Structure of the Joint Planning Committee

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Background

1. The Joint Planning Committee is established in accordance with STCP 16.1 – 4.1.1 to facilitate the co-ordination between the Parties of investment planning and the production of the ETYS. The JPC will provide the governance and framework for investment planning between the TO companies.

2. With STCP 16.1 initially written to reflect the arrangement that existed at BETA Go Live with NGET, SHET, and SPT being the only TOs. With the load centre in London and with significant generation in Scotland, there was a need to have the same degree of coordination between all the three parties. The JPC was structured to achieve this arrangement.

3. STCP 16.1 was later updated to reflect the presence of OFTOs. However, the structure of the JPC was not changed.

4. The current structure of JPC will not provide efficient coordination between all parties for the following reasons. The geographical spread of OFTOs suggest that there will be very limited coordination required between an OFTO Party connected in the South of England an another TO party in the North. Moreover, the topology of most offshore networks suggests very different interactions between these networks and the networks of the three incumbent TOs.

5. The Structure of the JPC needs to be revisited to
    a. allow efficient coordination between all STC Parties;
    b. ensure that discussions remain focused;
    c. facilitate the engagement of new STC Parties as they get appointed; and
    d. ensure new STC Parties are able to actively participate in discussions and undertake their obligations under the STC.

6. The JPC framework should flexible enough for the OFTOs to attend where they feel it is necessary.

Proposal

7. The JPC itself will have representation from all STC Parties. All TOs will be represented by one member in the JPC. NGET will be represented by two members (one member to represent the SO function and another member to represent the TO function)

8. The quorum for the JPC meeting will be the attendance of all the Onshore Transmission Licensees. OFTOs will be invited to the JPC meetings but not required to attend the meetings. Absence of OFTOs will not invalidate the meeting. The JPC will inform OFTOs of particularly applicable subject areas as well as circulating minutes to the nominees.

9. We propose the creation of Regional Planning Subcommittees (RPSCs). A North Planning Subcommittee (NPSC) and a South Planning Subcommittee (SPSC). The RPSCs will have representation from the STC Parties with their Boundary of Influence overlapping the region covered by the RPSC. The initial proposal is to use the Boundary of Influence between NGET and SPT as the border between the geographical regions covered by the NPSC and SPSC.

10. The RPSCs will have two representatives from all the RPSC Member Parties. NGET will Chair the meetings and will provide secretariat.

11. The quorum for the NPSC meeting will be the attendance of all the Onshore Transmission Licensees. OFTOs will be invited to the meetings but they will not be required to attend them. Absence of OFTOs will not invalidate the meeting. The NPSC will inform the relevant OFTOs of particularly applicable subject areas as well as circulating minutes to the nominees.

12. The quorum for the SPSC meetings will be the attendance of all the member Onshore Transmission Licensees and a minimum of one OFTOs.

13. Observers may attend any of the JPC/RPSC meetings and/or add items to the agenda of these meetings provided they register their interest five working days ahead of the meeting.

14. The scope and responsibilities of the JPC will include addressing national transmission system issues as will as regional transmission system issues. Examples of national transmission system issues would be the ETYS coordination, modelling and data exchange between NGET and all other parties. Examples of regional transmission system issues would be handling of connection applications and coordination of investment planning between TOs in a certain region.

15. The JPC will address national transmission system issues in the JPC meetings. The JPC will delegate all the regional issues to the RPSCs. The RPSCs will provide reports of any decisions made to the JPC to ensure that all STC Parties remain informed.

16. The scope and responsibilities of the RPSCs will be a subset of the scope and responsibilities of the JPC.

17. It is likely that different RPSCs will have different focus and different agenda items. This will be largely determined by the nature of the transmission system owned by the RPSC Parties.

18. The split of responsibilities between the JPC and RPSCs aims to achieve the following:
    a. Discussions remain focused to the parties represented within the JPC and RPSC meetings.
    b. RPSCs Parties will be able to decide the frequency of RPSC meetings based on the nature of issues encountered and the urgency of decisions required.

