

Grid Code Review Panel

27 October 2022

Grid Code Review Panel Minutes

Date: 27/10/2022	Location: Faraday House and Microsoft Teams
Start: 10:00am	End: 12:00am

Participants

Attendee	Initials	Company
Trisha McAuley	TM	Independent Panel Chair
Milly Lewis	ML	Code Administrator Representative
Shazia Akhtar	SA	Panel Technical Secretary, Code Administrator
Alan Creighton	AC	Panel Member, Network Operator Representative
Alastair Frew	AF	Panel Member, Generator Representative
Christopher Smith	CS	Panel Member, Offshore Transmission Operator Representative
Gurpal Singh	GS	Authority Representative
Guy Nicholson	GN	Panel Member, Generator Representative
Jamie Webb	JW	Panel Member, National Grid ESO
John Harrower	JH	Panel Member, Generator Representative
Rashmi Radhakrishnan	RR	Panel Member, BSC Panel Representative
Robert Longden	RL	Panel Member, Supplier Representative
Roddy Wilson	RW	Panel Member, Onshore Transmission Operator Representative
Sigrid Bolik	SB	Panel Member, Generator Representative

Apologies

Attendee	Initials	Company
Nadir Hafeez	NH	Authority Representative
Steve Cox	SC	Panel Member, Network Operator Representative

Presenters / Observers

Attendee	Initials	Company
Iain Dallas	ID	Alternate, Generator Representative

1. Introductions and Apologies

9217. Apologies were received from Nadir Hafeez and Steve Cox.

9218. The Chair welcomed Jamie Webb and Rashmi Radhakrishnan to their first Panel meeting as Panel Members.

9219. The Chair reminded Panel Members of the requirement for impartiality and of declaring potential or perceived conflicts of interest. No declarations were received from Panel Members.

2. Minutes from previous meeting

9220. The meeting minutes from the Grid Code Review Panel held on 29 September 2022 were approved.

3. Review of actions log

9221. There were no open actions to discuss.

4. Chair's update

9222. There were no Chair updates.

5. Authority Decisions

9223. GS advised that, due to the complexity of [GC0141](#) Ofgem was not expecting to reach a decision on this until the end of November 2022. They are expecting to publish a decision on [GC0148](#) by early December 2022.

6. New Modifications

9224. No new modifications proposals were presented to the Panel.

7. In flight modification updates

9225. ML talked the Panel through the progression of the in-flight modifications. The in-flight modifications can be found in the Headline Report within the Grid Code Review Panel papers pack on the National Grid ESO website via the following link:

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/269016/download>

GC0117: Improving transparency and consistency of access arrangements across GB by the creation of a pan-GB commonality of Power Stations requirements

9226. ML advised that the Workgroup met on the 25 October 2022 and have requested a 5 month extension to the timeline to allow a Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) to be completed, which is expected to take 10 to 14 weeks. Ofgem have also indicated that a CBA would help them in their decision making process.
9227. RL requested that, for future modifications, can Code Admin try and recognise if a CBA is needed at the earliest possible opportunity and make sure Workgroup members are aware of this at the start of the process, along with the implications it may have on timelines.
9228. ML explained that this was previously brought up when the Panel was looking at modification blockers and that Code Admin were currently looking into this to see whether they can identify early on if a CBA is needed and if this can be done internally or not.
9229. GN and RW questioned where they could find information on the outline and specification of the CBA.
9230. JW stated that he would be happy to have conversations on this with them offline.
9231. ML highlighted that Panel members can also ask questions on the modification directly to the Code Administrator Workgroup Chair, Ruth Roberts, or the technical secretary Banke John-Okwesa.
9232. The Panel agreed to the revised timeline.

GC0139: Enhanced Planning-Data Exchange to Facilitate Whole System Planning

9233. ML explained that the GC0139 sub-group was making good progress in developing the legal text and that this should be ready for Workgroup meetings to reconvene in January 2023. Therefore a 5 month timeline extension would be required with the consequence that the Workgroup report would be presented to the April 2023 Panel.
9234. ML highlighted that Code Admin were currently also looking into whether they could provide access to a SharePoint site which would allow multiple users to review and edit documents such as legal text at the same time. This would save time drawing up legal text in the future.
9235. RL and AC agreed that this was a good way to view documents but highlighted concerns around management control, especially if more than one person was editing a document at a time. AC stated that using a shared document may result in a number of merged document changes that do not make sense, or people repeatedly editing documents where they cannot reach an agreement.
9236. The Panel agreed to the revised timeline.
9237. AC requested an update on [GC0103: The introduction of harmonised Applicable Electrical Standards in GB to ensure compliance with the EU Connection Codes](#), which had been at the bottom of the prioritisation stack for a few years.
9238. TM explained that some time ago, Richard Woodward had requested a CBA to address certain issues raised by the Workgroup, but the Proposer had not agreed to this.
9239. Several Panel Members highlighted the interactions between [GC0103](#) and [GC0159: Introducing Competitively Appointed Transmission Owners](#). They explained that the [GC0159](#) Workgroup would need to consider the impacts of [GC0103](#) and that [GC0103](#) may need to get brought into [GC0159](#) or withdrawn.

