

ESRS - Assurance Activities Working Group Report

Contents

Contents	1
1 Introduction	2
2 Assurance activities and Performance Monitoring Framework	3
3 Implementation Plan	3
4 Risks & Mitigations.....	4
4.1 Table of Risks	4
5 Impact on Industry.....	5
5.1 Impact on Industry Codes	5
5.2 Changes on Regulatory Frameworks	5
5.3 Route to Change	5
6 Conclusion	5
7 Appendix A.....	6

1 Introduction

The ESO have a licence requirement to meet the Electricity Supply Restoration standard by 31 December 2026. This new Electricity System Restoration Standard will require NGESO to have sufficient capability and arrangements in place to restore 100% of Great Britain's electricity demand within 5 days. It should be implemented regionally, with an interim target of 60% of regional demand to be restored within 24 hours. The Electricity System Restoration Standard will reduce restoration time across Great Britain and ensure a consistent approach across all regions.

ESO commenced work on this requirement by creating industry working groups to understand more about the changes that were needed. This Assurance working group is part of a series of 7 working groups, discussing different aspects of restoration. The Assurance working group includes members of the National Grid Electricity System Operator (ESO), GB Transmission Owners (TOs), Generator Owners and Distribution Network Operators (DNOs), with other subject matter experts from across the industry brought in as required. The purpose of this working group is

“To define which assurance activities should be progressed across the industry for restoration.”

To commence the working group ESO completed

- Strawman** initial proposal to prompt discussion
- Consultation** with industry
- Codes** Review with glossary and definitions.

The following outputs were delivered by this working group. These are summarised below and presented within the appendices of this report.

Assurance Activities

Performance Monitoring Framework

This report concludes with an implementation plan, and risks being detailed.

The working group also worked collaboratively with other ESO ESRS working groups to contribute to the development of commercial services.

The ESO led working groups have provided a prompt start to achieving the ESRS requirements. Meanwhile, formal processes were commenced to undertake associated code changes. This has now been raised as GC0156 and the work from this working group will transfer across. This report documents current progress and thoughts to enable the transfer into the formal governance process of GC0156.

2 Assurance activities and Performance Monitoring Framework

ESO drafted an assurance activities report detailing the ways that the capability would be checked and measured to ensure delivery. This was circulated to all working group members for comment, with comments incorporated into the document.

The assurance activities report includes a Performance Monitoring Framework, describing how individual scores add up into a strategic view of the status of restoration capability across GB.

These reports do include sections that are awaiting outputs from other working groups and it is expected that it will be updated as other working groups deliver outputs.

This report can be found in Appendix A.

3 Implementation Plan



4 Risks & Mitigations

4.1 Table of Risks

Risk Number	Description of Risk	Cause of Risk	Consequence of Risk	Risk Likelihood (0-4)	Consequence Severity (0-4)	Risk Mitigation	Mitigated Likelihood (0-4)	Mitigated Consequence Severity (0-4)
1	Assurance activities are numerous and become resource intensive.	Number of work streams that require assurance to create certainty on restoration timings are large.	Assurance is not carried out due to insufficient resourcing	3	4	Understand resource requirements and accountabilities clearly so that work can be resourced.	1	3
2	No central coordination of Performance Monitoring	Lack of defined accountability and associated resourcing	Process will not operate	3	4	Clearly define accountabilities and resources accordingly.	1	3

5 Impact on Industry

5.1 Impact on Industry Codes

As ESRS is implemented via code changes, it will be necessary to also consider the assurance activities and reporting mechanisms. It is likely that these will be captured in the codes at a high level.

5.2 Changes on Regulatory Frameworks

To achieve the assurance of the restoration timescales, there will need to be assurance activities on individual capabilities used within the Restoration process. It is likely that resources will be required, via changes to regulatory frameworks, to complete, coordinate and report on the activities. Where possible this could be aligned with other tasks for efficiency.

5.3 Route to Change

As GC0156 progresses there will be consideration for assurance activities linked into the topics being discussed. There will also be a high-level requirement to cover the Assurance process. This will then link into regulatory frameworks to be resourced.

In practical terms, it is possible to commence implementing this framework around current assurance activities, at the current scale. Then as progress is made, the process can be adapted to achieve the aims of ESRS Assurance.

6 Conclusion

The Assurance Activities working group has progressed to detail Assurance Activities and Performance Monitoring so far as is possible to date. This has been circulated and commented on by the working group.

As Grid Code working group GC0156 progresses, content from this will update the Assurance and Performance Framework.

7 Appendix A

Assurance Activities Report Attached.