

BSSG CAP169 Meeting Minutes

26th June 2009
(Teleconference)

Attendees

Bushra Akhtar, National Grid
Tom Ireland, National Grid
Peter Twomey, UUES
Malcolm Arthur, National Grid
Neil Sanderson, SSE
Hamish Dallachy, Scottish Power
James Evans, British Energy
Raoul Thulin, RWE
Katharine Clench, National Grid
Bridget Morgan, Ofgem

Apologies

Claire Maxim, EON
Christopher Proudfoot, Centrica
Campbell McDonald, SSE
Carole Hook, National Grid
Jonathon Atyeo, GDF Suez
Claver Chitambo, RES

1. Introductions

The group introduced themselves. The chair went over the order of the agenda and reminded the group that the proposed Grid Code changes were the main focus of the CAP 169 item of the meeting.

The group agreed to the approach of the meeting and had no further items to add to the agenda at this time.

2. CAP169

a. Offshore

The new Offshore Regime went active on Wednesday 24th June. TI provided an update on the impact of Offshore on the Cap169 proposal. Initial investigation has concluded that the post 'Go Active' code changes do not contradict the previously developed CAP169 drafting changes. Parts 1 and 2 concern large generators and Power Park modules, both of which are anticipated offshore whereas Part 3 relates to embedded generation which is not anticipated offshore.

TI discussed the impact of offshore generators on Reactive Power.

The legal drafting has since been modified following the introduction of offshore changes. TI went over the drafts of the changes:-

Part 1: Power Park Modules

No changes are believed to be required as the drafting would still work for both large and small generators.

Part 2: Large Generators

There has been a minor change to part 2 as a result of Offshore Go Active however the underlying mechanism should still remain the same.

Part 3: Embedded Generators

BM made a comment that embedded transmission connected generation offshore was similar to embedded generation onshore (ie may have similar types of constraint on reactive power capability range at the interface with a distribution network) and the latter may also have to be considered.

Action: TI to investigate impact of CAP169 on offshore embedded transmission generators.

Action: TI to assess the STC impact due to offshore embedded transmission.

A point was raised on the need to re-baseline the legal text for CAP169 because of offshore.

Action: National Grid to re-baseline legal text to accommodate for offshore changes.

b. Environmental Impact

Due to changes in National Grid Policy, there is a requirement to have a Carbon assessment on code modification proposals. KC advised that additional words would be added to the Working Group report to indicate that the modification would not have any impact to carbon costs as the changes were related to payment. The group agreed with this approach.

c. Grid Code Proposals

Definitions will be aligned with the Offshore Regime.

The group went over the changes being proposed in part 3 of the Grid Code:

A point was raised about the Pre-connection Reactive Despatch network being revised for CUSC only. It was felt that this is also relevant to the Grid Code.

Action: To look in to the impact of pre-connection reactive despatch on the Grid Code.

It was pointed out that the definition of Reactive Power Despatch Network definition includes providing 'zero Mvars at the Commercial Boundary'. This is a Commercial feature and the Grid Code is a technical document therefore it should also be included in the Grid Code Definition.

TI clarified that the definition is used both in the Grid code and CUSC to ensure consistency.

TI reviewed the communications for a restriction. A question was raised on how we would deal with a situation where a generator has to follow local DNO voltage control instructions which would not easily be reflected in the generator performance chart. Would there be any payments for such circumstances?

Action: National Grid to look into the above point.

JE made a suggestion that the above point undermined the whole CAP169 modification. National Grid replied that the above scenario was only applicable to a minority of generator, and was only a form of reactive despatch restriction.

A discussion was had on who should be paying for the provision of reactive power from an embedded generator under restriction, National Grid, Generator or Local Distribution Network. National Grid clarified again that whilst it may seem most appropriate for the DNO to pay that it outside of the control of the CUSC/Grid Code and the purpose of part 3 of CAP169 is to ensure appropriate payment terms are in place between National Grid (as GBSO) and embedded generators.

d. BC1-6

KC summarised the changes to BC1-6 which has been modified to include restrictions. A revised Mvar redeclaration form will be in place (BC2) with a tick box to enable National Grid to establish if a restriction is a capability restriction or DNO imposed restriction.

The group were advised that the legal text will be sent out in the near future, once it has been applied against the new offshore baseline.

Action: Legal text to be sent to the working group.

3. Timescales

The group agreed to a further teleconference to discuss CAP169 a week after distribution of the legal text. This could potentially take place week commencing 6th July. Dates will be confirmed once the legal text is sent.

Next Grid Code Review Panel is anticipated to take place at the end of July as an extraordinary meeting.

4. Reactive Tender Review

The final proposals have been reviewed and National Grid is now in a position to raise a CUSC modification. Minor changes with regard to the tender timescales are to be made to CUSC Schedule 3 along with the introduction of a 'unit substitution' option to the tender process. The group were happy with this to be raised as a single modification.

The group were advised that the aim was to raise the modification at the July CUSC panel.

6. AOB

No further business was raised.