alternate	DG	Eirgrid
Philip Jenner	Large Generator (<3GW) Member	PJ	Horizon Nuclear Power
Deborah MacPherson	Transmission Licensee (SPT) Member	DM	SPT
Neil Sandison	Network Operator (Scot.) Alternate	NS	SSE
Alan Kelly	Transmission Licensee (SPT) Alternate	AK	SPT

1 Introductions & Apologies

3915. IP noted that this is the first meeting of the 2015 GCRP membership following the recent elections and welcomed the new members that were in attendance. The apologies were noted.

2 Approval of Minutes

a) November 2014 GCRP Minutes

3916. The minutes were approved by the Panel.

ACTION: Upload minutes onto the National Grid website.

3 Review of Actions

a) Summary of Actions

GC0063: Power Available

3917. **Minute 3219: Produce Lessons Learnt slide.** An Authority Decision was received on 8 January 2015 so this action will be completed at the next GCRP.

GC0080: RES

3918. **Minute 3829: Provide an explanation / matrix on the Electrical Standards Documents webpage to portray how the standards apply.** AT advised that this has been done and she is currently looking at the best format in which to provide this on the National Grid website.

3919. **Minute 3829: SPT and SHE Transmission to update the GCRP on any plans and timescales for reviewing the electrical standards applicable in Scotland.** RL advised that a review is being considered for SHE Transmission and GK advised that this is also true for SPT. RL advised that he has had some dialogue with SPT with regard to this and would be able to provide an update at the next Panel. MK asked a question regarding the governance of how this works and where the responsibilities lie, specifically what is the ultimately line of control from a governance point of view - are the Scottish companies compelled by the licence to keep the standards up to date, or should it be in the STC? CMD noted that the OFTOs should be included in the governance as well. It was agreed for National Grid to take the action. GS advised that National Grid are not kept informed with regard to the electrical standards in Scotland, but the RES is a requirement under the Grid Code and National Grid can at least set out the framework.

ACTION: Put together a note on the governance of the electrical standards and where the responsibilities lie (GS/RW).

3920. **Minute 3884: Remove 3, 4 and 9 and reference original documents until they are finalised, and change listing to remove 20 and 21 or provide clarity on what is applicable.** ER advised that this has been taken on board and will be corrected at the appropriate time.

European Network Codes

3921. **Minute 3845: Ask ENTSO-E for an update on the work being carried out to produce a common set of definitions.** RW advised that there is no further update from the previous meeting although noting that the Commission had identified this as a requirement as well. It was agreed to remove this action and provide an update when available.

GC0088: Voltage Unbalance.

3922. **Minute 3873: Arrange a workshop for January 2015 to discuss further and send out draft Terms of Reference for review.** Complete – workshop arranged for 2 February 2015 and Terms of Reference circulated.

GC0087: Development of Grid Code Frequency Response Provisions.

3923. **Minute 3822: Arrange a workshop for February and report back to March 2015 GCRP.** Complete – workshop planned for 3 March 2015.

GC0038: Electricity Balancing System Group.

3924. **Minute 3880: Provide an update on the latest status of the EBS project and circulate to Panel.** RJW advised that the latest status was published in December and a paper on Multi-Shaft Modelling would be presented to the March Panel. ER advised that she would circulate the EBS status update to the Panel after the meeting. *[Post-meeting note – update circulated and link to website provided]*.

GC0079: Frequency Changes during Large Disturbances and their Impact on the Total System.

3925. **Minute 3890: Publish GC0079 updated Terms of Reference and email Grid Code distribution list to invite new members to join.** Complete – email sent 27 November 2014.

System Operability Framework (SOF)

3926. **Minute 3909: Include GCRP on the distribution list for SOF communications and arrange for a presentation on SOF at the next Panel meeting.** Complete – as per item 4.

Market Operation Data Interface System (MODIS)

3927. **Minute 3910: Consider how best to provide updates to the Panel on MODIS.** Discussed under Item 6 (a).

