

Code Administrator Meeting Summary

Meeting name: GC0103: The introduction of harmonised Applicable Electrical Standards in GB to ensure compliance with the EU Connection Codes – Workgroup Meeting 2

Date: 19/07/2023

Contact Details

Chair: Elana Byrne, National Grid ESO elana.byrne@nationalgrideso.com

Proposer: Garth Graham, SSE Generation garth.graham@sse.com

Key areas of discussion

The aim of Workgroup 2 was to discuss scope of the RES (Relevant Electrical Standards) and AES (Applicable Electrical Standards), and to agree formation of a sub-group to scope out harmonisation.

Objectives, Actions Update, Timeline and Terms of Reference

The Chair confirmed quoracy and outlined the objectives of the Workgroup. All existing actions were reviewed, with updates shown in the actions log below. The Chair informed the Workgroup of an update to the Terms of Reference from the Grid Code Panel on 29 June 2023 to incorporate evidence of an impact assessment, and the Workgroup agreed to revisit the Timeline later in the session to agree revisions based on Workgroup discussions.

Proposer Update

The Proposer presented an update to the Workgroup to clarify the scope and intention of the modification. It was clarified that a material change to an asset (queried in Action 2) is already defined in the Grid Code and CUSC, and this is not subject to change as part of this modification.

The scope of the RES and AES was then discussed, with the Proposer suggesting that the sub-group should look at technical feasibility for harmonisation of all categories of the current RES. If this is shown to not be technically feasible, the Proposer raised the option for partial harmonisation (not the intended solution for this modification).

One Workgroup member raised that their RES was currently being written, and that some elements of it had been adapted based on the remote nature of some of their operational sites. They queried whether it was possible for a harmonised RES to be written, given different operational conditions in different parts of GB.

A Workgroup member stated that they only recognised electrical capabilities to be part of the RES, since the RES only mandates things that have an impact on the NETS (National

Electricity Transmission System). It was explained that condition monitoring of non-NETS assets would not be likely to have an impact on the NETS, since faults should trip the assets resulting in the network being protected. The Proposer shared that they were happy for the scope of the modification to only include electrical capabilities, if manufacturing of assets was not required for the other aspects, namely condition monitoring, maintenance and access, and environmental monitoring.

Technical Progress made by the original 2017 Workgroup

A member of the original Workgroup discussed some of the barriers that faced the Workgroup in finding a solution. It was raised that there was a difficulty in presenting the benefit case for the Workgroup, and that a compelling argument is needed for why the AES is required. One Workgroup member raised that there is no clear incentive from the Authority to do harmonisation work. The Proposer raised that procurement of equipment would be cheaper if manufacturers only had to work to a single standard, however a Workgroup member argued that there would need to be evidence for this.

One Workgroup member raised that even when working to international standards, there are usually options to choose from. The Proposer suggested that where options are given, GB should harmonise on one of the options.

One Workgroup member suggested that harmonisation across GB would not be possible given that in Scotland, 132kV assets are considered transmission assets, whereas this is not the case in England and Wales. The Proposer suggested that the ENA requirements could be followed for 132kV assets, and that the AES could cover 275kV and above.

Sub-Group Formation and Workgroup Progression

The Workgroup had a discussion regarding the purpose and outputs of a sub-group. A member of the original 2017 Workgroup clarified that the scope was limited to anything having a direct impact on the NETS; this was limited to assets within the busbar zone. Other members of the Workgroup agreed that this was the correct approach to follow, since User circuit breakers should trip to protect the NETS for anything outside the busbar zone. One Workgroup member shared a view that the language of current RES documents would be different between TOs, and that this may be a difficulty in checking existing harmonisation.

It was suggested that the purpose of the sub-group would be to cover points 1) and 2) below, with the outputs of the sub-group needing to be assessed as to whether point 3) will be possible in the scope of this modification.

- 1) Develop the framework for how a set of harmonised standards can be developed (i.e. mapping existing standards to see where harmonisation is feasible)
- 2) Impact assessment & benefit case of the overarching principle behind GC0103 proposal (requiring input from Ofgem as to information they will require for their decision)
- 3) Construct a harmonised set of standards

Members from the different TOs agreed to be part of the sub-group, and it was expressed that several in-person sessions would likely be required to complete the work. It was agreed that

the Workgroup would be put on hold for the duration of the sub-group work, except for check-ins.

Next Steps

The Chair summarised the next steps as follows:

- Summary of this meeting to be sent to the Workgroup
- Workgroup 3 on 10 August to be postponed, and the slot used as an initial sub-group scoping session
- Further sub-group sessions to be organised with members contacted regarding the information required from TO’s, expectations and outputs of the sessions to help the Workgroup make a decision about the feasibility of harmonisation
- Check-in sessions to be organised throughout sub-group work

Actions

Action number	Workgroup Raised	Owner	Action	Comment	Due by	Status
2	WG1	GG	Clarify what constitutes a material change, that would cause existing users to transfer from the RES to the AES	Provided clarity during WG2	WG2	Closed
4	WG1	EB	Identify whether additional TO representation is required	FK now a member	WG2	Closed
5	WG1	EB	Catch up with MW on previous GC0103 work done		WG2	Closed
6	WG1	FK	Explore options for a generator/TO sub-group to support WG on technicalities	Consult with Proposer & members for information required, expectations, outputs to support WG decision	10 Aug	Open
7	WG2	EB	Liaise with Chair of CATO mods to discuss interactions		WG3	Open
8	WG2	EB/GG/FK	Catch up with Ofgem to discuss what information they will require in making a decision		WG3	Open
9	WG2	EB	Convert 10/08 session to an initial sub-group session to scope process		28 Jul	Open
10	WG2	EB	Arrange sub-group check-in session(s) with Workgroup once sub-group timeline agreed		TBC	Open

11	WG2	EB	Provide updated timeline to Panel	Sub-group timeline to be agreed first	TBC	Open
12	WG2	FK	Explore how sub-group discussion could be recorded		10 Aug	Open

Attendees

Name	Initial	Company	Role
Elana Byrne	EB	Code Administrator, ESO	Chair
Lizzie Timmins	LT	Code Administrator, ESO	Technical Secretary
Garth Graham	GG	SSE Generation	Proposer
Bill D'Albertanson	BD	UK Power Networks	Alternate
David Monkhouse	DM	National Grid Ventures	Workgroup Member
Fabian Koehler	FKo	SHET	Workgroup Member
Frank Kasibante	FK	National Grid ESO	ESO Representative
Graeme Vincent	GV	SP Energy Networks	Workgroup Member
Hooman Andami	HA	Elmya	Workgroup Member
Julie Richmond	JR	Scottish Power	Alternate
Leo Michelmore	LM	Eleclink	Workgroup Member
Mark Waldron	MW	National Grid Electricity Transmission	Workgroup Member
Michael Chowns	MC	RWE	Workgroup Member
Nicola Barberis Negra	NBN	Orsted	Workgroup Member
Richard Wilson	RWi	UK Power Networks	Workgroup Member
Richard Woodward	RW	National Grid Electricity Transmission	Alternate