

Meeting summary

Grid Code Development Forum – January 2022

Date: 12/01/2022 **Location:** MS Teams

Start: 09:00 **End:** 11:00

Participants

Attendee	Company	Attendee	Company
Rob Wilson (RW)	National Grid ESO (Chair)	Pooja Rughoo	National Grid ESO
David Halford (DH)	National Grid ESO (Tec Sec)	Ayman Attya	National Grid ESO
Can Lee	National Grid ESO	Mike Kay	P2 Analysis Ltd
Bieshoy Awad	National Grid ESO	Graeme Vincent	SP Transmission
Antony Johnson	National Grid ESO	Alan Creighton	Northern Powergrid
Sade Adenola	National Grid ESO	Sean Gauton	Uniper UK
Bernie Dolan	National Grid ESO	Ruth Kemsley	EDF Energy Renewables
Frank Kasibante	National Grid ESO	Lisa Waters	Waters Wye Associates Ltd
Stephen Baker	National Grid ESO	Julie Richmond	Scottish Power Ltd
Henry Taylor	National Grid ESO	Paul Youngman	Drax Power Ltd
Nisar Ahmed	National Grid ESO	Paul Crolla	Muirhall Energy Ltd
Sally Musaka	National Grid ESO	Tzern Toh	ESB Independent Generation Ltd
Banke John-Okwesa	National Grid ESO	Lakshmipathi Chinna Murugan	Nordex UK

Agenda and slides

A link to the Agenda and Presentations from the November GCDF can be found here

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/meetings/grid-code-development-forum-gcdf-12012022>

GCDF

Please note: These notes are produced as an accompaniment to the slide pack presented and provide highlights only of discussion themes and possible next steps.

Meeting Opening – Rob Wilson, NGESO

RW opened the meeting providing an overview of the agenda items for discussion, and a run through of current open actions.

Electricity System Restoration Standard = Antony Johnson / Sade Adenola, NGESO

A summary was provided with regards to the Regulatory Framework updates required for the implementation of the Electricity System Restoration Standard (ESRS).

Discussion themes / Feedback

A question was asked with regards to where information could be found in relation to the workgroup discussions that had taken place to date along with any papers/minutes relating to this?

It was confirmed that dedicated webpages are live on the ESO Website:

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/balancing-services/electricity-system-restoration-standard> and that meeting minutes will be added once the workgroups review and sign them off.

It was asked how the current seven workgroups will link with any workgroups that would be required when any modifications required move into the formal process?

It was confirmed that these current workgroups will help to shape the solution and get to a stage that the modifications required could be officially raised due to the challenging timescales as presented. A joint Grid Code / Distribution Code workgroup is likely to be set-up due to changes required in both codes but will follow their respective code change governance processes.

Clarification was sought in relation to the timescales which had been shared and why there is an urgency for any modifications to be completed by the end of the year when parties would not need to meet these requirements or provide associated services until December 2026?

It was explained that the reason for this is that some stakeholders are not comfortable in terms of making any additional investments until the new requirements are implemented into the codes which will then clearly detail any specification that they need to comply with and that they feel a considerable lead-time may be required for this.

SQSS Review Update – Can Lee / Bieshoy Awad, NGESO

An update was provided in relation to the review of the SQSS as described in the ESO's RIIO T2 plan, including next steps and how stakeholders will be engaged throughout the review process

Discussion themes / Feedback

It was asked whether P2/7 was being updated and if that's the case would SQSS shadow this work?

It was confirmed that the next change in P2 is to update the level of security for different demand groups which should be more straightforward and could be completed once alignment has been achieved with P2/7. It also remains to be seen what the update to P2 is going to be.

Concern was raised with regards to wording within the presentation in relation to whether the intention is to align SQSS with P2, P2 to align with SQSS or a mixture of both of these as it could impact timescales?

The current plan is to align SQSS with P2 but once we move into the detail within the workgroup, there will be further analysis of potential impacts to the Transmission System so it might not be as straightforward as just alignment, but we will review the changes in P2 to assess how this affects Transmission to confirm whether it will be purely changes to SQSS. It was noted that the SQSS workgroup has no jurisdiction over P2 so the workgroup will start with the aim of aligning the Transmission requirement with the Distribution requirement. If issues are found that will have a major impact on the Transmission system, then we may need to go to the Distribution Code Review Panel to present the problem and what the implications could be as a result of this. The workgroup will start with the aim that on an enduring basis the SQSS will be aligned with P2/7 in the first instance and any update of P2 going forwards.