4 System Operability Framework

3928. BM presented on the System Operability Framework (SOF) and explained that SOF takes the future energy scenarios (Low Carbon Life, Gone Green, Slow Progression and New Progression) together with current operational experience, studies them in detail and identifies from this a wide range of effects upon the operability of the system that can be dimensioned in significance and occurrence over the next 20 years. From this a range of approaches to address and adapt to the operability challenges to the future can be identified, together with the challenges of transition towards these future states to inform further Industry developments. Following its first publication SOF was consulted on in 2014 and the next steps are to consider how the document evolves over the next few months as part of the 2015 assessment process. BM explained that the network is evolving and there are developments associated with increasing the required system capabilities which require particular focus. With Generation, a changing generation mix, location and predictability also influences the future operability landscape. With demand there are a lot of changes, including the way in which domestic customers use their energy and a general move from high inertia conventional rotating plant to smaller embedded plant and renewables. BM advised that, for example, there is a gradual decline in the Q/P ratio (where Q is the reactive power demand and P is the active power demand) which means that there are high voltage problems coming to the fore, and that the decline in system inertia is driving new approaches for frequency response, noting the recently successful Network Innovation

Competition (NIC) project. Enhanced Frequency Control Capability is intended to make strong progress in this area over the next couple of years.

3929. BM moved on to looking specifically at System Inertia and Frequency Containment and noted that the SOF considers what level of inertia is needed on the system and the quantity of primary response and spinning reserve across the future scenarios. BM explained that potentially we may need a response rate of 1148 MWs by 2025, which is three times the current amount. JN queried whether there should be more commercial drivers for innovative solutions to be developed. BM advised that the SOF is illustrating the challenge rather than dictating any particular solution and that the SOF is also mapping out the timeframes, as such providing the landscape against which commercial and other changes might be considered. BM summarised the SOF consultation in that there was good engagement and generally positive responses. A number of comments indicated that the impact of change at the distribution level needs to be better articulated. BM noted that there was a strong desire from the industry to be involved during all the different stages of development of SOF. BM also mentioned a number of engagement forums that are in existence currently that focus on various aspects including generation, transmission, distribution and supply and that whilst these would continue to be supported, there would also be a separate consultation focussed on SOF this year.
3930. Moving on to timescales, BM reminded the Panel that the consultation had taken place in September 2014 and that there is a pre-assessment industry workshop planned for April 2015 which will present initial thinking for the 2015 SOF and look for industry input, prior to getting into the assessment stage in the summer, and then another workshop towards the end of August ahead of issuing the next SOF consultation in September 2015. The priorities for the 2015 SOF are looking at better articulation of across transmission and distribution operability issues and to provide an update on innovation activities and what is needed, and also what the engagement strategy will be. BM welcomed feedback from the presentation and the 2014 SOF document such that this may inform the 2015 process
3931. AV queried where the SOF goes after the next consultation, whether there will be any governance around it. BM responded that this has been discussed within National Grid and that in many areas of code development, the scope and focus of working groups complements and has been informed by SOF work, but that equally this is an area that National Grid wants to engage with industry on. BM also mentioned that they were looking at the 2015 document over how best code work, R&D work, and their priorities could be better summarised. IP added that engagement is key to this. CMD asked who the target audience is with this and who runs with what the outcome is. BM advised that there are various targets across Industry, Government and other stakeholders and that they are communicating on a number of levels, but the SOF is essentially seeking to inform on the landscape of future system change for these various audiences. BM added that there is a piece of work to be done around optimal communication across these audiences and whether changes to next year's document are appropriate. CMD felt that the solutions in the SOF are possible routes that need to be developed further, and he queried who would develop these. JW asked what the engagement with DECC had been. BM advised that they have had positive feedback from DECC on the SOF 2014 process but was unsure of their views on specific issues. RW clarified that the SOF is advisory and there is no governance around it, it is there for information which should help to inform developments and priorities.
3932. GN wondered whether a discussion on the FES scenarios was needed in the Panel at some stage. It was noted that there are other forums where this may sit best. GN also had a slight concern about similar work that had been carried out before under a different guise and felt that the SOF needed some continuity. CMD made a point regarding avoiding making conclusions or predictions regarding work that is ongoing with existing workgroups. BM agreed with this and noted that this is not the intent of the original document, but that further editorial work would seek to avoid that impression being given in the 2015 document.

