

ESO

Grid Code Review Panel – Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO) Election 2023

21 June 2023

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Executive Summary

The process to elect a replacement Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO) Grid Code Review Panel Member and Alternate, for the period 28 June 2023 until 31 December 2024 commenced on 26 May 2023 and concluded on 21 June 2023.

The general arrangements to be followed for an Election are set out in the [Governance Rules Annex GR.A](#) of the Grid Code. The Electricity System Operator (ESO), as Code Administrator for the Grid Code, administers each Election.

The purpose of this document is to:

- Provide a summary of the Grid Code Review Panel OFTO Election process for 2023; and
- Clarify the approach that was adopted for the Election in a number of detailed areas.

What seats were available for Election?

- One (1) Offshore Transmission Owner and one (1) Alternate Seat;

The Alternate Panel Member attends the Grid Code Review Panel in the event that a Panel Member is unable to attend throughout the year

Who was eligible to nominate?

- OFTOs who were CUSC Schedule 1 Users, or Materially Affected Parties (as designated by Ofgem), on 31 August 2022 (apart from the ESO), were entitled to nominate candidates in the 2023 Grid Code Review Panel OFTO Election.

The Election results are as follows:

Figure 1: Election Results

Panel Member	Seat	Alternate
David Monkhouse (National Grid Interconnector Holdings)	Offshore TO	Not appointed through Election

Election Process

The 2023 Grid Code Review Panel OFTO nomination process did not trigger the voting process to commence, as only one nominee was received for the OFTO Panel Member seat. As the Election process ceased to appoint an Alternate Member, the Elected Panel Member shall be entitled (but not obligated) to nominate their own Alternate Member.

Grid Code Review Panel OFTO Election Process and Outcome

The process to elect an OFTO Grid Code Review Panel Member and Alternate Panel Member for the period 28 June 2023 until 31 December 2024 commenced on 26 May 2023.

On the 26 May 2023 the Code Administrator opened the Election nominations window, for a period of just over three weeks. Only Offshore Transmission Owners were eligible to nominate a candidate to stand for Election. To facilitate this, links to the following documents were sent to Parties via email and published on the Code Administrator’s website:

- The Electoral Roll;

For the purposes of the 2023 OFTO Election arrangements, Grid Code Users were defined as those persons who were a Party to the CUSC Framework Agreement (with the exception of the ESO), or a Materially Affected Party as of 31 August 2022. Each Party was allocated a unique electoral reference number;

- Nomination Form; and an
- Election Guide.

The Election Guide provided a summary of the Election arrangements, including the following timetable to enable Parties to participate actively and effectively in the forthcoming Election arrangements.

Figure 2: Planned Process and Elections Timetable: (Published 26 May 2023)

Date	Milestone
Friday 26th May 2023	Invitations will be sent out to CUSC Schedule 1 Users/Materially Affected Parties to nominate candidates to stand for Election.
Monday 19th June 2023	Nomination Forms to be returned no later than 5pm.
Wednesday 21st June 2023	List of candidates and voting papers to be circulated, or we will announce the outcome of the Elections.
Tuesday 27th June 2023	Voting papers to be returned no later than 5pm.
Wednesday 28th June 2023	Election results will be announced.
28th June 2023 – 31st December 2024	Newly Elected Panel Member and Panel Alternate Member will take up office.

N.B. Activities planned for between 21 June and 28 June 2023 to allow voting to take place, are no longer required.

The nomination window closed on 19 June 2023. The Code Administrator received one nomination for the electable Panel Member seat (please see Figure 1).

Under [Governance Rule GR.A.11](#): “where there are fewer candidates than seats available or the same number of candidates as seats available, no Election will be required and the nominated candidate(s) will be Elected”. As no voting was required, the nominee was automatically Elected to their seat.

Due to the lack of nominations, the Elected Panel Member will be entitled to appoint their own Alternate Panel Member under [Governance Rule GR.7.2](#): “In the event that the Election process fails to appoint an Alternate Member for any of the Elected Panel Members, each Elected Panel Member shall be entitled (but not obligated) to each at their own discretion nominate their own Alternate Member”.

The Code Administrator announced the results of the Election to Industry on 21 June 2023 via email and published this report on their [website](#).

Industry Engagement

The Code Administrator committed to providing regular updates to industry on the Election process.

Date	Email Content
26 May 2023	Grid Code Panel 2023 OFTO Election - Nominations are now open This included the CUSC Schedule 1 List of Users and Materially Affected Parties as on 31 August 2022, which formed the electorate for the Election, as well as an Election Guide.
12 June 2023	Reminder: Grid Code Review Panel 2023 OFTO Election Nominations Close Next Week
21 June 2023	Announcement of the Election results and publication of this Election report.

Plans in the event an Election had been triggered

In addition, the Code Administrator had planned engagement activities, such as an Election podcast and Q&A in the event the voting process was triggered. The Code Administrator will continue to actively look for further innovative engagement opportunities for future Election processes.

Code Administrator's Distribution List

Whilst reviewing and updating the CUSC Schedule 1 List, the Code Administrator's CUSC distribution list was also reviewed to ensure that the Code Administrator had tried to contact everyone listed on Schedule 1 List and that the details held were up to date.

In addition to this, all Election communications were also sent to everyone signed up to our Grid Code, System Operator Transmission Owner Code (STC) and Security and Quality of Supply Standard (SQSS) mailing lists, to try and raise a wide awareness of the Election as possible.

Conclusions

The 2023 Grid Code Review Panel OFTO Election was conducted primarily by email, with key documentation available on the Code Administrator's [website](#). As with previous Elections, Grid Code Users appeared to be comfortable with the integrity of the Election via e-mail and no security or related issues were raised.

The Code Administrator is satisfied with the integrity of the Grid Code Review Panel OFTO Election and commends the results to the Authority.

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