9240. ML explained that the [GC0159](#) Workgroup had already been asked to consider the impacts of [GC0103](#) as part of their Terms of Reference (ToR).

8. Prioritisation Stack / Dashboard

9241. ML explained that, as GC0160 had been granted urgency by Ofgem, this had now gone to the top of the stack and all the other modifications had moved down one level.

9242. The Panel reviewed the prioritisation stack and agreed that no changes were required.

9243. The updated prioritisation stack can be found in the Headline Report via the following link:

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/269841/download>

9. Workgroup Reports

9244. There were no Workgroup Reports presented to the Panel.

10. Draft Final Modification Reports

GC0158: Reversing unimplemented aspects of GC0068

9245. ML explained that this modification is a tidying up exercise and removes the requirement to implement the remaining legal text from [GC0068](#) associated with Electricity Balancing System (EBS) go live, including Dynamic Stable Import and Export Limits, as EBS will no longer be happening and it has been superseded by the [Future Balancing project](#).

9246. ML advised that the Code Administrator Consultation opened on the 31 August 2022, closed on the 03 October 2022, and received three non-confidential responses. Two respondents felt that there were elements of the unimplemented [GC0068](#) modification which would still be of benefit to the Grid Code and its Users. One respondent did not support the modification and queried how the savings from EBS not going live were being passed on to stakeholders. No issues with the legal text were identified.

9247. JW explained that not implementing EBS was more of a cost avoidance, rather than a saving, which had not been included within the ESO's business plan. So, had EBS been implemented, the ESO would have had to request that it be funded via the cost pass through mechanism.

9248. JW also tried to reassure the Panel that the ESO's intention was to pick these remaining aspects up as part of the [Future Balancing project](#), which is included in the ESO's RIIO business plan and will be delivered by 2027. Removing the unimplemented aspects of [GC0068](#) will allow the ESO a cleaner starting point for any future work in this area.

9249. Several Panel members questioned whether the baseline would keep the obligation to incorporate these unimplemented aspects of [GC0068](#) waiting in the background, even though the trigger to implement them (EBS), would never occur.

9250. ML confirmed that was correct and that they would continue to remain in the background until another modification was raised to supersede them. However, any parts of [GC0068](#) that were already implemented in the Grid Code would remain in the code.

9251. Several Panel members stated that they were uncomfortable undoing [GC0068](#) as it had been approved by Ofgem and it would also mean trusting the ESO to deliver on their promise rather than having an obligation to do so.

9252. The Chair stated that the Panel had already had these discussions on the governance route and un-doing an Ofgem decision on the 25 August 2022, where the Panel had

agreed, by a majority, that [GC0158](#) should follow the self-governance route. No objections had been raised by Ofgem on this Panel decision.

9253. ML advised that Code Admin have started to look out for other modifications like this, to prevent modifications which are reliant on external triggers, from being sent to Ofgem.

9254. The Panel held their determination vote and by a narrow majority, 5 votes to 4 votes, determined that the Proposer's solution should be implemented.

9255. It was noted by Panel members that all four generator representatives on the Panel had voted for the baseline.

Post Panel Note: Additional commentary to reflect these discussions were added to the GC0158 self-governance Final Modification Report which was circulated to Panel members on 1 November 2022 to check their votes. The Appeals window will then open on the 9 November 2022 and close on the 30 November 2022. If no appeals are received, GC0158 will be implemented on the 6 December 2022.

11. Reports to Authority

9256. There were no updates for the Panel.

12. Implementation updates

9257. There were no updates for the Panel.

13. Governance

9258. There were no updates for the Panel.

14. Grid Code Development Forum (GCDF)

9259. JW advised that the GCDF meeting scheduled for the 05 October 2022 had been cancelled due to the lack of agenda items. The next meeting will be held on the 02 November 2022 and there were currently 2 items on the agenda:

- Potential update to the "EDL Instruction Interface Valid Reason Codes" Electricity Standards document; and an
- Update on Digitalising the Whole System Technical Code Project.

9260. In relation to the Whole System Technical Code project, AC stated that there had been low attendance at the steering group recently and expressed concern that in the ASR project only a few people had been involved in redrafting the first section of text, OC2. AC noted that in the draft version circulated for comment there had also been less simplifications in the parts of the code that placed obligations on parties, compared to the introduction and scope.

9261. JW stated that Industry resource had been pulled into all the urgent modifications that had been raised recently, so this may have fallen by the wayside. JW also felt that it was understandable that there had been less simplifications of the obligations, as this would just increase the risk of obligations not being fully understood or clearly communicated.

