

# Code Administrator Meeting 6 Summary

## GC0134 Removing the telephony requirements for small, distributed and aggregated market participants who are active in the Balancing Mechanism.

Date: 11 December 2020

### Contact Details

Chair: Nisar Ahmed, National Grid ESO  
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### Key areas of discussion

- The Chair provided a recap noting the progress of the Workgroup up to this point. It was agreed that the three options would be discussed firstly and then it would be for the Workgroup to decide on next steps.

#### Option 1 key points:

- The Workgroup agreed that Option 1 appears to be permissible under the Grid Code and therefore that no legal text change is required.
- Current Grid Code to be reviewed to confirm this is the case, with reference to CC.6.5.2 / ECC.6.5.2 and BC2.6.1
- It should be noted in the Workgroup Report that the Workgroup considered this option and concluded that it's already covered by the current Grid Code provisions
- The relevant parts of Grid Code refer to BM Units and therefore applies for demand as well as generation.

#### Option 2 key points:

- In the future (certainly after 2025) all landline telephony (in GB) is expected to depend on VOIP rather than PSTN.
- Control Telephony (CT) and System Telephony (ST) requirements in the Grid Code are due to be updated in the electrical standards as part of GC0148.
- CT will remain resilient but ST will become much less resilient to a loss of power as it moves away from PSTN, which will no longer be available after 2025
- CC.6.5.5.2 / ECC.6.5.5.2 states that System Telephony 'shall consist of a dedicated Public Switched Telephone Network telephone line', and therefore this definition excludes mobile phones and satellite phones or any other non-PSTN technology that allows communication. This requirement is not time limited which means that where required, System Telephony must be available at all times.
- It was noted that the wording of the System Telephony definition could be amended to allow mobile phone or satellite phone availability at all times, as a revised Option 2.
- The Workgroup agreed that this option is within the scope of this mod, but that these changes would have an impact and relevance to other mods which are being taken forwards, so it would be important to think about how this is communicated widely and aligned.

- The ESO took an action to provide new legal text for this option and to discuss actions internally with relevant ESO staff, regarding potential minimum standards for System Telephony.

### Option 3 key points:

- If the revised requirements are to apply below agreed thresholds, then they should apply to new and existing plant below that threshold and be applied consistently
- The ESO need to consider how the threshold may be revised in the light of emerging developments
- The mechanism by which the thresholds are applied needs to be considered (Grid Code, BCA, relevant electrical standards)
- For this option, the ESO would need to review the thresholds periodically. The thresholds may then need to be revised in the future subject to take up of this option by existing and future BM participants.
- The ESO took an action to provide new legal text for this option

The Workgroup concluded noting that there was more to discuss, including reviewing the Cost Benefit Analysis that the proposer provided. This would be circulated, and another Workgroup meeting would be arranged for the new year in order to conclude and hold the vote, if appropriate.

### Action Log

| Number | Action Owner            | Action   | Status                  |
|--------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 1.     | Phil Smith/Tony Johnson | To provide updated legal text for option 2 & 3   | Ahead of next Workgroup |
| 2.     | Phil Smith              | To recirculate cost benefit analysis   | Open                    |
| 3.     | Code Administrator      | Set up next Workgroup early 2020   | Open                    |
| 4.     | Peter Dennis            | Proposer to re-work solution based on the mix of options discussed and to circulate out ahead of the next Workgroup meeting. | Open                    |

### Participants

| Attendees        | Company                                 | Position                         |
|------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Nisar Ahmed      | Code Administrator<br>National Grid ESO | Chair                            |
| Kirsten Shilling | Code Administrator<br>National Grid ESO | Technical Secretary              |
| Peter Dennis     | Ecotricity                              | Proposer and<br>Workgroup Member |
| Phil Smith       | National Grid ESO                       | Workgroup Member                 |
| Tony Johnson     | National Grid ESO                       | Workgroup Member                 |
| Mark Bingham     | National Grid                           | Workgroup Member                 |
| John Walsh       | National Grid                           | Workgroup Member                 |

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|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Robert Longden  | Cornwall Energy | Workgroup Member   |
| Alvaro Miralles | Stemy Enery     | Workgroup Member   |
| Garth Graham    | SSE             | Workgroup Member   |
| Edda Dirks      | SSE             | Workgroup Observer |
| Alastair Frew   | Drax            | Workgroup Member   |

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For further information, please contact the Code Administrator.