

# ESRS Briefing Note

April 2022

## Progress Summary – GC0156 document submission

The Electricity System Restoration Standard (ESRS) licence requirement was placed on National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) in October 2021. The Electricity System Operator (ESO) are required to have sufficient capability and arrangements in place to restore 60% of regional demand within 24 hours and 100% of Great Britain's electricity demand within 5 days by 31 December 2026.

To achieve this standard, NGESO needs to procure Restoration Services and propose any modifications to the Grid Code and other industry codes that are required to comply with these new requirements. The Restoration teams in NGESO have incorporated work undertaken by the Black Start Task Group (BSTG), to identify areas of improvements needed to meet the timescales of the ESRS, to collate industry requirements which were used as strawman proposals discussed with industry stakeholders.

Seven technical area working groups with key industry stakeholders were set up to collaborate and gain engagement on these initial proposals. The proposals have been updated and refined as discussions have progressed. The working groups were as follows:

1. Future Networks,
2. Markets & Funding Mechanisms
3. Modelling & Restoration Decision Tool
4. Regulatory Framework
5. Technology and Locational Diversity
6. Assurance Activities
7. Communications Infrastructure

To implement the ESRS across the industry, ESO are intending to utilise code changes and market approaches to ensure the capability is delivered.

These code modifications will build on, where needed, code changes being delivered under GC0148<sup>1</sup> to implement EU Emergency and Restoration Code Phase II which includes code modifications to improve communications resilience, enable participation in Restoration from non-CUSC parties, and provision of Restoration from within a Distribution Network (Distributed Restart Zone).

Additionally, the code changes delivered under GC0137 which introduces the Grid Forming capability for converter and renewable based generation to support Restoration Services will also form a base layer for the modifications.

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<sup>1</sup> GC0148 – Implementation of EU Emergency and Restoration Code Phase II  
<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/174036/download>

In February 2022 the Grid Code Review Panel were approached by ESO and have raised GC0156, covering Grid Code, Distribution Code and System Operator – Transmission Owner Code changes with a common working group.

The appended 7 working group reports document the current progress and work completed within the ESO led working groups, including proposed requirements, and will be submitted to GC0156 as a handover document to transfer discussion into the Grid Code working group(s).

Further discussion and changes will inevitably be required to these proposals to ensure that ESRS capability is achieved across Great Britain. There will be the opportunity for these within the GC0156 Grid Code change, and we would encourage parties to register an interest in joining the working group.

If there are any further questions, please contact our ESRS Manager, Sade Adenola in the first instance [Sade.Adenola@nationalgrideso.com](mailto:Sade.Adenola@nationalgrideso.com).