

STC Committee Meeting

Minutes and Actions Arising from Meeting No. 33 Held on 17th April 2007 via Teleconference

Present:

David McMenemy	Committee Chairman
Lilian Macleod	Committee Secretary
Bec Thornton	National Grid Electricity Transmission Limited Representative
Layton Jones	National Grid Electricity Transmission Limited Representative
Alec Morrison	Scottish Hydro-Electric Transmission Limited (SHETL) Representative
David Osborne	Scottish Hydro-Electric Transmission Limited (SHETL) Representative
Joe Dunn	SP Transmission Limited (SPT) Representative
Diyar Kadar	SP Transmission Limited (SPT) Representative
Dipen Gadhia	Authority Representative

In Attendance:

Malcolm Arthur	National Grid Electricity Transmission Limited
Kenny Stott	Scottish Hydro-Electric Transmission Limited (SHETL)

1. Introductions/Apologies for Absence

749. The Committee NOTED that the chairmanship of STC Committee had formally changed on the 1st April 2007 to SPT with David McMenemy taking on the role of Chairman.
750. The Committee NOTED and welcomed Diyar Kadar, who will be representing SPT at future STC Committee meetings
751. Apologies of absence were received from Bali Virk (Committee Secretary).

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

752. The draft minutes from the STC Committee Meeting held on 20th 2007 were APPROVED, subject to a minor amendment and will be accessible from the STC website.

3. Review of Actions

753. All the outstanding actions from the previous meetings have been completed or were the subject of agenda items, except from:

- Minute 567 (PLD and TOGA Interface)

The Committee NOTED that SPT had circulated a paper outlining the potential issues with the current arrangements governing the PLDs and TOGA interface to their planning counterparts in National Grid and SHETL. SPT were currently awaiting comments on the paper which would be discussed at May 2007 STC Committee meeting.

National Grid and SHETL Committee representatives will contact their relevant planning colleagues, regarding providing comments on the paper.

Action: National Grid and SHETL

SPT to confirm the contact name(s) of the National Grid's and SHETL's planning representatives to which the paper was circulated to.

Action: SPT

4. New Amendment Proposals

754. There were no new Amendment Proposals.

5. Working Group Reports

755. There were no Working Group Reports.

6. Proposed Amendment Reports

756. The Committee NOTED that the impact assessment from all STC Parties had been incorporated into CA023 (Exchange of Best View Investment Planning Data Outside the Boundary of Influence) Proposed Amendment Report.

757. The Committee ACKNOWLEDGED that it was preferable that all STC Parties had reviewed and agreed with the proposed CA023 legal text, prior to proceeding with industry consultation.

758. The Committee noted that National Grid and SHETL had reviewed and agreed with the proposed legal text. SPT is currently reviewing the proposed CA023 legal text and will provide any appropriate comments by 27th April 2007.

Action: SPT

759. The Committee AGREED that a teleconference would be arranged to finalise the content and legal text of CA023 Proposed Amendment Report prior to Industry Consultation. The teleconference will be scheduled prior to May 2007 STC Committee Meeting.

Action: Committee Secretary

760. The Committee NOTED that the relevant STC Parties are to provide their impact assessment on CA024 (Clarification of Construction Planning Assumption Data Requirements), CA025 (Amendment to STC regarding obligations in Connection Site Specification Submissions) and CA026 (Exchange of Data Amongst Relevant Parties in Schedules 5, 6, 7, 11 and 13) by 27th April 2007.

Action: SHETL and SPT

761. The Committee ACKNOWLEDGED that it was preferable that all STC Parties had reviewed and agreed with the proposed legal text for CA024, CA025 and CA026, prior to proceeding with industry consultation.

762. The Committee NOTED that National Grid and SHETL had reviewed and agreed with the proposed legal text. SPT is currently reviewing the proposed legal text for CA024, CA025 and CA026 and will provide indicative comments by 27th April 2007.