5 New Grid Code Development Issues

a) SSR Roles and Responsibilities for DC Converters

3933. GS explained that the Grid Code requires DC Converter owners, and OTSDUW parties where relevant, to ensure that their DC Converter “will not cause a sub-synchronous resonance problem”. Industry discussions recently reviewed under GC0077 (Suppression of SSR from Series Capacitive Compensation) and GSR018 (Sub-Synchronous Oscillations) highlighted that there are various views on how the requirement as stated in CC.6.3.16 should be applied over the lifetime of the equipment. There is a need to reach an agreed view and if necessary change the Grid Code to clarify roles and responsibilities. GS advised that the work under GC0077 and GSR018 should be concluded before the next steps on this issue are progressed. GS explained that this paper is to raise the issue and record that it needs to be dealt with after the conclusions from the other groups. AF felt that the Workgroup will finish within the next 4 to 6 months and agreed with the next steps suggested by GS. IP agreed that it was useful to formally register this issue. CMD asked if this needed to go to the CUSC Panel as there may be potential impacts with regard to the claim limits. GP commented that another issue is the impact on existing stations next to where a link is coming in. AV asked if this was a live issue or theoretical for the future. AF responded that it is a live issue as there are currently HDVC connections. AF wondered who has the responsibility in the situation where a generator is built next to a link. JN asked about the timeframes. GS advised that GC0077 has already been out to consultation and that there are at least two or three meetings on GSR018 left so it will take a few months and could come back to the Panel in the summer.

6 Existing Grid Code Development Issues

a) GC0038: Electricity Balancing Standing Group

3934. It was noted that at the last GCRP there had been consideration as to whether to keep GC0038 open. RJW advised the Panel that there had been an update posted on the National Grid website before Christmas 2014 which provided an updated timeline on EBS, [with Go-live delayed to July 2016](#). RJW asked the Panel whether they would prefer GC0038 to remain open and how they wish to be informed of IS updates. IP advised that the EBSG last met in March 2014 and asked the Panel for views. JN felt that there is some downplaying of the potential impact of this system on EBS users and that users are still in effect waiting for when the changes come in. JN added that there needs to be some business oversight of this [to enable Users in order to keep informed, given the material impact of the EBS changes on Users' systems](#). CMD felt that this is not a managed process and that there is an ownership on National Grid to communicate with industry on where they are. RJW wondered whether GC0038 satisfies that issue or whether there is more to be done. RJW summarised the Panel's views, that IS updates to the Panel are sensible. CMD felt that there needs to be a programme in so that users are fully informed. RJW proposed to keep GC0038 open and perhaps look at its Terms of Reference and speak to IS to understand better their timescales. RW noted that GC0038 could be kept open unless another means to communicate issues and to engage with stakeholders is identified. IP concluded that there is a definite case for looking at the EBSG plan and engaging ahead of that.
3935. IP gave an update on MODIS and advised that it has been operating since 5 January 2015. IP noted that there had been some initial technical issues but MODIS is now working acceptably; and also that an update to MODIS, that would introduce the ability to upload data via a GUI, was due shortly. IP acknowledged the magnitude of the system developments and the impact on Parties; and stated that there would be a 'lessons learnt' exercise to ensure future EU IS developments could benefit from the experience gained. JN mentioned the remaining GC0068 (Grid Code New and Revised Unit Data and Instructions) changes that had been waiting for the EBS go live and suggested that this could be looked at now.

ACTION: Consider next steps for GC0068 following delay to EBS implementation (RW)

ACTION: Circulate EBS update to Panel (ER). [\[Post-meeting note – update can be located under the Timescales and FAQ's header at at](#)

[http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Industry-information/Electricity-codes/Balancing-framework/Document-feeds/EBS-\(BM-Replacement\)/EBS-IT-Sub-Group/](http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Industry-information/Electricity-codes/Balancing-framework/Document-feeds/EBS-(BM-Replacement)/EBS-IT-Sub-Group/)

b) GC0086: Grid Code Open Governance

3936. ER updated the Panel on the latest developments for GC0086 and noted that the Workgroup Consultation had closed on 8 January 2015 and that a total of 9 responses had been received. ER advised that there had been a mixture of views and that the Workgroup are meeting on 13 February 2015 to discuss the responses and to try and reach a conclusion on the main issues in preparation for the publication of the Industry Consultation. ER advised that following the next consultation which is planned for February/March, the GCRP will be updated further at their March meeting and there will be a further Workgroup meeting in April to discuss the Industry Consultation responses. The Final Report will then be drafted and it is planned to submit this to the Authority around May 2015. If approved, there might potentially be a period of around 6 months to consult on licence drafting by Ofgem. It is then planned to have the new arrangements in place in January 2016, pending the outcome of the Authority decision.
3937. GN suggested that it would be useful to have visibility of the responses to the GC0086 Workgroup Consultation. ER advised that she would circulate them and publish on the website.