19. The reporting from the RPSCs to the JPC would guarantee that all STC Parties remain informed of any issues that arise on any part of the National Electricity Transmission System.

20. The JPC and RPSCs will appoint subgroups as appropriate. The JPC and RPSCs will be responsible for
    a. approving any recommendations from the subgroups; and
    b. resolving any conflicts that may arise between parties represented in the subgroups.

21. The subgroups will be report to either the JPC or, where appointed by one or more of the RPSCs, to the RPSC(s). The subgroups will discuss all issues covered by the scope of the subgroup and provide recommendations to the JPC and/or RPSCs.

22. The Subgroup Leaders will represent their Subgroups in the JPC/RPSC meetings.

23. It is envisaged that some subgroups will work on a bilateral basis (i.e. SO/TO) whereas other subgroups would need an All-Party representation. However, any

subgroup should be able to convene meetings and invite other STC Parties, that are not usually represented within this subgroup, in order to address any issues that require input from or have an effect on that STC Party.

24. Subgroups proposed are as follows
    a. ETYS Coordination (ETYS)
    b. Investment Planning (IP)
    c. Modelling
    d. Operational Assessment (OA)
    e. Project Coordination and Progress Review (CPR)
    f. Offshore Coordination (OC)

25. The activities covered under ETYSC and Modelling subgroups require input from all STC Parties. Hence, both the ETYSC and the Modelling subgroups will be appointed by and will report to the JPC.

26. The IP and OA subgroups will tend to cover regional issues and will hence be appointed by and will report to the relevant RPSC.

27. The CPR subgroup will mainly run on a bilateral – SO/TO – basis. The meeting frequency will vary from one TO to another and will be driven by the volume of coordination activities required. The Multi-party meetings – SO/TO/ATO(s). The CPR subgroup will be appointed by and will report to the relevant RPSC. This subgroup will mainly coordinate connection offers and monitor the progress of transmission reinforcements planned by the TOs.

28. The OC subgroup will be appointed by and will report to all RPSCs. Where input is required from Offshore Developers, and subject to necessary protections in place, Offshore Developers may be invited to attend some of the OC subgroup meetings.

29. OFTOs will be required to participate in both the Offshore Coordination subgroup and the Modelling subgroup.

30. OFTOs who are members of the ETYS, IP and OA subgroups will be informed about their subgroup meetings and any topics of particular interest for them such that they can register their interest. OFTOs will need to register their interest five working days ahead of the meetings if they wish to attend

31. Where the need arises, the JPC and any of the RPSCs will appoint additional subgroups as appropriate.

32. It is not necessary that all the RPSCs will appoint the same subgroups. i.e. where it is possible to cover all the items associated within the scope of a subgroup under the RPSC itself, the RPSC will not appoint this subgroup.

33. There will be other activities that would be running in parallel to the JPC, RPSCs, and Subgroups. Some of these activities will need to be reviewed such that no work is duplicated.

34. The subgroups will interact / feedback into each other's agendas either directly or through the internal procedures of each party. This should provide a way of addressing issues as they arise escalate to the JPC, RPSCs as appropriate.

35. The membership for the JPC, the RPSC, and all subgroups will be reviewed by the JPC on annual basis.

36. The STC Modification Panel is invited to endorse this new structure.

JPC and Subgroups (Structure and Reporting)

OFTO Participation, Quorum and Meeting Frequency

The table includes the initial option for OFTO representation.

Forum	OFTO Participation	Quorum	Meeting frequency
JPC	Invited but not required to attend	All Onshore TOs	Twice a year
NPSC	Invited but not required to attend	All member Onshore TOs	Quarterly
SPSC	Invited and required to attend	All member Onshore TOs and one OFTOs	Twice a year
Modelling	Invited and required to attend	All member Onshore TOs	Every two months
ETYS	Informed and need to register their interest if they wish to attend	All member Onshore TOs	Every 2/4 weeks over the ETYS production period
IP	Informed and need to register their interest if they wish to attend	All member Onshore TOs	Quarterly
OA	Informed and need to register their interest if they wish to attend	All member Onshore TOs	Quarterly
OC	Invited and required to attend	All member Onshore TOs	Twice a year
CPR	Not applicable		Weekly

Appendix1 – The Terms of Reference for the JPC and RPSCs

THE JOINT PLANNING COMMITTEE AND
THE REGIONAL PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEES
TERMS OF REFERENCE
Draft 25.06.2013

Background

Under BETTA arrangements, Transmission Licensees are required to plan and develop their respective grid systems in an efficient, co-ordinated and economic manner within the framework of the GB System Operator ~ Transmission Owner Code (STC).

