**Code Administrator Meeting Summary**

**Meeting name: GC0154 – Interconnector ramping Workgroup Meeting 12**

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| **Date:** | ​​05/06/2023​ |

**Contact Details**

Chair:Camille Gilsenan, National Grid ESO

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Proposer: Louise Trodden, National Grid ESO [Louise.Trodden@nationalgrideso.com](mailto:Louise.Trodden@nationalgrideso.com )

**Key areas of discussion**

The Workgroup discussions are summarised according to agenda items:

1. ESO Recommendation and Discussion
2. Workgroup/Interconnector Companies Recommendation and Discussion
3. EU TSO Engagement - David Whitley – Statnett – Guest Speaker
4. Draft Workgroup Consultation Review
5. Next Steps and AOB

**Workgroup Objectives**

The Chair introduced the Workgroup objectives and outcomes intended for the meeting. The chair summarised the agenda items as follows:

**ESO Recommendation and Discussion**

ADCZ introduced the ESO recommendation. The ESO recommendation is a 50MW/min static option which considers operational and consumer benefits. The ESO’s position is that this option meets SOGL compliance, it is the best option from a security of supply perspective and it’s transparent for market participants. The option will reduce workload on Control Room operations and reduces the likelihood of operational frequency incidents. It brings interconnector ramping closer in line with other BMUs as in the Grid Code. This option solves the current ramp rate problem and it simplifies control room operation. In terms of consumer impacts it has a very small negative impact on EU consumer, producers and IC welfare (-£17m) over the study period (2023 – 2030). It offers £865m+ cost saving on GB balancing costs. It has minimal reduction to GB consumer and IC welfare of -£2m (more favourable than the other options).

The Workgroup discussed the ESO recommendation. The importance of control room

workload reduction was queried. The statement that the recommendation brings interconnector ramping in line with all other BMUs as in the Grid Code was questioned and an action was made to correct the text in the ESO recommendation.

There was a concern from numerous parties regarding the assumptions made by Baringa in their CBA (that is relied on for the cost saving estimates supporting the proposal). For example, it is queried if the cost savings identified are net of the additional costs to other parties, such as interconnector companies. There was an action for the ESO to provide further commentary on the methodology for how these costs were calculated at the top of the hour.

There was a request for NGESO to respond to the position paper that some workgroup members drafted for ENTSO-E Discussion dated 24th May 2023. There was an action made for NGESO to reply to the paper.

There was discussion regarding the accuracy of the statement in the ESO recommendation that this is the best option for security of supply; it can be argued that decreasing the ramping rate reduces interconnector flexibility that aids security of supply.

There were questions regarding recent meetings between NGESO and EU TSOs. The chair gave an update on the most recent meeting.

The chair encourages parties to use the Workgroup consultation as an opportunity to frame questions to encourage responses to the issues debated.

**Workgroup/Interconnector Companies Recommendation and Discussion**

An overview of the position of several of the interconnector companies was given. This position is best summarised in the ‘Interconnectors’ Position Paper for ENTSO-E Discussion’ dated 24th May 2023. The position paper raises a number of concerns with the NGESO recommendation and recommends that to (a) codify current ramping arrangements into the GB framework to ensure SOGL compliance, being a maximum ordinary ramp rate of 100MW/minute, and (b) support as necessary a wider review of the operational challenges faced by NGESO, in close cooperation with key EU and GB stakeholders.

There is support for this option from several Workgroup members and it is noted that all parties are looking to work together to identify a sensible solution that looks after the best interests of consumers and works well operationally.

There is discussion around costing and price information and concerns of the risk of undesired and unforeseen consequences of proposals. The chair made an action for all Workgroup members to share any cost and pricing information with the wider Workgroup.

There is an action for all Workgroup members to provide any draft alternative Workgroup solutions to the Grid Code modification inbox, to undertake work on the implementation of the proposed modification or alternative modifications, and to draft the associated legal text by the next working group on 19th June 2023.

**EU TSO Engagement Discussion**

David Whitley – Statnett – Guest Speaker gives an update and high-level overview on EU TSO engagement. David leads the ISA workgroup (The Intra-Synchronous Area Subgroup). Details from this workgroup have been shared to this group with TSO representatives from operational interconnectors and implementing interconnectors. Next steps include sharing an activity and implementation plan with the ESO, in line with European needs and legislation (next ISA workgroup meeting will take place 27th June 2023, ramping is on the agenda to discuss). Positive feedback from the Workgroup, who said it was a helpful update and they hoped to have continuity if possible as we move through the process.

Feedback from David - EU TSOs have an obligation to move to 15 minute MTU by 2025 and there is a requirement for a 10 minute ramping period to ensure there is consistency between AC and HVDV interconnectors in Europe.

