

GSQSS Panel

20 September 2023

SQSS Special Panel Minutes

Date: 20/09/2023 **Location:** Microsoft Teams

Start: 15:00 **End:** 16:08

Participants

Attendee	Initials	Company
Teri Puddefoot	TP	Panel Chair
Tammy Meek	TM	Panel Technical Secretary
Alan Creighton	AC	Panel Member, Network Operator Representative
Antony Johnson	AJ	Panel Member, National Grid ESO Representative
Bieshoy Awad	BA	Panel Member, National Grid ESO Representative
David Lyon	DL	Panel Member, Offshore Transmission Operator Representative
Le Fu	LF	Panel Member, NGET Representative
Roddy Wilson	RW	Panel Member, Onshore Transmission Operator Representative
Shilen Shah	SS	Alternate, Ofgem
Simon Lord	SL	Panel Member, Generator Representative
Graeme Vincent	VG	Alternate, SP Transmission Representative

Observers/Presenters

Attendee	Initials	Company
Qi Zhong	QZ	National Grid ESO
Arsalan Zaidi	AZ	Ofgem

Apologies

Attendee	Initials	Company
Garth Graham	GG	Panel Member, Generation Representative
Bless Kuri	BK	Panel Member, Scottish Hydro Electricity Transmission Representative
Cornel Brozio	CB	Panel Member, SP Transmission

1. Introductions and Apologies

Apologies were received from Cornel Brozio, Bless Kuri and Garth Graham.

2. Minutes

The meeting minutes from the Panel on 28 July 2023 were approved and have been uploaded to our [website](#).

3. Review of Actions within Actions Log

Action 40.8: GC0117. AJ gave the panel a brief update in his capacity as a Workgroup Member of GC0117 and commented that the workgroup solutions have been narrowed down to two options being the proposer’s original and one alternative, with CBA analysis being carried out. AJ noted there may be a need for a consequential SQSS modification as a result, to the definition of “Large Power Station”, but will be on hold until a decision is made by Ofgem.

BA raised a query and commented that should the consequential modification be raised and changed the definition of “Medium Power Station” it could have an impact on GSR029 and any subsequent grid code modifications and will need to align with that. It could have considerable interaction with chapter 3 of the SQSS and how compliance in connection with the demand connection criteria is addressed.

The Chair and Panel agreed to leave the action open.

4. Authority Decisions and Updates

There are no SQSS Modifications awaiting a decision from Ofgem.

5. In Flight Modifications Updates

GSR030: Offshore DC Connections

The Panel approved the timeline update as submitted in the Panel Papers.

AC queried whether there were any implications of extending the timeline.

BA confirmed extending the timeline would have no consequential impact with other modifications.

6. Workgroup Reports

GSR032: Implementation of the Electricity System Restoration Standard

The Chair gave an update on the modification; GSR032 went out to Code Administration Consultation (“CAC”) on 31st July 2023 to 29 August 2023 with 1 non-confident response received.

SL made a comment that he had thought it odd that NGET had some concerns with the original proposal but did not respond to the CAC.

Panel members discussed SL points and it was noted that NGET had voted on the STC modification but not for the SQSS Modification. During the meeting a NGET member of Workgroup GSR032 was contacted and provided feedback that NGET were happy with the STC proposal but had concerns of the SQSS proposal due to it not being detailed enough with the attributes and the limit against the design and operation compliances and the wording proposed in the report was not going to be achieved for restoration purposes. NGET concerns were that their concerns had not been addressed.

SS queried the changes to the legal text in GSR032 commenting that the Legal Text now looked slim with not much detail in it and wanted to understand the rationale.

AJ responded that much of the legal text was backed up under the STCP16 – 1 investment planning the wider STC modifications (CM089/CM091/PM0128/PM0132) and Grid Code (GC0156). The detail was removed to avoid duplication at the request of the workgroup to simplify the text, this had been noted in the workgroup report (post Meeting note – see final workgroup report – “Consideration of Proposer’s Solution – page 6). He also noted the annexes in the SQSS workgroup report and STC workgroup report (Annex 8 (SQSS) and Annex 4 (STC)) provided a mapping table detailing how the requirements of the Subgroup reports fed into the industry codes. AJ also mentioned that although the legal text does not specifically relate to weak networks, it does capture the intention to energise the next generator along the network for the purposes of restoration, irrespective of the network being strong or weak.

SS said he understood the legal text that this allows more flexibility.

AJ advised that the legal text in Appendix I of the SQSS is defined in three parts –

- Appendix I1.1 covers Restoration Plans – i.e. the ESO (and DNO in the case of Distribution Restoration Zones) have contracts with Restoration Contractors (i.e. Anchor Plant and Top Up Plant). Anchor Plant is used to energise dead sections of Network whilst Top Up Plant can synchronise to the energised section of networks and can contribute to the increase of active and reactive power as the levels of demand start to increase. He noted that while there are specific contracts with Restoration Contractors these are quite different to Local Joint Restoration Plans and Distribution Restoration Zone Plans which are documents signed by the parties to those Restoration Plans – eg Restoration Contractors, Transmission Licensees, DNO’s and the ESO. AJ also noted that as part of the Workgroup discussion it would not be appropriate for parties who wished to have a Restoration Contract to be held off from providing a service as a result of a Transmission System Restriction.

- Appendix I1.2 covers the post successful deployment of Restoration Plans allowing for subsequent Generators to be connected to a Power Island so they can be operated within their operational capability limits. This is part of growing the system generally once two power islands have been connected together.
- Appendix I1.3 covers the situation where the connection of adjacent substations (ie one live and one dead) should not result in a collapse to the System. AJ advised that the post Local Joint Restoration Plan phase is covered in OC9.5 of the Grid Code which Transmission Licensees are required to comply with under Section C Part Three, clause 5 of the STC. He noted that this is covered in the mapping Table (Annex 8 of the SQSS Workgroup Report).

SS said he understood but still had concerns for interpretation. AJ advised that he would be happy to follow up any concerns with SS after the meeting.

The Chair queried with Panel members whether they were happy to proceed with the vote. Panel members agreed to vote. The majority agreed that the Proposer's solution better facilitated the SQSS Applicable Objectives than the baseline.

7. Discussions on Prioritisation

No modifications have changed in priority.

8. AOB

The Following AOB was discussed:

GSR031

- AC requested an update on the GSR031– CATO modification questioning if it was still on hold. (**Post Panel note:** The next Workgroup is scheduled for mid November).

FRCR 2024

- QZ joined the meeting and AJ shared the draft FRCR 2024 slides. QZ updated the Panel members that they were at Phase 1, baseline model and concluded they were on track to deliver to Ofgem and from experience, they would extend the consultation period and provide a webinar.

Panel Dates

- The Chair requested that panel members check their diaries for the November 2023 SQSS panel meeting and let either the Chair or Tech Sec know ASAP if they cannot attend or arrange an alternate.

9. Next Steps

The Chair confirmed they would share with the panel members the following:

- Votes for checking and confirmation that the submission date for the GSR032 FMR would be 4 October 2023;
- Draft FRCR 2024 sides for Panel review; and
- Panel Dates for 2024.