Removing the reliance on Fax Machines for communication with External Parties, NGESO

Fax machines have been used for many years for communication between National Grid Control Rooms and External Parties. One of the main advantages has been a 'received receipt' is available to confirm that the fax has been successfully received, this being particularly important when fulfilling Grid Code obligations. As a technology, fax machines are seen as "end-of-life" and so NGESO would like to consider alternative technologies to allow for better communication & data transfer with External Parties. We believe that the adoption of these future technologies will reduce the inefficiencies created by faxes across the industry, but we want feedback from industry to be sure we are moving in the right direction.

Discussion themes / Feedback

It was asked if there are any "quick wins" as the Grid Code currently states that parties that are not TO connected must comply to the extent that its applicable to them which is not very clear. The only thing the Grid Code requires them to comply with is to have a fax machine which will just sit in their offices and not be used apart from receiving test faxes from NGESO. Could we investigate with urgency that when DO connected parties which are licence exempt, that we can stop the requirement for them having to have a fax machine? The likelihood of needing to contact these small plants is extremely low and can be seen as a barrier to joining the BM.

It was agreed that this would be picked up as a priority task with an impact assessment being conducted in conjunction with the Control Room and we can look to come back with the outcome of this assessment.

It was commented that the Grid Code modification GC0117 could result in more requirements for users to require fax machines due to lowering of generation thresholds, but it was noted that we are still around 12-18 months away in terms of this modification being delivered.

It was noted that when this was investigated previously, the issue was always around ensuring you have robust mechanisms to ensure any contingency in place would not be lost if electronic communications could not be accessed.

It was noted that this subject had also been explored from the Gas Transmission side recently with a conclusion that Fax Machines still needed to be required. It was also noted that email wasn't considered as a legal notification at the time, but this may have now changed.

An alternative of recording phone conversations was also discussed, but this method is difficult if you want to communicate the same message to a high volume of different parties.

A question was asked in terms of what do other industries do e.g., Traders, and whether any discussions had taken place externally?

It was agreed that this was a good point to raise and as the project is in the early stages no discussions of this nature had taken place yet.

It was mentioned that maybe NGENSO should supply Fax Machines to parties if this is a requirement, but the NGENSO view is that we should look to remove them if possible.

Whole System Technical Code – Frank Kasibante, NGENSO

The Whole System Technical Code Team provided a verbal update on the responses to Consultation 1 and preparation for Consultation 2, the inaugural Steering Group Meeting from the 15th December 2021, nominations to the Steering Group, and progress relating to the WSTC webpages on the ESO website.

Discussion themes / Feedback

A question was asked in relation to who makes up the Steering Group and are the meeting notes, response to the consultations etc, being published?

It was confirmed that there are dedicated pages set-up on the NGENSO website

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/digitalised-whole-system-technical-code> where material relating to the WSTC will be published. It was also confirmed that the next SG meeting is due to take place on the 20th January where confirmation will be sought in terms of signing off and publishing the minutes from the last SG.

It was noted that the governance review from Ofgem and BEIS stated that all documentation should be open, transparent and published.

It was commented that this will most likely be similar to Panel minutes, as these are normally reviewed by the panel before they are distributed.

A question was asked who was representing distribution connected parties on the SG and is the Distribution Code administrator represented?

It was confirmed that the Energy Networks Association was being represented

A question was asked in relation to whether there is representation from smaller generators?

There is representation from one Distribution Code Rep party, but the coverage is not great as NGENSO have struggled with engagement from smaller parties, but we do have a representatives from Trade Associations (Renewable UK and ICoSS).

It was reiterated that the WSTC SG is still looking for further representation from Grid Code parties and also smaller parties as was discussed.

AOB

A new Grid Code modification (GC0154) raised at the December Panel to look at Interconnector Ramping.

Notifications for Panel members has resulted in an email being sent out to Industry looking for nominations to join the workgroup that is being set-up, but we are still seeking further members.

RW thanked the attendees and presenters for their contributions and in closing the meeting reminded everyone that the GCDF is an open forum and agenda items are invited from all parties.

Next GCDF will be held on the 2nd February with the 25th January being the deadline for agenda items and presentations.

Action Item Log

Action items: In progress and completed since last meeting

ID	Month	Agenda Item	Description	Owner	Notes	Target Date	Status
3	September	Minimum Short Circuit Levels	Return to GCDF in November with an update, particularly with regards to progress on developing a proposal to include in the ESO System Operability Framework (SOF) document and in terms of the feedback received from the September presentation	BA		November	In Progress
6	October	SQSS Review	Confirm next steps with regards to how stakeholders will be kept updated in relation to the SQSS review	CL/BA		December	Closed