

Grid Code Review Panel

Balancing Code references to Embedded Exemptable Large Power Stations

Introduction

1. National Grid has received queries from a wind farm developer in relation to his BELLA. The enquiry indicated that the user was expecting to comply with BC1 and BC2 by submitting data on an individual generating unit basis rather than for each module of the wind farm. For wind farms that are BM Units, National Grid asks for data on a Module basis.

Background

2. The Ofgem consultation and change approval process for generic provisions was carried out at the same time as numerous changes for BETTA. One alteration of the Grid Code for BETTA was to redefine the scope of BC1 and BC2 to cater for Cascade Hydro stations and Embedded Exemptable Large Power Stations. Embedded Exemptable Large Power Stations are excused from registering as Balancing Mechanism Units (BM Units) but are required to submit forecasts of output and sign Mandatory Service Agreements (MSAs).
3. As a consequence the application of BC1 and BC2 was extended from solely BM Units to include Generating Units at Embedded Exemptable Large Power Stations where identified in the Bilateral Agreement. As a consequence the wording of BC1 and BC2 implies that Embedded Exemptable Large Power Stations that are wind farms are required to submit data on a Generating Unit basis. This was not the intention of National Grid in drafting the Grid Code which generally requires information to be supplied on a Power Park Module basis.

Proposals

4. From National Grid's perspective it is not desirable to receive information from wind farms on a generating unit basis due to the volume of information involved. It could also be seen as treating Embedded Exemptable Large Power Stations unfavourably, placing greater information burdens on them compared with similar BM Units.
5. To ensure that the application of BC1 and BC2 to Embedded Exemptable Large Power Stations is no more onerous than for other similar Power Stations registered as BM Units, National Grid proposes to undertake a consultation to amend BC1 and BC2. The drafting in Appendix 1 proposes suggested revised drafting to BC1 and BC2.

Recommendation

6. Grid Code Review Panel members are invited to consider the proposed change to Grid Code BC1 and BC2 at the GCRP meeting on 24th November 2005. Having taken account of any comments received at the meeting National Grid then intends to carry out a short industry consultation on the proposed changes.

Appendix 1

Proposed Balancing Code 1 Changes:

BC1.2 OBJECTIVE

The procedure for the submission of **BM Unit Data** and/or **Generating Unit Data** is intended to enable **NGET** to assess which **BM Units** and **Generating Units** are expected to be operating in order that **NGET** can ensure (so far as possible) the integrity of the **GB Transmission System**, and the security and quality of supply.

Where reference is made in this **BC1** to **Generating Units** (unless otherwise stated) it only applies ~~to~~:

- (a) to each **Generating Unit** which forms part of the **BM Unit** of a **Cascade Hydro Scheme**; and
- (b) where the **Bilateral Agreement** specifies that **NGET** reasonably requires compliance with **BC1** on a **Generating Unit** basis at an **Embedded Exemptable Large Power Station**:
 - i) to each **Generating Unit** at an **Embedded Exemptable Large Power Station**, or
 - ii) to each **Power Park Module** where an **Embedded Exemptable Large Power Station** is comprised of **Power Park Modules**.

Proposed Balancing Code 2 Changes:

BC2.2 OBJECTIVE

The procedure covering the operation of the **Balancing Mechanism** and the issuing of instructions to **Users** is intended to enable **NGET** as far as possible to maintain the integrity of the **GB Transmission System** together with the security and quality of supply.

Where reference is made in this **BC2** to **Generating Units** (unless otherwise stated) it only applies ~~to~~:

- (a) to each **Generating Unit** which forms part of the **BM Unit** of a **Cascade Hydro Scheme**; and
- (b) ~~each **Generating Unit** at an **Embedded Exemptable Large Power Station**~~ where the **Bilateral Agreement** specifies that **NGET** reasonably requires compliance with certain provisions of **BC2** on a **Generating Unit** basis at an **Embedded Exemptable Large Power Station**.
 - i) to each **Generating Unit**, or
 - ii) to each **Power Park Module** where an **Embedded Exemptable Large Power Station** is comprised of **Power Park Modules**.