

Meeting summary

Grid Code Development Forum – September 2022

Date:	07/09/2022	Location:	MS Teams
Start:	09:00	End:	11:00

Participants

Attendee	Company	Attendee	Company
Rob Wilson	National Grid ESO (Chair)	Alan Creighton	Northern PowerGrid
David Halford	National Grid ESO (Tech Sec)	Paul Youngman	Drax
Alastair Grey	National Grid ESO (Presenter)	Priyanka Mohapatra	Scottish Power
Frank Kasibante	National Grid ESO (Presenter)	Nicola Barberis Negra	Orsted
Steve Baker	National Grid ESO (Presenter)	Gavin Baillie	SSE
Laura Henry	National Grid ESO (Presenter)	Andrew Larkins	Sygensys
Banke John-Okwesa	National Grid ESO	Mike Kay	P2 Analysis
Kavita Patel	National Grid ESO	Ryan Ward	Scottish Power Renewables
Jamie Webb	National Grid ESO	Paul Crolla	Muirhall Energy
Terry Baldwin	National Grid ESO	Graeme Vincent	SP Transmission
Angela Quinn	National Grid	Rees Westley	Cam Capital
Adetola Odumade	EDF Renewables	Sudharsana Govindaswami	Cummins
Ruth Kemsley	EDF Renewables	Darvesh Abbas	Northland Power Europe
Martin Aten	Uniper UK		

Agenda and slides

A link to the Agenda and Presentations from the September GCDF can be found [here](#)

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 (GCDF Chair), NGESO

RW opened the meeting noting that it was being recorded to be uploaded onto the ESO website with the meeting summary notes and that agenda items for future meetings were invited. An overview of the agenda items that were to be discussed was also covered.

CUSC Modification Update – CMP376, Queue Management Process – Laura Henry, NGESO

Discussion themes / Feedback

An update was shared on CUSC modification CMP376, which is seeking to formally introduce improvements to the Queue Management Process as developed through the ENA Open Networks project.

It was asked what the problem statement was of this modification and what issue is this looking to resolve?

The aim of the modification is to make the best use of available capacity on the transmission system by enabling customers who have projects that are progressing but are stuck in the connections queue behind projects that are less advanced to connect earlier.

It was asked if there was evidence that this scenario is occurring?

Yes, there are many examples of this. It is often the case that projects seek a connection at an early point in their life as having a connection agreement may be necessary to progress things such as financial backing and consents. But the position of a project in the connection's 'queue' and their prospective connection date may have little relation to the project's viability. There are many examples of projects raising Modification Applications to move connection dates which have resulted in customers behind in the queue not being able to connect on the dates they desired. The ESO would be happy to share this information with Ofgem, but it could not be shared with industry parties as it would be commercially privileged.

In terms of "force majeure" in relation to delay to a connect date, how would this be defined?

While force majeure is defined in the connection agreement, any delays to the connection date due to for example a local authority or planning inspectorate delay, would not result in the connection agreement being terminated if the customer can clearly demonstrate that the planning application was submitted on time. It's important to stress that this would all be part of the engagement between the ESO and customers.

In relation to the Transmission Entry Capacity (TEC) amnesty, is this also related to decreasing TEC as well as the termination of their connection agreement?

The amnesty also relates to the decreasing of TEC as well as the termination of connection agreements.

In terms of the scope of the modification, will this apply to existing connections or just new connection offer post the implementation of the modification?

The process will apply to new applications and also modification applications to existing connections after the implementation of the modification.

With 2 Workgroups per month planned to address this modification, is there a specific reason why this is the case as ordinarily Workgroups would be held once a month? Is there a specific critical issue that requires this modification to be concluded urgently?

Because the modification was paused for a lengthy period of time and a more defined proposal has now been developed, it was felt that timely progress could now be made although this would be dependent on the discussions and outcomes of the Workgroups.

It was explained that the modification will follow the code governance process in terms of Workgroups, Workgroup Consultation, and a Code Administrator Consultation.

There is still an opportunity to join the Workgroup for this modification by contacting the Code Administrator Team via email at cusc.team@nationalgrideso.com

Early Competition Workstream – Grid Code Modification – Alastair Grey / Steve Baker, NGESO

Discussion themes / Feedback

An update was shared to provide further detail around the Grid Code Modification that will be submitted at the September Grid Code Panel to support the implementation of Early Competition.

It was noted that in parallel to the work to support Early Competition, Ofgem will need to confirm the licencing solution for Competitively Appointed transmission Owners (CATOS) and will need to progress these licence changes in relation to this. Our assumption is that this will happen during 2023 following enactment of the Energy Bill and in time for implementation in 2024.

In relation to the definition of Small, Medium and Large Power Stations as part of the changes that have been identified, is there any likelihood that these will be different from the current documented thresholds notwithstanding that Grid Code modification, GC0117 could result in these thresholds being amended?

There are no plans to differentiate these thresholds from what is currently stated in the Grid Code - and clearly any arrangements would reflect changes as a result of GC0117.

What kind of projects could be in the scope of competition and could this impact timeframes in terms delays in the completion of projects?

The project would need to meet criteria for it to be suitable for competition including the asset being “new and separable”. A cost benefit analysis would also be completed to ensure as a result of being included for competition that no delays to the project would be incurred.

It was noted that a workshop is being held on the 3rd October by the ESO Network Competition Team to look at the policy that will inform the changes required in the STC and we invite attendance and input from industry parties. Interested parties can sign up to this workshop [here](#)

Digitalised Whole System Technical Code Update – Frank Kasibante, NGESO

Discussion themes / Feedback

An update was shared on the Alignment, Simplification and Rationalisation (ASR) and Digitalisation Workstreams of the Digitalised Whole System Technical Code project including current progress on the particular aspects of the Grid Code that are currently being reviewed

It was asked if the project team is just looking at the particular elements of the Grid Code or is it also alignment with for example the Distribution Code?

Currently, the project is just looking at elements of the Grid Code which could be improved and reporting these findings back to the Steering Group to agree whether code modification could then be raised to implement these changes.

AOB

Energy Code Reform

As noted at recent code panels, Ofgem will be publishing a “Call for Input” towards the end of September / start of October which will concentrate on the themes of the process for the appointment of Code Managers, Stakeholder Advisory Forums arrangements, and developing thinking on code consolidation.

GCDF Chair

The current GCDF Chair (Rob Wilson), shared that he was moving into a new role within the ESO, and Jamie Webb will be Charing the GCDF from October onwards.

The Chair thanked the attendees and presenters for their contributions and in closed the meeting.

The next GCDF will be held on the 5th October with the 28th September 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
01-2022	July 2022	Connection Agreement Progress	An update of all connection agreements from the past 2 years in terms of progress on original connection date i.e., how many agreements are on track or ahead of the original connection date and how many are behind the original connection date?	Gareth Stanley		September 2022	Closed