

Minutes

Meeting name	Demand Control OC6 Workgroup
Meeting number	4
Date of meeting	30 th May 2013
Time	10:00am – 14:00pm
Location	National Grid House, Warwick Technology Park, Gallows Hill, CV34 6DA

Attendees

Name	Initials	Company
Audrey Ramsay	AR	National Grid
Damien McCluskey	DMc	National Grid
Jason Bareham	JB	National Grid
Andy Walden	AW	National Grid
Nigel Buckland	NB	Western Power
Bill D'Albertanson	BA	UK Power Networks
Andy Dixon	AD	Scottish Power
David Mobsby	DM	Scottish and Southern Power Distribution
Alan Creighton	AC	Northern Powergrid

Apologies

Name	Initials	Company
Steve Cox	SC	Electricity North West
Graeme Dawson	GD	RWE Npower
Lisa Waters	LW	Waters Wye Associates

1 Introductions/Apologies for Absence

1. AR kicked off the meeting by going through the agenda and summarised the minutes from the previous meeting on the 10th April 2013.

2 Main points of meeting

2. AR mentioned that following the last meeting a Workgroup report had been distributed for comment to all Workgroup members. AC provided some initial feedback at the. DM/AR responded to the Workgroup requesting that if they have any additional comments to add please do so as this is a Workgroup report not a National Grid consultation.
3. AC mentioned that he had two main issues of concern with the report. 1) There was a risk that if the Grid Code requirement was to require Voltage Reduction to be implemented within 10 minutes, there was a risk that some DNOs would be non-compliant without making some capital investment. 2) A trial to confirm the implementation time would give DNOs confidence to agree to a specified implementation time.
4. AC discussed that the information provided in Week24 data would need to change and the relevant parts of the Grid Code including the template schedules would also need to be updated.
5. BA stated that 10mins an implementation time was the right thing to do; however sites may need further investigation as different tap levels are present. There was a concern that delivering voltage reduction at 100% of sites in 10mins is not realistic as there would inevitably be a small number of substations that failed to respond to an initial voltage reduction instruction. JB indicated that confidence level of a least 90% would be required by the Electricity National Control Centre (ENCC).
6. 3% voltage reduction testing was discussed by the group, and it was agreed that carrying out a 6% VR test would be more complex and could potentially affect customers. The group decided for the purpose of testing the implementation time, processes and procedures the test should be limited to a 3% voltage reduction. To minimise the impact on the total system tests should be carried out at different times in each of the DNOs. Details relating to dates and times to be agreed at a later stage.
7. AC mentioned that a trial would enable the actual demand reduction delivered by a 3% voltage reduction to be established. JB added that National Grid needs a good degree of confidence of the level of demand reduction that is going to be delivered. AW thought it would be worth doing a test during the night at a trough to see the different load factors. AR agreed that a timetable needs to be agreed for a test. JB noted that there could be six tests carried out during one week but National Grid would need to look at different load windows. AC added that the methodology used from the previous voltage reduction test carried out in 2008 could be used and any lessons learn from the past should be investigated in preparation for further testing. AC mentioned that thought needs to be given to make sure that the tests provide all parties with the information they need. AD noted that there would be a need to make sure the SCADA team aware of any testing, and involved in the decision making of when tests should occur.
8. BA stated that a selection of potential test dates needs to be established for flexibility. AC asked if a testing procedure document could be circulated to the Workgroup over the next couple of weeks. AR took an action away to draft this and circulate to the Workgroup by the end of June 2013.
9. The general view within the Workgroup was that DNOs should be able to achieve 70% voltage reduction within 5mins, with the remaining 30% taking longer, however clarity of the implementation timescales should emerge from the tests.
10. AC agreed to send to DM a Voltage Reduction Report by the Energy Emergencies Executive Committee (E3c). DM to confirm if the document can be circulated to the further Workgroup members for review.

11. BA noted that a lot of the DNO systems would require National Grid to tell them if a Demand Reduction had actually occurred arising from a voltage reduction, DNO SCADA systems are very different and it could be difficult for them to identify an actual reduction in demand. National Grid would be best placed to measure short-term Demand Reduction achieved.
12. BA suggested that from a resilience perspective, a test needs to be done as testing has not been done for many years. Timing and delivery is unsure at the moment. BA mentioned that an exercise will be carried out in 2014 by DNOs (Tier-1 exercise) and that the voltage reduction tests could be used to inform this exercise. AD added that going forward a voltage reduction test would need to be carried out every few years to understand if the relationship between load and voltage changes over time and to ensure that DNO systems are capable of delivering. The expectation is that voltage reduction will be used more frequently in the new LCT world.
13. Depending on the results of the tests, the wording in the Grid Code would need to be flexible to allow for varying timescales of capability. AR agreed to update the processes defining the voltage reduction implementation process prior to testing. BA agreed that the process would need to be provided with clear procedures and a document circulated post testing.
14. BA suggested National Grid needs to be transparent as to how the ENCC chooses which DNOs are requested to react in emergency situations. AC asked the question of whether National Grid's directly connected customers have the same obligation on the Grid Code to meet requirements under emergency situations. **AR took an action to go away and review this question.**
15. AC questioned whether the obligation to ensure that IDNOs (Independent Distribution Network Operators) deliver Demand Control is on National Grid or the DNOs. National Grid stated that it was unknown who this obligation was on. **AR took an action away to find this out.**
16. LW posted that this Workgroup report should be clear that if Voltage Reduction cannot deliver the amount of Demand Control that National Grid needs, as more reserve then needs to be considered. This Workgroup discussed this and recommends that a different Workgroup picks this and this up. This will be noted within the recommendation section of the Workgroup report.
17. The timescale for responding to the Grid Code Review Panel was discussed. AR will provide an update to the July GCRP and recommend that a Workgroup report be submitted to the November Panel meeting following completion of the tests.
18. DNOs do not want to be in a position that they still cannot meet the requirements of the GC following the implementation of the agreed changes.

3 List of Actions

19. AR/JB - will draft a specification for the tests detailing the requirements and deliverables and suggest testing dates for each DNO. The specification to be circulated to DNOs for comment by the end of June.
20. JB - to check if document 1505 can be circulated to the Workgroup.
21. AR/JB – review / redraft a new Demand Control procedure/instruction document and circulate to DNOs to update their procedures accordingly by the end of June.
22. ALL - to review the Workgroup Report and provide comments with track changes

4 Suggested ways forward

23. Actions will be dealt with by relevant parties prior to the next Workgroup meeting.
24. The Workgroup needs to draw this back to the scope of the 'Terms of Reference' and deliver Workgroup report back to the GCRP.

5 Date of Next Meeting

25. Next meeting will take place at NG House Warwick, or at a location nearby. The exact date/location will be confirmed at a later stage.