

Grid Code Review Panel (GCRP)

27 July 2023

Grid Code Review Panel Minutes

Date: 27/07/2023 **Location:** Microsoft Teams
Start: 10:00 AM **End:** 13:00 PM

Participants

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Robert Marshall	RM	Acting Independent Grid Code Review Panel Chair
Milly Lewis	ML	Panel Secretary, Code Administrator
Shazia Akhtar	SA	Panel Technical Secretary, Code Administrator
Alan Creighton	AC	Panel Member, Network Operator Representative
Alastair Frew	AF	Panel Member, Generator Representative
David Monkhouse	DM	Panel Member, Offshore Transmission Licensee Representative
Darshak Shah	DS	Panel Member, Generator Representative
Fraser Norris	FN	Alternate Panel Member, Generator Representative
Graeme Vincent	GV	Alternate, Network Operator Representative
Gurpal Singh	GS	Authority Representative
Nadir Hafeez	NH	Authority Representative
Robert Longden	RL	Panel Member, Supplier Representative
Ross Kirkwood	RK	Panel Member, Onshore Transmission Licensee Representative
Steve Elliott	SE	Alternate Panel Member, Generator Representative
Tony Johnson	TJ	Alternate Panel Member, National Grid ESO

Apologies

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Christopher Day	CD	Alternate, BSC Representative
Jamie Webb	JW	Panel Member, National Grid ESO
John Harrower	JH	Panel Member, Generator Representative
Rashmi Radhakrishnan	RR	Panel Member, BSC Representative
Sigrid Bolik	SB	Panel Member, Generator Representative
Steve Cox	SC	Panel Member, Network Operator Representative
Trisha McAuley	TM	Independent Panel Chair

Presenters / Observers

Attendee	Initials	
Steve Baker	SBa	ESO, Proposer/Presenter GC0162
John Zammit – Haber	JZH	ESO, Technical Specialist on Energy Security/Presenter GC0162
Vicky Allen	VA	ESO, Frequency Response Team/Proposer/Presenter - Electrical Standards Update
David Halford	DH	ESO, Technical Codes Change/Presenter - Electrical Standards Update

1. Introductions, Apologies and Declarations of Interest

9658. Apologies were received from Christopher Day, Jamie Webb, John Harrower, Rashmi Radhakrishnan, Sigrid Bolik, Steve Cox, and Trisha McAuley. No declarations of interest were noted.

9659. AC questioned whether the Code Administrator had received official confirmation that Steve Cox had retired, and that Matt White would be replacing him on the Panel.

9660. ML advised that the Code Administrator had still not been officially informed of this.

Post Panel Note: This was officially confirmed by the Energy Networks Association (ENA) on the 28 July 2023.

2. Minutes from previous meetings

9661. The minutes from the Special Grid Code Review Panel meeting held on 12 July 2023 and the minutes for the Panel meeting held on the 29 June 2023 were approved, subject to the incorporation of amendments from AC and SA.

3. Review of actions log

9662. ML advised that there were no open Actions. However, JW did take away an informal action to check the interaction between **GC0155** and the Connections Reform Project and has fed back that there are no consequences as a result of this.

4. Chair's update

9663. The Chair advised that TM was still unwell and would not be chairing the August 2023 Grid Code Review Panel meeting.

5. Authority Decisions

9664. GS provided an update on the outstanding Modifications awaiting a decision and stated that a decision on **GC0148** had now been delayed to the 18 August 2023. GS also explained that the Authority would not be able to provide an expected decision date for **GC0156** until the full suite of Electricity System Restoration Standard (ESRS) Modifications had been sent to them, and that they were still awaiting the SQSS, STC, CUSC and D-Code modifications.

9665. Ofgem published a table that provides expected decision dates, or dates that they intend to publish an impact assessment or consultation, for code modifications/proposals that are with them for decision. This was last updated on 5 July 2023 and is published [here](#).

6. New Modifications

GC0162: Changes to OC6 to amend the operational timings for the delivery of the additional demand reduction above 20%

