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Meeting summary

Grid Code Development Forum – 11 January 2023

Date:	11/02/2023	Location:	MS Teams
Start:	09:00	End:	10:30

Participants

Attendee	Company	Attendee	Company
Jamie Webb	National Grid ESO (Chair)	Nicola Barberis Negra	Orsted
David Halford	National Grid ESO (Tech Sec)	Harry Burns	EDF
Richard Sykes	National Grid ESO (Presenter)	Nosa Oronsaye	EDF
Bernie Dolan	National Grid ESO (Presenter)	Issac Gutierrez	Scottish Power
Biniam Haddish	National Grid ESO (Presenter)	Mireia Barenys	Lightsource BP
Terry Baldwin	National Grid ESO	Lisa Waters	Waters Wye Associates
Usman Farook	National Grid ESO	Julie Richmond	Scottish Power
Fergus Clunies-Ross	National Grid ESO	Paul Youngman	Drax
Renata Waskiewicz	National Grid ESO	Sreedhar Desabhatla	GE Gas Power
Mike Kay	P2 Analysis	Darvesh Abbas	Northland Power
Graeme Vincent	SP Transmission	Alexander Aristodemou	National Grid
Alan Creighton	Northern Powergrid	Ross Strachan	Scottish Power
Garth Graham	SSE	Ruth Kempsey	EDF
Daniel Oluwabukola	EDF	Michael Burke	SSE
Faiva Wadawasina	Fakck Renewables	Chanura Wijeratne	RES Group

Agenda and slides

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

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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 – Jamie Webb (GCDF Chair) & David Halford (GCDF Tech Sec), NGESO

The meeting was opened, and it was noted that it would be recorded for it to be uploaded onto the ESO website with the meeting summary notes. An overview of the agenda items that were to be discussed was covered.

Interpretation of Minimum Zero Time (MZT) and Minimum Non-Zero Time (MNZT) for bi-directional units

A presentation was shared for NGESO to confirm its interpretation of Minimum Zero Time (MZT) and Minimum Non-Zero Time (MNZT) in the Grid Code for bi-directional units.

It was noted that Control Room processes which are currently performed manually (including the interpretation of MZT/MNZT), will be automated through the Opening Balancing Platform Programme.

Discussion themes / Feedback

It was asked whether the concept of MZT/MNZT a restriction based on the design of the Generating Unit or restriction that NGESO place on the Generator?

The information is provided by the Generator to NGESO and based on a limitation of the Plant

Is the assumption that the MZT value is fixed and submitted as part of the Data Registration Code (DRC) schedule?

The assumption is that the MZT (and MZNT) values could be re-declared via EDL or EDT if required but this assumption will be checked and confirmed (**see Action Log**)

It was mentioned by a GCDF attendee that Ofgem states that the MZT/MNZT values must reflect technical capabilities of the Generator and must not be used as a commercial tool. This causes issues for flexible Power Stations, with a BSC Issue Working Group (Issue 98) set-up to look at whether this needs to be amended as currently this could result in plants being switched on and off in short periods of time which can created issues with insurance and maintenance

There was an assumption that the concept of MZT and MNZT is important for thermal plant that would struggle to get to full power in a short space of time, and if this is the case then would this apply to bi-directional units in a physical sense?

Although there is plant with zero MZT/MNZT, we need to ensure that when building future IT systems, we have the correct logic correct for plants where MZT/MNZT is important.

It was asked if a consultation would be published in relation these assumptions?

There is no change proposed to how MZT/MNZT is interpreted by the ESO at present and the purpose of the presentation was to ensure there were no contradictions from these assumptions.

The ESO are embarking on a new IT system to support balancing (The Opening Balancing Platform) which will be more flexible than current systems in terms of implementing change. The ESO want to ensure transparency and will be publishing a number of documents over time to confirm the ESO's interpretation of various actions to ensure these are built into the new Opening Balancing Platform. Having more flexible IT infrastructure should benefit both the ESO and the industry as a whole. It was noted that where a change from the current documented process needs to take place, this will be submitted through the formal modification process and follow the appropriate governance route.

The ESO have been engaging regularly with industry parties and invite and welcome industry parties to participate

Details of the ESO's Strategic Capability Review (which includes the opportunity to attend the Working Groups, can be found here

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Overview of approved Grid Code modification – GC0141

An overview was shared in relation to the approved Grid Code modification GC0141 (Compliance Processes and Modelling amendments following the 9th August 2019 Power Disruption).