9262. AC highlighted that the digitisation project also seemed to be losing support from industry, as the second workshop was cancelled due to the lack of attendees.

9263. JW re-iterated current industry resource limitations and stated that they were aware of what Industry wanted in terms of simplifications but need further input to understand what sections to simplify so that they could build and test this.

9264. RL stated that trying to simplify codes further than the irreducible minimum would make things less clear, less specific, and more open to interpretation. RL also felt that the ESO

needed dedicated people with the right expertise on this full time, or the ESO may end up with a smaller document that does not do what it is supposed to do.

15. Standing Groups

Distribution Code Review Panel Update

9265. AC advised that an ENA steering group will be looking at the issues that connectees have with EREC P28, and particularly in relation to battery storage schemes. As P28 is also referenced within the Grid Code, this may require an amendment to the Grid Code in the future.

9266. AC spoke about the consultation on the European Network Codes requirements on Generators and explained that some of the European Connection Code is based on the EU Requirements for Generators (RfG). So, if there are changes to the RfG, then changes may be required to the Grid Code.

Joint European Stakeholder Group (JESG)

9267. ML advised that the last meeting was held on 18 October 2022 where they discussed derogation and winter readiness. The next meeting will take place on 08 November 2022. The papers and presentations for the last meeting can be found via the following link: [JESG Meeting - 18 October 2022 | National Grid ESO](#)

16. Updates on other Industry Codes

9268. ML advised that:

- The [GC0156](#) consequential CUSC modification [CMP398: GC0156 Cost Recovery mechanism for CUSC Parties](#) had been raised and the first Workgroup will be held on the 03 November 2022.
- The SQSS modification [GSR029](#) has identified consequential changes to the Grid Code and Code Admin were liaising with the Proposer on timelines for when a consequential modification will be raised.
- Ofgem have provided some direction on Offshore Co-ordination, and Code Admin are expecting some consequential modifications to start coming in soon. Further information will be provided on this, as part of the Horizon Scan agenda item, at the November 2022 Panel meeting.
- The Elexon 102 issue group is looking at how Elexon can improve their current processes and governance arrangements. A lot of the feedback Elexon has received is consistent with the feedback other Code Administrators have had e.g., that the process is too clunky and complex etc. Therefore, the discussions within the issue group meeting were more cross-code recommendations.

17. Blockers to Modification progress

9269. There were no updates at this Panel meeting.

18. Horizon Scan

9270. There were no updates at this Panel meeting.

19. Electrical Standards

9271. There were no updates for the Panel.

20. Forward Plan Update / Customer Journey

9272. There were no updates at this Panel meeting.

21. Any Other Business (AOB)

Update on Grid Code Review Panel Elections

9273. ML advised that the invites for the 2023 Grid Code Review Panel were sent out earlier that week and to let Code Admin know if they had not received them.

9274. ML stated that GN had queried whether Code Admin can publish the candidate statements for everyone that had been elected. Code Admin had contacted everyone, and as no one has raised any objections to this they will be sending out a template for everyone to fill in over the coming weeks.

Post Panel Note: This was circulated to Panel members on the 14 November for completion by 23 November 2022. They will be uploaded onto the website in January 2023 in line with the start of the new Panel.

9275. AC questioned whether Code Admin had heard back from the ENA on who the DNO Panel members would be.

9276. SA confirmed they had not, but would chase this up.

9277. AC stated that they had agreed at the last Industry Technical Codes Group (ITCG) that these would remain the same as they currently are.

Post Panel Note: On the 11 November 2022, Christopher McCann, the ITCG secretary, confirmed that these positions were discussed and agreed by the group and that Steve Cox and Alan Creighton would remain as the Grid Code representatives, and Graeme Vincent and Matt White would be their alternates.

9278. RL highlighted that Code Admin used to have a Panel dinner to either say hello or farewell to the new/old Panel, to allow everyone to get know each other.

9225. The Chair agreed there may be some value in this as it may help individuals build relationships. The Chair asked Code Admin to take this away to consider if it was feasible
- **Action 429.**

Energy Codes Review

9226. GS stated that Ofgem expect to publish a call for input seeking views on key policy areas as it prepares for implementation. However, Ofgem's publication timelines are currently under review while it awaits further information from the government on its plans for the Bill. Ofgem notes that the government remains committed to the important measures in the Energy Security Bill to deliver change in the energy system over the long term.

The next Special Grid Code Review Panel meeting (for GC0160) will be held on 22 November 2022. This will be via Microsoft Teams.

The next full Grid Code Review Panel meeting will be held on 24 November 2022. This will also be via Microsoft Teams

New Modification Proposals are to be submitted by 9 November 2022.

Grid Code Review Panel Papers Day is 16 November 2022.