

## GRID CODE REVIEW PANEL

13<sup>th</sup> September 2001

### National Grid Software Documentation Change Management

#### Background

1. Consideration has been given to the change management of a number of documents describing aspects of some of the National Grid software used in conjunction with NETA trading.
2. National Grid is keen to clarify the arrangements to ensure that all BM Participants are aware of the manner in which any proposed changes to these documents (in the event of proposed software changes) will be communicated to BM Participants.
3. The documents considered are:
  - a) Data Validation, Consistency and Defaulting Rules.
  - b) EDT Interface Specification
  - c) EDL Interface Specification
  - d) EDL Valid Reason Codes
  - e) Interface Standards
4. This paper sets out, for information, the manner of handling changes to these documents and proposes a change to the Grid Code to describe how these arrangements will operate.

#### Change Management

5. Copies of the current versions of these documents have been placed on the National Grid website as documents associated with the Grid Code.
6. The Data Validation, Consistency and Defaulting Rules, including the Issue Number, are referenced in the Grid Code. Therefore the governance for this document is clear - any proposed changes will be the subject of a Grid Code consultation paper leading to a Grid Code change to revise the Issue Number.
7. The other four documents are National Grid documents which describe aspects of systems used by BM Participants for the submission/receipt of NETA data. They are not explicitly referenced in the Grid Code, although there is recognition of their existence in CC.6.5.8.

8. Proposed changes to any of these latter four documents will be handled according to the perceived effect on BM Participants:-

| Nature of change  | Example  | Process  |
|---|--|--|
| Change which <b>will</b> affect Users' systems.               | Changes to overall system, its protocols, or security systems. | Undertake consultation with Users through posting of proposals on National Grid website and inviting comments; notify EDL/EDT Users and developers; GCRP members and Elexon (for possible issue of Elexon Circular) by e-mail. Implementation to be co-ordinated with Users.                         |
| Minor change which <b>may</b> affect some Users' systems.     | New EDL Reason Codes.  | Posting of new document on website, giving at least three weeks notice of implementation; notify EDL/EDT Users and developers; GCRP members and Elexon by e-mail. Implementation as planned unless concerns raised; - in which case implementation will be co-ordinated with Users as in case above. |
| Minor change which <b>will not</b> affect any Users' systems. | Wokingham screen layout change.                                | Make change. Post new document on website.   |

### Grid Code Change Proposals

9. The pre-NETA Grid Code contained a paragraph to describe the arrangements that applied to the data compatibility requirements, which followed a broadly similar process. It is, therefore, proposed that CC.6.5.8(b) is amended by the addition of the following additional text:-

*" **NGC** also undertakes to give all current **Users** the opportunity to comment if **NGC** proposes to change any of the specifications at any time as a result of changes to the electronic facilities, which in the reasonable opinion of **NGC**, may have an effect on **Users'** systems. Following the assessment of any such comments, **NGC** will provide reasonable notice of the implementation date to all current **Users** for the specification changes then proposed."*

### The Way Forward

10. GCRP Members are invited to note the arrangements for Change Management of the documents listed and to agree that National Grid should issue a consultation paper to progress the proposed Grid Code changes.

The National Grid Company plc  
27 July 2001