In order to facilitate this process and to comply with the STC, the STCP 16-1 requires the establishment of a Joint Planning Committee (JPC) to co-ordinate investment planning, connection and transmission system performance activities.

The JPC will provide the governance and framework for investment planning between the TO companies. The JPC will also facilitate the co-ordination between the parties for investment planning and the production of the ETYS.

Regional Planning Subcommittees (RPSC)

In order to ensure focused discussions, the JPC will appoint Regional Planning Subcommittees (RPSCs) as appropriate. The Regional Planning Subcommittees will have representation from all the STC Parties whose boundary of influence extends within a specific geographical region.

A Regional Planning Subcommittee will assume all the responsibilities of the JPC where such responsibilities requires input from or have an impact only on transmission system owned by members of the Regional Planning Subcommittee.

The Regional Planning Subcommittees appointed are

1) The North Planning Subcommittee NPSC

   Members of the NPSC are STC Parties whose boundary of influence extends north of the Boundary of Influence between NGET and SPT

2) The South Planning Subcommittee SPSC

   Members of the NPSC are STC Parties whose boundary of influence extends south of the Boundary of Influence between NGET and SPT

The RPSC will provide high level reports to be discussed by JPC such that all STC Parties remain informed of any issues that arise on any part of the National Electricity Transmission System.

Membership

Each STC Party shall nominate one named representatives to represent his Party in the JPC and two named representatives to represent their Party on the RPSC(s). The representatives shall be competent to represent the views of their Party. For the avoidance of doubt, it is expected that all Parties will be represented at a management level. NGET representative will chair the meetings. NGET shall provide the secretariat.

Subgroups

The JPC, and RPSCs, will appoint Subgroups as necessary to address specialist technical activity needs. These Subgroups shall cover the following issues:

1) Investment Planning ;
2) ETYS
3) modelling;
4) operational assessment;
5) project coordination and progress review; and
6) offshore coordination.

These subgroups shall report to the JPC and to the appropriate RPSC. The Workgroup leaders shall represent their subgroups in the JPC or RPSC meetings. Minutes, actions, and all outputs of these subgroups will be discussed and, where required, approved by the JPC and RPSCs. The JPC and RPSCs shall be responsible for addressing any difference in views between parties represented within the subgroups.

Scope

The scope of business should include areas of transmission system investment related to system reinforcement, asset replacement, connection applications and modification applications relevant to the SO/TO interface.

This should include:-

1) Exchange and discussion of each Party's Transmission Investment Plans and associated data for the following years in accordance with the STC;

2) Agree Terms of Reference, sign of programme of works, monitor progress, and review and acceptance of reports raised from any Subgroups established under the JPC or any of the RPSCs;

3) Resolve any disputes and/or conflicts of view that may arise between different parties represented in any Subgroups established under the JPC or any of the RPSCs;

4) Where an RSPC chooses not to appoint one or more of the Subgroups, e.g. due to limited volume of work, the RPSC will be responsible for undertaking any activates that are covered by the Terms of Reference of the Subgroup that has not been appointed.