There was an actionfor NGESO see what further material on EU TSO engagement can be shared with the Workgroup.

**Draft Workgroup Consultation Review**

The chair talked through the Workgroup alternative modification form and the process was discussed. The chair talked through the Workgroup consultation document. There was an actionfor NGESO code administration team to share materials with the Workgroup on the code administration governance process and next steps for this proposed modification.

The chair talked through the Workgroup consultation questions and asked the Workgroup if they would like to add any specific Workgroup consultation questions. The document was amended live with track changes to add the following draft questions:

1. Do you have any comments on how proposal or alternative proposals impact EU TSOs?
2. Potentially a question about possibility of future proofing impacts?
3. A question on the considerations of decarbonisation and flexibility
4. Do you have any questions or comments on how the proposal or alternative proposals impacts interconnector business models? (commercial and operational impacts).
5. Does the proposal or alternative proposals meet the requirements of SOGL? (check if this is incorporated in the grid code objectives).
6. What other governance and protocols need to be considered and/or changed to implement this code change?
7. Do you have any questions or comments on how the proposal or alternative proposals impacts or is impacted by the 15 MTU change?

**Next Steps & AOB**

* Chair to circulate updated timeline and alternative proposal form – share doodle poll for dates.
* All to consider any additional questions for Workgroup consultation report ahead of next work group meeting 19th June.

**Actions**

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| **Action number** | **Workgroup**  **Raised** | **Owner** | **Action** | **Due by** | **Status** |
| 1 | WG9 | LT | To link in with KVH to explain feedback responses | ASAP | Open |
| 2 | WG9 | ESO reps | ESO will produce a slide to show the forum dates with details and to circulate. | ASAP | Closed |
| 3 | WG9 | BM & AC | Will provide a basis of discussion a list the services and "intrinsic ramping" and how the market constraints could accommodate to further Workgroup discussion | ASAP | Open |
| 4 | WG10 | ICs | To share with the Workgroup the current imbalance costs | ASAP | Open |
| 5 | WG12 | ESO | Correct text in NGESO recommendation that says the recommendation ‘brings interconnector ramping in line with all other BMUs as in the Grid Code’ | 19th June | Open |
| 6 | WG12 | ESO | Provide commentary and revert on query of if the cost savings identified in the NGESO recommended option are net of the additional costs to other parties | 19th June | Open |
| 7 | WG12 | ESO | Respond to position paper ‘Interconnectors’ Position Paper for ENTSO-E Discussion’ dated 24th May 2023 –NGESO | 19th June | Open |
| 8 | WG12 | All | Workgroup members to share any cost and pricing information | ASAP | Open |
| 9 | WG12 | ESO | Provide feedback on next meeting with EU TSOs (based in London) | Following the 27th June 2023 meeting | Open |
| 10 | WG12 | All | Provide any draft alternative Workgroup solutions to the Grid Code modification inbox, to undertake work on the implementation of the proposed modification or alternative modifications, and to draft the associated legal text by the next working group on 19th June 2023 | 19th June 2023 | Open |
| 11 | WG12 | ESO | Can further material on EU TSO engagement can be shared with the Workgroup | ongoing | Open |
| 12 | WG12 | ESO | Code administration team to share materials with the Workgroup on the code administration governance process | ASAP | Open |
| 13 | WG12 | ESO | ESO to verify any links with AFRY and Baringa analysis | 19th June | Open |

**Attendees**

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| **Name** | **Initial** | **Company** | **Role** |
| Camille Gilsenan | CG | National Grid ESO | Chair |
| Jonathan Whitaker | JW | National Grid ESO | Technical Secretary |
| Louise Trodden | LT | National Grid ESO | Proposer |
| Andre Canelhas | AC | GridLink Interconnector | Workgroup Member |
| Lijia Qiu | LQ | Nationalgrid Ventures | Workgroup Member |
| Ilias Varsos | LV | Eleclink | Observer |
| Munti Nguyen | MN | NEMO Link | Workgroup Member Alternate |
| Vera Stam | VS | BritNed | Workgroup Member Alternate |
| Antonio Del Castillo Zas | ADCZ | National Grid ESO | ESO Workgroup SME |
| Oliver Garfield | OG | National Grid ESO | ESO Workgroup SME |
| Leo Michelmore | LM | Eleclink | Workgroup Member |
| Jack Grant | JG | BritNed | Observer |
| Vince Hammond | VH | National Grid Ventures | Workgroup Member Alternate |
| James Hill | JH | Ofgem | Observer |
| Ewa Krzywkowska | EK | National Grid ESO | ESO Workgroup SME |
| David Whitely | DW | Statnett | Guest Speaker |