

European Code Coordination Application Forum

Meeting Note to GB Code Panels of discussion on the structural alternatives for GB application of the European network codes - January 30, 2014

At its meeting on 30th January ECCAF considered the structural alternatives for application of the European Network Code requirements to GB Codes. A number of options were considered which included a continuum from the evolutionary approach of using existing industry codes, introducing new groups of GB Codes, or the revolutionary approach of starting from scratch. Following lengthy deliberations two options were considered in more detail:

1. to broadly stick to existing practices and place European Network Code requirements into existing GB Codes and supporting documents; or
2. to adopt a more unified approach requiring a minimum number of new code vehicles.

ECCAF noted that both approaches have merits, and practically, for particular forms of the second approach being considered, they are likely to involve a similar quantity of work for the GB industry.

ECCAF was encouraged by DECC and Ofgem to reach a recommendation to present to each of the GB Code Panels.

ECCAF's recommendation is that the existing GB Code structures are appropriate to begin the GB application of the European Connection Codes (Requirements for Generators, Demand Connection and HDVC) which mainly impact the Grid and Distribution Codes. In this context the work of the joint workgroup established under the GCRP and DCRP to progress GB application of the RfG code should proceed on the basis of using the existing GB Codes.

The approach adopted by ECCAF at this stage does not preclude later revision either for any of the Connection or other European Network Codes as further details become apparent.

It is noted that a number of ECCAF members would like to re-examine the governance process for the Grid Code and D-Code in light of the arrangements used in other GB codes such as the CUSC or BSC.

A further set of meeting notes for ECCAF will be circulated in due course.

If you have any queries, please contact the Technical Secretary, Paul Wakeley, via europeancode.electricity@nationalgrid.com