Action: SPT

763. The Committee AGREED that a teleconference would be arranged to finalise the content and associated legal text of CA024, CA025 and CA026. The teleconference will be scheduled prior to May 2007 STC Committee Meeting.

Action: Committee Secretary

764. The Committee NOTED that in accordance with Paragraph 7.2.5, Section B of the STC, the 'Assessment and Report' Phase of the Amendment Process had a time allowance of 4 months for completion. The Committee were INFORMED that the finalised Amendment Reports for CA023, CA024, CA025 and CA026 would therefore have to be submitted to the Authority for determination by w/e 22nd June 2007.

7. Amendment Reports

765. There were no Amendment Reports.

8. Pending Authority Decisions

766. There were no pending Authority Decisions.

9. Authority Decisions

767. There was no recent Authority Decisions.

10. STC Procedures

768. PA048 (Alignment of STC and STCP16-1 Obligations regarding User Works) seeks to improve process clarity and ensure consistency between existing STC provisions and STCP16-1 (Investment Planning) regarding the notification and impact on Users.

769. The Committee NOTED that PA048 (Alignment of STC and STCP16-1 Obligations regarding User Works) would be discussed at April's JPC meeting. STC Party representatives will obtain feedback from their JPC representatives regarding STCP16-1, prior to May 2007 STC Committee Meeting.

Action: National Grid, SHETL and SPT

770. The Committee NOTED that additional changes may be proposed to PA048 such that Appendix B of STCP16-1 refers to the format used currently by the STC Parties.

771. Subject to approval from the JPC, the Committee will formally review the proposed changes to STCP16-1 at May 2007 STC Committee Meeting.

Action: National Grid, SHETL and SPT

772. PA049 (Amendment to STCP19-3 regarding obligations in respect of Connection Site Specifications) seeks to change STCP19-3 to ensure that revised Connection Site Specifications are submitted by the Transmission Owners to National Grid following their revision.

773. The Committee NOTED that should the CA025 be approved by the Authority, it would necessitate consequential changes to STCP19-3 as outlined by PA049. The Committee AGREED that the proposed amendments to STCP19-3, which would be formally reviewed after STC Parties, have finalised and agreed to the content and legal text of CA025.

11. Operational Metering

774. The Committee NOTED that the latest revised version of the Operational Metering paper would be circulated to the Committee for reference purposes.

Action: National Grid

12. Management of System Access in Scotland

775. National Grid presented a revised paper on the Management of System Access in Scotland to the STC Committee. The Committee NOTED and discussed SHETL's response to the paper. SPT will provide comments on the paper to National Grid by 20th April 2007.

Action: SPT

776. The Committee NOTED the importance and potential implications of the issue and agreed that further discussions, debate would be required between the STC Parties prior to any formal STC proposal(s) being submitted.

777. The Committee AGREED to SHETL's suggestion of establishing a 'discussion group' to discuss further the issues raised and posed by National Grid original paper.

778. It was AGREED that the 'discussion' group would provide regular updates to

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Committee and as such no formally representation from Ofgem would be required to attend the meetings.

779. Nominations for the discussion group are to be submitted to National Grid (Malcolm.Arthur@uk.ngrid.com). The meetings will be aligned to existing planned diary events involving STC Parties e.g. Grid Code Black Start Working Group, monthly System Access meetings, National Grid to schedule accordingly.

Action: National Grid, SHETL and SPT

13. Black Start

780. The Committee NOTED that the first meeting of the Grid Code Black Start Review Group took place on 4th April 2007, with subsequent meetings scheduled over the forthcoming months.
781. The Committee were INFORMED that the Working Group meeting had been very informative, with the emphasis being placed on ensuring that members gained an appreciation of the relevant issues.
782. To assist with the Working Group discussions, the Scottish TO's representatives had circulated relevant information on the Scottish Black Start procedures.
783. The Committee NOTED that at this juncture of Working Group discussions, there were no anticipated changes that would be required to the STC and/or STCPs.