Discussion themes / Feedback

It was discussed that Guidance Documents would be written to support the implementation of the modification and it was asked if these could be provided at the next GCDF ***(see Action Log)***

In relation to the "Compliance Repeat Plan" element of the modification, it was asked if the Final Operational Notification (FON) would be removed?

The ESO is currently in the process of reviewing the list of generators that have been through the compliance process and were issued a FON five years ago or beyond. A notification will then be sent to the generator to say that the five-year Compliance Repeat Plan is due and will be invited to a call with the ESO to discuss the process.

Currently, we have identified around 90 generators that require the five-year Compliance Repeat Plan, and we are looking at contacting these generators in the order that they connected.

It was asked if a schedule could be provided that contains the order that generators will be contacted ***(see Action Log)***

Clarity was sought in relation to the Compliance Repeat Plan and whether the compliance would relate to the Grid Code at time of completion as otherwise there is a possibility that derogations would need to be sought which is not sustainable?

It was confirmed that compliance plan would be on a project-by-project basis and would relate to the time of the connection of the plant.

The modification contains a definition of Fault Ride Through (FRT), but elements of FRT are also being agreed as part of the GC0156 modification. There is some lack of clarity in relation to the FRT definition as part of GC0141.

It was acknowledged that GC0156 may provide further clarity around some of the elements of FRT and the ESO will clarify if the FRT definition as part of GC0141 will be retrospective **(see Action Log)**

Will the Fault Ride Through simulations studies form part of the Compliance Repeat Plan?

Yes, these simulations will be part of the Compliance Repeat Plan and will be discussed between the generator and Compliance Engineer. Additional scenarios will only be asked for if required.

If a generator has a particular derogation, will they need to be proved again?

If the generator has a lifetime derogation, then this will not need to be proved again.

Is the expectation that it will just be the compliance statement/self-certification that will need to be re-submitted?

During the meeting between the generator and ESO to discuss the Compliance Repeat Plan, with the compliance statement and self-certification of compliance being the mandatory items that will be required. If any further proof of compliance is required, then this will be discussed at the meeting.

What is the course of action of compliance is not achieved?

The Limited Operational Notification (LON) process will be followed.

With regards to the Compliance Repeat Plan, there as some concerns around the compliance reflecting the time of connection which could result in confusion and be open to interpretation.

The ESO will look to clarify this as part of the Guidance Documents and follow-up these concerns (**see Action Log)**.

It was asked how the modification impacts Licence Exempt Embedded Medium Power Stations LEEMPS) as clarity would be welcomed.

The ESO will provide clarity for LEEMPS units (**see Action Log**)

It was asked if the five-year Compliance Repeat Plan could be conducted earlier if it is convenient for the generator? The ESO will provide clarity on this (**see Action Log**)

In relation to SSTI/SSCI studies, the GC0141 decision paper states that if there are no models available by the User in order for the studies to be completed, the ESO would lead on discussions with the User to ensure the correct approach is agreed for the studies to be completed. Has the ESO had any further internal discussions in relation to this? (**see Action Log**)

AOB

Attendees were reminded that the meeting recording and summary notes will be published on the GCDF webpage.

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

The next GCDF will be held on the 1st February 2023 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	Agenda Item	Description	Owner	Notes	Target Date	Status
2301	MZT/MNZT	Can the MZT/MNZT values be re-declared via EDL/EDT?	Bernie Dolan		February	In Progress
2302	GC0141	Provide the GCDF group the associated Guidance Documents which are being created/amended as part of the modification	Biniam Haddish		February	In Progress
2303	GC0141	Provide a schedule of generators with timings of when they will be invited to complete the Compliance Repeat Plan	Biniam Haddish		February	In Progress

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2304	GC0141	Is the revised Fault Ride Definition retrospective?	Biniam Haddish	February	In Progress
2305	GC0141	Provide further clarity in relation to the Compliance Repeat Plan and the rules around compliance at the time of connection	Biniam Haddish	February	In Progress
2306	GC0141	Provide clarity of the changes introduced as part of the modification for LEEMPS units	Biniam Haddish	February	In Progress
2307	GC0141	Can a generator complete a Compliance Repeat Plan earlier than the 5-year period?	Biniam Haddish	February	In Progress
2308	GC0141	In relation to SSTI/SSCI studies, if the User does not have the models to enable the studies to be completed, is there any guidance in relation to how the ESO will approach this with the User in order for studies to be completed?	Biniam Haddish	February	In Progress