Grid Code Development Forum Meeting #3

Headline Report – August 2015

Introduction

Richard Woodward welcomed the group and introduced the Grid Code Development Forum (GCDF) which is intended to help stakeholders explore issues before, where necessary, taking these to the Grid Code Review Panel (GCRP).

The GCDF will be held every alternative month to the GCRP. An update will be provided at the Panel meeting as a standing agenda item. A tracker of issues discussed at the GCDF, which captures the actions and status of the issue along with any presentations can be found on the website.

The agenda is intended to be led by stakeholders and if you have any issue that you would like to discuss at the next meeting please e-mail: grid.code@nationalgrid.com.

Grid Code Modifications Update

Franklin Rodrick gave an update on the current and upcoming Grid Code modifications.

An update was provided on the GB implementation of High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) and Demand Connection Code (DCC). GCRP approved setting up of Workgroups for HVDC and DCC at the Panel meeting in July 2015. The first meeting of HVDC is expected to be held on 18 September and early October for DCC following approval from the Distribution Code Review Panel on 3 September.

The group were informed about GC0086 Open Governance Industry Consultation. Two alternative versions of the legal text were discussed at the last Workgroup meeting. National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) is currently revising the Consultation to reflect the discussions held, before publishing the Consultation.

Reactive Power & Voltage Control Follow Up

Following the presentation on Reactive Power and Voltage Control at the June GCDF, Antony Johnson gave an update on the work that had been previously done on Reactive Power and Voltage Control. The following Consultations and Workgroups have looked at related principles –

H/04 – Changes to Incorporate New Generation Technologies and DC Inter-connectors (Generic Provisions)

G/06 – Power Park Modules and Synchronous Generating Units

GC0075 – Hybrid STATCOMS

GC0028 – Constant Terminal Voltage

The group confirmed at the June GCDF meeting there was consensus that the Grid Code defect in this area needs to be defined clearly before a possible change can be progressed.

Grid Code Issue Paper

Richard Woodward gave a presentation on the internal Grid Code Modification process review that NGET is undertaking. A summary of issues that have been identified so far in the current process was provided.

The proposed changes to the Grid Code Issue Paper were presented which would help to define the issue clearly and would assist the Panel in assessing the issue.

The group commented on the issue paper and suggested some changes which were then discussed at the meeting. It was highlighted that

under Open Governance the role of the Panel and the process of raising an issue would change i.e. any industry party can raise and progress an issue.

The review of the Grid Code Modification process is not based on any anticipated changes in the governance but is based on establishing best practice to improve process efficiency.

NGET will circulate a copy of the Issue Paper to the group to provide any further comments.

Zero Miss Issue – Offshore Windfarms

Sridhar Sahukari from DONG Energy presented the Zero-Miss issue for Offshore Windfarms. Zero-Miss is a phenomenon that occurs during simultaneous energisation of inductive and capacitive equipment. This generally occurs during the energisation of the cable/harmonic filter and the reactor together.

The Grid Code sets out steady-state reactive power and voltage fluctuation requirements for the energisation process. However, in some instances the Grid Code requirements cannot be met without risking potential hazards to equipment/personnel and alternative measures have to be used.

The group were presented with 4 options that can be used to mitigate Zero-Miss issue and also avoid substantial costs. It was suggested that there have been studies done before looking at similar areas and it might be worth reviewing that.

It was suggested that the Grid Code might benefit from clarification and guidance notes could be provided for the Generators with respect to the requirements of stead-state reactive power during energisation process. NGET will confirm their thinking on the issue and will then liaise with DONG Energy.

This issue also has an implication on the System Operator Transmission Owner Code (STC) and once the Grid Code issue has been bottomed out an update may need to be provided through the appropriate STC channel.

Next Meeting

The next GCDF meeting will be on 16th October 2015 at National Grid House, Warwick. Web-conferencing facilities would be provided for the meeting. If you have any issues that you would like to discuss at the next meeting please e-mail: grid.code@nationalgrid.com

The agenda and meeting materials will be circulated a week in advance of the meeting.

The Grid Code Newsletter, which is sent every two months, will include updates from GCDF meetings and agenda items for future meetings. If you would like to receive the Grid Code newsletter please email: grid.code@nationalgrid.com

GCDF will provide an update to the September GCRP and will give the panel a direction to take in terms of any future issues.

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Attendees

Richard Woodward	NGET Chair
Franklin Rodrick	NGET Technical Secretary
Anthony Johnson	NGET
Fabian Moore	NGET
Andrejs Svalovs	Alstom
Sridhar Sahukari	DONG Energy
Fahd Hashiesh	ABB
John Norbury	RWE
Mick Barlow	S&C Electric
Peter Woodcock	RWE
Damian Jackman	SSE
Robert Longden	Cornwall Energy
Brian Anderson	Vestas
Joseph Underwood	Drax Power
Peter Bolitho	Waters Wye Associates