ACTION: Publish GC0086 Workgroup Consultation responses and circulate to GCRP (ER).

c) GC0080: RES

3938. GS advised that it had been planned to issue the suite of documents on 19 January 2015 but that instead they are being published tomorrow (22 January) to coincide with another implementation to ease the administrative burden and to reduce the email and paperwork traffic to industry parties. GS advised that there is more work to do on the electrical standards for National Grid and there will be some communications over the next few weeks. GS advised that GC0080 will be kept on the agenda for next GCRP meeting. It was clarified that there will be new versions of the templates on the website and offers should not be quoting the National Grid technical specifications.

7 Workgroups in Progress

a) GC0048: European Network Codes – RfG Implementation

3939. RW provided an update on GC0048 and noted that there has been some progress from the Commission in that a new version of the code is due to be released to member states today (*post-meeting note – the code was released as planned on 21 January 2015*). There is a meeting of the Cross Border Committee planned for 4 February 2015 to discuss this version and the Commissions' objective is to take it to voting in April 2015 and for it to enter into force around June/July 2015. There will then be a period of time to implement it. It was noted that if the draft is not released as planned then the meeting would not go ahead. RW advised that there are some difficult issues, including working out the banding thresholds and that there is no more formal consultation planned, therefore DECC need to be made aware of any key issues as soon as possible so that they are able to represent these to the Commission. JW echoed this and added that all parties are encouraged to get involved and to feedback comments to DECC and Ofgem as soon as possible, and to provide full justification for any changes that are suggested. JW added that there is potentially going to be an open DECC/Ofgem stakeholder session next Thursday, 29 January. Afterwards, the input into that meeting will help to formulate the list of key issues DECC will have to support their negotiations. RW advised that if the code is published as planned, there are a number of routes whereby industry will receive the information, including those on the JESG mailing list.

b) GC0075: Hybrid Static Compensators.

3940. RW provided some background on this issue. Power Park Module developers have been installing Hybrid STATCOM / SVC's, which provide a portion (typically 50% to 75%) of their reactive capability from switched reactors and capacitors. Some of these devices have restrictions preventing repeated switching in a short period which can be seen as inconsistent with the concept of "continuously-acting" control which is required by the Grid

Code. Interested parties believe clarification is required of the Grid Code requirements on these devices and that it would be beneficial to form a Workgroup to develop proposals for clearer and more appropriate requirements on Hybrid STATCOM / SVC performance.

3941. RW advised that the group has met on three occasions in 2014 to explore the above issues and the next meeting is scheduled for 26 January 2015. This has involved study work, assessment of manufacturer / equipment capability and the number of events / disturbances that have been recorded on the transmission system over several years with a view to establish a reasonable performance criteria. At the present time draft legal text is being prepared for consideration by the working group before formulation of a working group report and submission to the GCRP. An industry consultation will then follow.

8 Workgroup Reports

3942. None

9 Industry Consultations

a) GC0076: Rapid Voltage Changes

3943. GS advised that pp15/70 had been issued with Panel papers. GS explained that a second consultation has been drafted due to previous comments received, and added that there is no Workgroup in existence for this issue. The concerns that respondents raised included a table in the legal text not being entirely clear. AV asked about any potential overlap with RfG. GS advised not but that there may be some overlap with GC0064 and Revision of Engineering Recommendation P28 which is a joint Grid Code and Distribution Code workgroup. MK suggested that it would be useful to provide some clarity regarding the fact that the event could happen four times in a day, but that this would be infrequent. CMD noted a point on page 3 of the consultation regarding a reference to P28 applying to transmission system in Scotland. GS responded that under the current requirement, P28 applies in Scotland. CMD queried if that related to both 275kV~~✓~~ and 400kV~~✓~~. MK advised that the reason a joint group was established was so that both can feed into the discussion to ensure all areas are covered.