5) Propose changes to STC planning procedures for approval by the STC Committee and to support STC in reaching decisions on Investment Planning matters;

6) Discussion and review of the standards, codes, and frameworks (e.g. NETS SQSS, Grid Code, CUSC, and STC) in order to ensure that a common understanding is established and that the rules are applied consistently within the whole National Electricity Transmission System;

7) Discussion and review of any operational impacts of any standards, codes, or frameworks as required;

8) When required, advise on the course of action to resolve any conflicting views between different Parties in the Subgroups;

9) Review of reports raised by other relevant Industry Working Groups;

10) Monitor the progress of strategic reinforcements and joint projects;

11) Monitoring the progress of exchange of information necessary for the production of the Electricity Ten Year Statement;

12) Monitoring the progress Co-ordination of Planning Data exchange;

13) Discussion and agreement of generation and demand background information and other information required for input to Planning Assumptions to be used for infrastructure planning and ETYS purposes;

14) Scheduling and co-ordination of Investment Planning Studies, any ad-hoc studies and GB model consistency parameters;

15) Approve any changes to the annual "Boundary of Influence" audit in accordance with STC;

16) Review of new and existing planning and operational derogations; and

17) Reviewing progress of Planning Requests.

Meetings

It is envisaged that the JPC and the SPSC shall meet biannually whereas the NPSC shall meet quarterly. This is due to difference in the volume of work required for the coordination between the Parties within these committees. However the frequency of the meeting can be varied with the agreement of all Parties. The venue shall be rotated between the Parties. Formal notes of the meeting shall be taken and agreed by the Committee.

A report would be provided to the STC working group on every meeting and will be published on the websites of all parties.

Ad-hoc meetings will be organised upon request from any of the Parties within the JPC or the RPSCs or upon request from any of the Subgroups.

Appendix 2 – The Terms of Reference for the JPC Subgroups

JPC PROJECT COORDINATION AND PROGRESS REVIEW (CPR)
TERMS OF REFERENCE
Draft 01.08.2013

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Background

The JPC Project Coordination and Progress Review Subgroup (CPR) is appointed by and reports to one of the Regional Planning Committees (RPSC) appointed by the Join Planning Committee (JPC). The JPC itself is established under STCP 16-1 "Investment Planning".

Membership

The workgroup shall have representation from the different Transmission Licensees.

Each Party shall be represented by technical members from their system design department as well as members from their commercial department.

Each party shall determine the level of representation but in all cases, the work group members shall be competent to represent the views of their Party.

Scope

The CPR subgroup shall be responsible for monitoring the progress of transmission projects from inception up until scheme commissioning and project closure. This subgroup will mainly focus on projects that are specific to Transmission System Users and local system boundaries. The scope of the discussion will include:

1. Review and agree designs for connection applications, discuss the background assumptions used, and highlight any operational issues that may arise from the design suggested.

2. Identify any discrepancies in interpretation of design standards and policies between different Parties. Address these issues to ensure that all Transmission System Users are treated consistently.

3. Monitor the progress of all the elements required for the connection to materialise. Highlight if any milestones has been missed.

4. Review Transmission Owner Reinforcement Instructions, highlight their impact on local boundary capabilities, and interdependence between them and other TORIs. Identify the impacts on any Transmission System Users and agree next steps and timescales.

5. Discuss Planning Requests that are issued in relation to specific connections.

6. Discuss Project Listing Documents submitted, identify the impacts on existing customers, and agree next steps and timescales.

7. Monitor the progress of TORIs and Highlight if any milestones have been missed.

8. Identify projects that are within the Boundary of Influence with another Transmission Licensee, projects that cross the boundaries between two Transmission Licensees, or projects that might impact other Transmission Licensee's investment plans. Highlight these in joint meetings with all the Affected Parties and where appropriate to the JPC and to the JPCIP subgroup to advise the course of action.

9. Ensure that the relevant parties exchange information about cross-boundary flows and constraints.

10. Identify the need for derogations and agree timescales for processing the derogations.

11. Review the STCPs relevant to the working group on regular basis and feed back any proposals to improve the efficiency of these STCPs to the relevant RPSC.

12. Feeding back into the discussions taking place in Joint System Development Liaison meetings with different Transmission Licensees and, where applicable, Distribution Network Operators.

Meeting

The subgroup will hold weekly bilateral meetings between the SO reps and the representatives of each TO individually. All-party meeting will be held quarterly.

In each bilateral meeting, each TO shall advise if any of the agenda items discussed would impact any other TO. In this case, a follow up meeting between the SO, the TO and the affected TO(s) shall take place to discuss these issues.

