Trisha McAuley
Grid Code Panel Chair
c/o National Grid ESO

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Dear Trisha,

Authority decision to 'send back' Grid Code modification proposal GC0142: Adding Non-Standard Voltages to the Grid Code (GC0142)

On 21 September 2020, the Grid Code Review Panel submitted a Final Modification Report (FMR) for GC0142.

We have decided that we cannot form an opinion on GC0142 based on the FMR as submitted and that we should therefore send the proposal back to industry for further work.

GC0142 seeks to clarify the requirements that will be placed on equipment at non-standard voltages (e.g. 220kV). It seeks to do so by removing references to specific nominal voltages (e.g. 400kV, 275kV and 132kV) from relevant clauses of the Grid Code, and replace them with voltage ranges (e.g. above 132kV). We have reviewed the proposed changes and identified a number of instances where references to specific nominal voltages remain in the Grid Code. These are Grid Code Planning Code clauses PC.A.2.2.2, PC.A.2.2.3 and PC.A.6.2.1(f), and Grid Code Operating Code clauses OC3.4.1 and OC5.5.4.

We have discussed the issue with the modification proposer, National Grid ESO, who agree that to fulfil the intent of the proposal the above Grid Code clauses should also have been amended such that they no longer refer to specific nominal voltages.

We therefore direct that additional steps are undertaken (including resubmitting the amended FMR to the Grid Code Review Panel for vote and/or undertaking further consultation if it considers this appropriate) to address these concerns. A revised FMR should address all instances of references to specific nominal voltages from relevant clauses of the Grid Code.

The Office of Gas and Electricity Markets
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After addressing the issues discussed above, and revising the FMR accordingly, the Grid Code Review Panel should re-submit it to us for decision as soon as practicable.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Queen
Principal Engineer
Signed on behalf of the Authority and authorised for that purpose

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