3944. The Panel agreed that they were happy for GC0076 to progress to consultation.

10 Reports to the Authority

3945. None.

11 Progress Tracker

3946. ER noted that pp14/71 was circulated with Panel Papers.

3947. MK ~~commented on~~asked a question regarding on the status of GC0034 (LEEMPS Compliance Assessment). MK ~~felt confirmed~~ that there is no need to keep it on the tracker and it was agreed to remove GC0034. GN asked if it is possible to flag up on tracker when issues are close to implementation or need to be addressed. RW agreed that it can be updated to flag up where issues have reached or breached milestones

3948. CMD noted that there should be an annual report for issues that have been in existence for longer than a year and that he not aware of this ever being done. IP advised that this is carried out but it tends to be a verbal update at the GCRP rather than a written report.

Action: Remove GC0034 and look at amending tracker to highlight issues that are close to implementation or may need to be addressed or see where WG are up to. (RW)

12 Pending Authority Decisions

3949. None.

13 Standing Items

a) European Network Codes

3950. The Panel noted that pp15/72 was circulated with Panel papers.

b) Joint European Standing Group

3951. IP noted that pp15/73, the JESG Headline Report, was circulated to the Panel.

3952. MKr provided an update regarding the re-working of the JESG and other associated forums. MKr noted that there are lots of different sub-groups, including the DECC/Ofgem stakeholder group, but that the JESG is the main forum and there would be a consultation in February 2015 to look out for.

3953. ER advised she would start circulating EU Developments updates that are currently already circulated to CUSC and STC Panel.

c) ECCAF

3954. It was noted that there has not been a meeting in recent months due to delays in some of the codes being progressed.

13 Impact of Other Code Modification or Developments

3955. A codes summary, pp15/74, was circulated to the Panel.

14 Any Other Business

a) Updates on Major IS Projects

3956. RJW and IK advised that this had been discussed under previous items and there was nothing further to add.

b) Grid Code guidance documents

3957. RW advised that a Grid Code Newsletter had been produced and had been published recently, which provides a 1 page outline of the key updates that are relevant to the Grid Code at the time. This has received good feedback so far and it is intended to issue this every 2 months. MK asked whether a headline report for the GCRP would be useful. ER advised that this has been considered previously but felt not necessary as the GCRP is not particularly a decision making body, rather a discussion forum. It was felt that the newsletter covers the key updates. RL noted that the newsletter is widely accessible. JN suggested that the Panel could consider any comments received to the newsletter and also include an invitation in the newsletter ask for subjects- issues to be identified that might be considered under for AOB at the GCRP via the newsletter. RW asked for suggestions regarding the timing of when the newsletter is circulated. JW suggested a couple of weeks before the Panel to give industry chance to give feedback. JB suggested putting a link in the newsletter to the last GCRP minutes and it was agreed that this would be useful.

3958. ER advised the Panel that some work was being carried out currently in order to provide the industry with easy to read guides on Grid Code, CUSC and STC. ER advised that these guides include breakdowns of each code section, an overview of the change process and other information that users may find useful. With regards to the Grid Code Summary, ER

advised that this is currently being tested with a small number of customers to ensure that it meets the objectives of being easy to read and providing a reasonable overview of the code and what it covers. RW added that this is also in response to feedback received from customers advising that the Grid Code is a very technical and difficult to read document.

Action – notify the Panel when the guidance document is available. (ER)

c) Proposed ‘Grid Code Development Forum’