Meetings are more likely to take the form of a tele conference or a video conference however, where parties agree to meet in person, the venue shall alternate between all the parties.

Disputes

Any conflicting views between parties in the CPR will be raised to the relevant RPSC to advise the course of action.

JPC MODELLING SUBGROUP (JPCMG)
Terms of Reference
Draft 10.07.2013

Background

The JPC Modelling Group (JPCMG) is appointed by and reports to the JPC, which itself is a committee set under STCP16-1 "Investment Planning". The JPCMG will:

1. Manage and develop datasets to support the planning process.
2. Coordination of provision of date for external parties (such as ENTSO-E)
3. Facilitate data and information exchange required to discharge licensees obligations efficiently;
4. Coordinate, provide, and validate system models.
5. Coordination of modelling tools and model formats
6. Review and propose resolution to modelling issues, including contingencies and tolerances for consistency checking.

Membership

A single competent representative from each Transmission Owner (TO) is required with suitable support to satisfy the JPC's requests. The roles of chair and secretary will rotate between members on an annual basis or as otherwise agreed by the JPC.

Scope

In particular, the JPCMG will address the following items.

1. <u>National Electricity Transmission System Models for Investment Planning purposes</u>.

   It is essential that a common representation of the GB and Offshore system is available to the transmission licensees:

   a) To assess network requirements for local connections and wider system reinforcements;

   b) As a baseline for more complex studies; and

   c) To articulate network requirements and capabilities to the industry (eg ETYS).

   The JPCMG will periodically review the way the transmission networks are represented and the information exchange processes required to construct the system models necessary for the transmission licensees to discharge their obligations.

2. <u>Synchronous generator excitation, AVR and PSS modelling.</u>

   These models are critical for the assessment of the steady state and dynamic performance of the overall system. The JPCMG will compile, prioritise and maintain a list of models which require to be developed, validated and implemented by all Parties.

   Where required, discuss and agree the use of any appropriate standard models.

3. <u>Non-synchronous generator modelling</u>.

The new and developing wind generator technologies will be reviewed and suitable models developed and validated for the assessment of the steady state and dynamic performance of the overall system.

4. New Plant Models

Appropriate new models for technologies such as HVDC or FACTS devices should be developed, validated and implemented by the JPCMG for the assessment of the steady state and dynamic performance of the overall system.

5. Existing Plant Models

Existing models for plant (such as SVC or HVDC or PST) should be reviewed periodically to check if alternative models can be developed which make their use more accurate and easy to use.

A register of completed models will be maintained in addition to periodic reports to the JPC which document the results of model development and validation.

6. Complex Analysis

Where more complex analyses is required which jointly performed by the transmission licensees (eg stability) or were similar analysis is performed by the transmission licensees (eg Sub-synchronous Resonance or Harmonics), the JPMC will develop and share best practice and ensure that consistent approaches are adopted.

Developments for study techniques and guidelines required and provide feedback to other Subgroups to ensure these techniques are incorporated in their processes.

7. Models and Data Exchange

Discuss and agree the format used to exchange modelling data between different transmission licensees in order facilitate efficient data exchange and to avoid incompatibilities between different modelling software used by different parties.

8. Sharing information with third parties

Coordination of provision of date for external parties (such as ENTSO-E)

9. Review of processes and STCPs

Undertake any necessary review for the relevant sections of the STC/STCPs relevant to the working group on regular basis and feed back any suggestions to improve the efficiency of these STCPs to the JPC.

10. Any other appropriate activity as directed by the JPC.

Meetings

The JPCMG will meet quarterly and will record meeting proceedings and actions for dissemination to JPCMG and JPC members.

Disputes

In the event the JPCMG fails to agree appropriate actions, the issue will be raised to the JPC to advise the course of action.

JPC INVESTMENT PLANNING SUBGROUP (JPCIP)
TERMS OF REFERENCE
Draft 10.07.2013

1. Background

Joint Planning Committee Investment Planning subgroup is appointed by the JPC to manage the routine analysis activities and investment procedures under the STC. The IP subgroup reports to the JPC. The JPC is established under STCP 16-1 "Investment Planning".