14. Offshore Transmission

784. The Committee NOTED that Ofgem's Scoping Document (Offshore Electricity Transmission - second scoping document) had been published on 30th March 2007. Responses to the document are to be submitted by 30th April 2007 and each STC Party had to respond separately. The Committee noted that the scoping document was available on Ofgem's website; the relevant link will be circulated to the Committee.

Action: Ofgem

785. The Committee NOTED that National Grid had begun to undertake a preliminary review of the STC, to gain an appreciation of the anticipated workload regarding Offshore Transmission.
786. The Committee NOTED that any STC changes to reflect the Offshore Transmission regime would not be progressed via the usual STC governance arrangements as outlined in Section B of the STC. The change process would be akin to the provisions utilised under BETTA, with the Secretary of State providing determination on the proposals.
787. The Committee AGREED that given the possible implications of Offshore Transmission on the STC, it was important that the Committee received regularly updates on future development. The issue will remain a regular item on forthcoming STC meeting agendas.

Post Meeting Note

788. Ofgem has arranged an external workshop to discuss the Offshore Electricity Transmission scoping document. The event has been scheduled for 24th April 2007 and will be held in London.

15. Reports from Sub-Committees

Charging User Group

789. The Committee NOTED that the next meeting of ChUG will take place on 24th April 2007. An update of the meeting will be provided to May 2007 STC Committee Meeting.

JPC

790. The Committee NOTED that the next meeting of JPC will take place on 24th April 2007. An update of the meeting will be provided to May 2007 STC Committee Meeting.

Safety Standing Group

791. The Committee NOTED that the industry consultation period for Grid Code Consultation document A/07 (Management of No System Connection) had closed on 29th March 2007. Eight formal responses to the consultation had been received by National Grid.

16. Impact of Other Code Modifications

792. The Committee NOTED the update on the latest developments/topics of discussion from the other codes.
793. The Committee were INFORMED that CAP143 (Interim TEC) and CAP146 (Responsibilities and liabilities associated with Third Party Works and Modifications made by Modification Affected Users) would necessitate consequential changes to the STC and various STCPs.
794. The Committee NOTED that the CAP143 and CAP146 Working Group findings and recommendation would be presented to April's CUSC Amendment Panel, with the view of proceeding to industry consultation thereafter.
795. The Committee NOTED that the necessary STC and STCP changes to 'back off' CAP143 and CAP146 would potentially be submitted to May 2007 STC Committee Meeting.

Action: National Grid

17. Publications

796. There has been no new data, identified by any of the STC Parties, which should be categorised as confidential.

18. Any Other Business

AOB1

797. The Committee noted a paper presented by National Grid on the associated risks on the GB Transmission System of Geomagnetically Induced Currents (GIC). A GIC is a geomagnetically induced current that occurs due to solar flares and coronal mass ejections interacting with the Earth's magnetic field. With the changing magnetic field a current is induced in transformers and can saturate them causing problems in operating correctly and in extreme cases a transformer can trip out causing blackouts.
798. The Committee NOTED that the next peak in the solar cycle was due in 2011 and would require discussions, data exchange between the STC Parties.
799. The Committee NOTED that National Grid were in the process of updating their relevant procedures which would be amended to reflect the entire GB Transmission System and had contacted representatives from SHETL and SPT to discuss the matter.
800. National Grid was informed that David Osborne would be the principle GIC contact for SHETL.

AOB2

801. The Committee NOTED that Ofgem's website (www.ofgem.gov.uk) had been updated. The Committee were INFORMED that users had to re-subscribe to the new

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website such that they continued to receive notification updates.

19. Date of Next Meeting

802. The next meeting of the STC Committee will be held on Tuesday, 22nd May 2007 at 10am. The location will be determined closer to the actual meeting date.