3959. SLK presented to the Panel on the background to this proposed group and the timescales. SLK advised that it is in response to customer and stakeholder feedback that this group is being proposed and noted the link to GC0086 (Grid Code Open Governance) where it was discussed as part of re-structuring the GCRP Membership. However it was noted that it is proposed to set up this group now rather than wait for GC0086 to be progressed as it is not dependant on it and National Grid were considering a group such as this prior to GC0086 being raised. SLK advised that it would be a group that has a core membership but that is open to industry in order to bring any issues they may have and discuss and develop areas of work, outside of the governance of the Grid Code. The Transmission Charging Methodology Forum (TCMF) was highlighted as a comparison, as this is a Standing Group that sits under the CUSC Panel. SLK proposed to hold the first Grid Code discussion forum in February 2015 which would be a collaboration / introductory session, then hold the forum in the month opposite to the GCRP and for the Chair of the advisory forum to report into the GCRP. SLK asked the Panel for their views on this proposed approach. JN felt that it seemed like a lot of work [to organise](#) and it depends on how much interest there would be from industry as to how successful it is, particularly as parties will have very specific areas of interest. JN noted that the TCMF is a well attended event because its subject matter is charging, which affects everyone but that there may not be a similar interest for such a Grid Code group. However JN agreed that it could be worth testing as a trial. GN suggested that it would be helpful to see the responses to the GC0086 Workgroup Consultation in respect to views on the proposed advisory forum. ER advised that she would circulate the responses around the Panel. IP noted what the potential group could provide, in terms of raising an issue in a more informal manner and fleshing out the detail before or if it is raised to the GCRP. RL asked how the Panel might change if this is introduced and it was noted that there may not be a significant difference currently, but that the benefits may be clearer if GC0086 is introduced. GP supported the idea in principle, particularly in the context of Open Governance but advised that it should not be a duplication of the GCRP. MK noted the logistical issues with parties travelling to meetings, particularly from Scotland and Ireland and wondered whether the lack of formality of such a forum would result in people not turning up, however he agreed that it would be useful to trial it. SLK replied referencing the TCMF and the use of teleconferencing or webinar as options for those unable to attend in person to still be part of the discussion.
3960. GS felt that the advisory forum may be useful as it provides a route for some issues that are not necessarily ready for a Workgroup, but need discussing/developing. AF felt that in terms of whether people want to come, it all depends on whether the issues affect them. RJW added that the agenda would not be set by National Grid; instead National Grid would look to the industry to encourage them to add agenda items that are of interest to them. JW had a concern about prolonging issues if there are two forums to discuss issues instead of just the GCRP as it is now. JW wondered if there was an exercise to be done around how Panel Members engage with the parties that they represent, if it is the case that people feel disengaged from the Panel.
3961. The Panel agreed that a trial exercise would be useful in order to test the advisory forum. AV noted that it would be difficult to attend both so there may be a need to provide some comfort that Panel Members are not missing out if they do not attend the advisory group. AF noted that the GCRP meetings are every two months now whereas historically they were every three months. The frequency of the meetings was increased due to having a high volume of agenda items and the Panel meetings lasting for the whole day, but AF advised that the agendas for the last few Panel meetings have been very light and the meetings have been a lot shorter, so there was a question around whether there was still a need for six meetings a year. It was considered that the number of modifications have reduced considerably recently due to the European Codes, and particularly RfG, being in progress. JW felt that 2015/2016 may be a busy year as RfG is nearing the end of the

process. RW agreed and added that there are a lot of issues on hold pending RfG which may cause the workload to increase again soon. It was considered whether the discussion forum could be held adjacent to GCRP, for example having the forum in the morning and the Panel in the afternoon. There was a concern that this may result in all the Panel Members attending the forum which they do not necessarily need to do, and it may also discourage other smaller parties from attending if they feel that the forum is just an extension of the Panel meeting. CMD asked if issues / modifications would need to go through the development forum first before being raised at the GCRP. AT advised that there was no obligation to bring anything to the forum before the Panel, but that it would be encouraged in order to develop an issue before it is raised as to the Panel.

3962. JB noted that often the first time the Panel sees an issue is in the form of a paper presented to the Panel, so the forum could work well in terms of an issue being developed first before it comes to the Panel. CMD agreed and highlighted the example of GC0088 (Voltage Unbalance) which was presented to the Panel in November 2014 and came as a surprise to the Panel and it was felt that a workshop was required to discuss and develop the issue further before forming a Work Group.

Action – National Grid to plan what would be discussed in the Advisory Forum and keep the Panel informed with when and how this is being progressed. (SLK/RW)

d) 2015 Elections

3963. ER noted that it had been recognised in the introductions that this meeting had been the first meeting since closure of the elections for the 2015 GCRP membership and that pp15/75 had been circulated which listed all of the GCRP Members and Alternates of 2015.

e) Annual KPIs

3964. ER advised the Panel that following the introduction of Code Governance Review Phase 2, there was now an obligation to provide annual Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to Ofgem. This is the same for the other code. The KPIs includes data on the average number of respondents to consultations and scores for the Customer Survey. ER advised that the details can be found in pp15/76 and that this report will be compiled in January each year.

f) Other

3965. CMD asked if an update on the BCA technical specification requirements could be provided at the next Panel as it was raised some time ago. It was agreed to put it on the agenda for the March Panel.

13 Next Meeting

3966. The next meeting is planned for 18 March 2015 at National Grid House, Warwick.