2. Membership

A single competent representative from each Transmission Owner (TO) is required with suitable support to satisfy the JPC's requests.

3. Scope

Review of demand and generation background scenarios for agreement by the JPC. (production sits with NGET)
Development of the investment processes, procedures and guidelines such as STC amendment proposals for agreement by the JPC as required.
Undertake review of the Boundary of Influence between different Transmission Licensees.
Determine the Boundary of Influence for new OFTOs
To review, analyse, and develop potential solutions for boundary issues.
Coordinate and undertake system studies as defined and agreed in the study guidelines.
To review, analyse, and develop joint interest projects and schemes.
Maintain a coordinated investment plan for all parties including:
To review: Project Listings
Project Listing Documents (PLDs)
Planning Requests
TORIs
Share different practice for Investment Planning and agree a common approach for common reinforcements.
Review the application of the NETS SQSS, STC, and Grid Code for new and existing connections.
Review and maintain a list and assess the implications of existing derogations against the NETS SQSS, STC, and Grid Code.
Discuss the need for new derogations.

4. Meetings

To be held at a minimum of quarterly in person or teleconference.
Minutes to be presented to the JPC.

5. Disputes

Any unresolved disputes to be referred to the JPC.

JPC ETYS COORDINATION SUBGROUP
TERMS OF REFERENCE
Draft 10.07.2013

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Background

The JPC Offshore Coordination Subgroup (JPCOC) is appointed by and reports to the Joint Planning Committee (JPC). The JPC itself is established under STCP 16-1 "Investment Planning".

Membership

The workgroup shall have representation from the different Transmission Licensees.

Each party shall determine the level of representation but in all cases, the work group members shall be competent to represent the views of their Party.

Scope

The ETYS subgroup will be responsible for co-ordinating of the annual ETYS publication including:

1. Preparation and approval of the ETSY study guidelines
2. Preparation and management of the analysis and delivery programme
3. Review of the ETYS demand and generation background scenarios.
4. Suggestion and developing of process and content improvements
5. Agree the timing and scope of cross border reinforcement options
6. Coordinate and undertake system studies as defined and agreed in the study guidelines.

The ETYS subgroup will be responsible for the review and amendment proposals to codes relevant to the ETYS, such as the STCPs .

Meeting

During the analysis and production phase of the ETYS, the subgroup shall meet bi-weekly. This period is to be defined within the ETYS programme.

Outside of the ETYS analysis and production phase the subgroup shall meet every three months.

Meetings are more likely to take the form of a teleconference or a video conference however, where parties agree to meet in person, the venue shall alternate between all the parties.

Disputes

Any conflicting views between parties in the JPCOC will be raised to the JPC to advise the course of action.

JPC OFFSHORE COORDINATION (JPCOC)
TERMS OF REFERENCE
Draft 23.07.2013

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Background

The JPC Offshore Coordination Subgroup (JPCOC) is appointed by and reports to the Joint Planning Committee (JPC). The JPC itself is established under STCP 16-1 "Investment Planning".

Membership

The workgroup shall have representation from the onshore and offshore Transmission Licensees. OTSDUW/Transitional parties may also be invited when the TOs agree that this may be of benefit to consumers.

Each Party may be represented by technical members from their system design department as well as members from their commercial department.

Each party shall determine the level of representation but in all cases, the work group members shall be competent to represent the views of their Party.

The quorum for a meeting shall be representation from each of the onshore TOs.

Scope

The JPCOC subgroup shall be responsible for the coordination of offshore transmission projects such that opportunities for efficient and economic integration are investigated and acted upon where merited This subgroup will mainly focus on projects that potentially be integrated and as such could yield efficiencies in cost, programme or environmental terms.. The scope of the discussion will include:

1. Review and agree projects that could potentially benefit from integration.

2. Identify potential benefits to affected parties that indicate incentives for developers to become involved, especially if a regulatory/commercial framework does not exist.

3. Identify projects that are within the Boundary of Influence with another Transmission Licensee, projects that cross the boundaries between two Transmission Licensees, or projects that might impact other Transmission Licensee's investment plans. Highlight these in joint meetings with all the Affected Parties and where appropriate to the JPC and to the JPCIP subgroup to advise the course of action.

4. Ensure that the relevant parties exchange information about cross-boundary flows and constraints where applicable to offshore projects.

5. Review the STCPs relevant to the working group on regular basis and feed back any suggestions to improve the efficiency of these STCPs to the JPC.

6. Feed back into the discussions taking place in Joint System Development Liaison meetings with different Transmission Licensees and, where applicable, Distribution Network Operators if deemed necessary.

Meeting

The workgroup shall meet three-monthly but with the intention of scheduling additional meetings when project interactivity makes this appropriate. To ensure focus is maintained,

meetings will take place between the SO reps and the representatives of each TO individually when deemed necessary.

In each meeting, each TO shall advise if any of the agenda items discussed would impact any other TO. In this case, a follow up meeting between the SO, the TO and the affected TO(s) shall take place to discuss these issues. Where appropriate, members of the relevant JPC Subgroup will be invited to these meetings.

Meetings are more likely to take the form of a teleconference or a video conference however, where parties agree to meet in person, the venue shall alternate between all the parties.

Disputes

Any conflicting views between parties in the JPCOC will be raised to the JPC to advise the course of action.

JPC OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT SUBGROUP (JPCOA)
TERMS OF REFERENCE
Draft 17.09.2013

Background

The JPC Operational Assessment Supgroup (JPCOA) is appointed by and reports to the Joint Planning Committee (JPC). The JPC itself is established under STCP 16-1 "Investment Planning".

Membership

For the working group's role to proceed according to the steps below, it has the following inputs:

- National Grid long term outage planning
- Each TO to provide input for the period 3YA to 8YA. Whether one person from each TO can perform this would need their advice. Where required, the TOs will provide support from their design teams.
- National Grid TO for north of the boundary of influence

Scope

The working group is to look at the following parts of what is a series of steps as part of the planning process as STCP16-1 Section 4.4 describes, which supports implementation of the Network Access Policy (NAP).

Review of outage plans:

This is the review of the initial outage plans which to work well requires the submission of the key outages in the long term (3 to 8 years ahead). In these timescales, the working group will identify outages Agreed Large / Complex Projects and Outages on Key Boundaries as defined by the Scottish Network Access Policy. The working group will discuss the project summaries that the TOs provide.

Discussion of outage placement

The TOs and SO have an ongoing dialogue as the TO submits outages requests. The TOs and SO will meet in the JPCOA working group to discuss the outage plan for a high level overview and the strategy to deliver the plan for the 3 to 8 YA period.

Discussion of operational assessment report

STCP16-1 Section 4.4 covers the Operational Assessment in more depth. The working group will discuss the Operational Assessment reports that the SO has produced. The TOs must provide the SO with PLDs at the appropriate timescales to make this process viable.

Cost reduction and programme optimisation

The Scottish NAP Section 2.7 gives some guidance on options for cost reduction by using enhancements. The JPCOA will apply this part of the NAP in the 3 to 8 Year Ahead phase and build on the system issues that the Operational Assessment report identifies.

Current operational issues

The JPCOA will consider current operational issues when assessing the outage plan for Years 3 to 8. The working group will use the feedback from current year staff.

Impacts on investment proposed

Where the JPCOA takes decisions on the plan for Years 3 to 8 that affect the investment plan, the working group will inform the JPCIP. This liaison with JPCIP ensures that might be because delays or enhancements taken by JPCOA do not affect later investments.

Processes

The working group is to look at the processes under the STCP and NAP, evaluate progress and make necessary recommendations for STCP review.

Meetings

The working group should meet at least twice per year by teleconference or face to face to cover the 3 to 8 year ahead time frame.

Ad-hoc meetings may have to be organised to address critical issues.

Disputes

Any conflicting views between parties in the JPCOA will be raised to the JPC North Subcommittee or JPC to advise the course of action.