9666. The Chair advised that the Proposer has requested that GC0162 be treated as urgent, and for it to proceed under an urgent timeline to a Workgroup and then to the Authority for a decision.
9667. SB and JZH delivered a presentation on GC0162. They explained that in an event that demand disconnection is required, OC6 stipulates the operational timings to achieve this. If the urgent Grid Code Modification GC0161 is approved, the first 20% of demand to be disconnected will need to be delivered in five minutes and will utilise amended 33kV (existing) blocks to achieve this, which will enable critical sites (hospitals etc) to be protected. GC0162 follows on from GC0161 and looks to allow lower voltage ESEC style blocks to be used in more extreme circumstances where demand disconnection of between 20% and 40% is required. Demand reduction for the remaining 60% would be picked up by Low Frequency Demand Disconnection (LFDD) and is not covered by these modifications. Both modifications have been raised through the Electricity Shortfall Prioritisation Review (ESPR) group, which is led by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and have received unanimous support from all the GB Distribution Network Operator representatives on the group.
9668. JZH went onto explain that a demand reduction of between 20% and 40% using ESEC blocks would take longer timescales to achieve and cannot be done within five minutes, because the DNOs would require more time to do additional switches at a lower level to provide the granularity needed to protect critical sites. JZH stated that having spoken to the Control Room they have confirmed that the first 20% demand reduction needs to be achieved within five minutes because of the sort of scenarios it is trying to cover, but the Control Room open to discussions on timescales for the next 20% to 40%. As it would be a shock to the system to lose all of this demand within five minutes.
9669. JZH explained that LFDD was a very blunt reliable tool which is used as the ESO's last line of defence for anything over 40%. There may be improvements to LFDD in the future, especially in areas such as exporting Grid Supply Points (GSPs) and reduced demand due to embedded generation. The ESPR group are also looking at a protocol for rotation of demand disconnection but that is not within the scope of this modification and would be picked up by a future modification.
9670. Two Panel members questioned how GC0162 was improving system security and whether it should be treated as urgent when the ESO would be slowing down the response rate from five minutes to say twenty-five minutes. Therefore, they felt that by protecting sites the whole system may collapse, because they would not be responding quick enough.
9671. JZH agreed that this would take longer to carry out but re-iterated his discussions with the Control Room and stated if they could not get demand off quick enough, LFDD would kick in. JZH explained that the majority of DNOs have three/four ESEC blocks which they can switch on very quickly and would work within five minutes. However, not all DNOs can do more than four blocks within five minutes, and the majority of the DNOs would need more time to allow the switching to happen.
9672. Several Panel members felt that the 20% to 40% blocks in their design should be self-reliant enough to deliver the required response without the need for LFDD as a backup, which was a different type of remedy for System Protection only to be used at 48.8Hz and not relevant to this discussion.
9673. JZH agreed they were two different tools for different scenarios but needed to be compatible with each other.

9674. Panel members questioned whether the Workgroup needed to consider why some DNOs were quicker and more agile than others and if further investment was needed by some DNOs in this area.
9675. JZH explained that the DNOs were currently using slightly different methodologies to determine the blocks/demand and DESNZ was looking to create a guidance document in the future to set out the methodology which should be used, so that it is consistent across the DNOs.
9676. JZH explained the ESOs justification for urgency and stated that there was a credible risk that there could be a significant shortfall event which might impact on the security of the electricity system this winter 23/24. This would result in critical sites being disconnected, which would have a detrimental impact on society and cause an increased risk to life. DNOs could also become non-compliant with OC6, if they were directed by a Government body to protect critical sites during demand disconnections.
9677. Several Panel members suggested that the justification for urgency needed to be re-worded to make it clearer and more accurate and that the details of all the stakeholders who may encourage DNOs to protect sites needed to be added in.
9678. The Panel held their vote on urgency and recommended by majority (8 votes to 2) that urgency should be granted, as well as unanimously agreeing that **GC0162** should proceed to a joint Distribution Code Workgroup.
9679. The Panel went onto to set the Terms of Reference (ToR) and review the urgent and standard timelines (noting that as the solution impacted the regulated sections a one month Code Administrator Consultation would be needed). In doing this the Panel highlighted the following:
- The Workgroup need to make sure **GC0162** does not cancel out anything **GC0161** is trying to achieve. The removal of the prohibition on providing protection to critical sites above 20% had not been included in the draft **GC0162** legal text and needs to align with **GC0161** if it is approved.
 - If a future modification is raised to allow rotation of demand disconnection, changes will need to be made to **GC0161** and **GC0162**. This could be avoided if this is included in one modification.
 - The Workgroup will need to check if there are any adverse implications on the reserve requirements on generators and the application of SQSS Chapter 3 requirements.
 - The Workgroup should carry out analysis on why these new operational timelines should be implemented, looking at it from both an ESO perspective, as well as from the DNOs ability to deliver.
9680. The Panel amended and approved the Workgroup ToR.
9681. The Panel also agreed to add the following wording to the end of the title “with a focus between 20% and 40%”.
9682. ML amended the timeline to allow an extra week before the Draft Final Modification Report is presented to the Panel. The timelines were approved by the Panel.

Post Panel Note: The justification for urgency was re-worded post Panel and used in the urgency request letter that was sent to the Authority on the 28 July 2023. The Authority granted urgency on the 04 August 2023. Both these letters can be found [here](#).

7. In flight modification updates

9683. ML talked the Panel through the progression of the in-flight modifications. The modification tracker can be found within the Grid Code Review Panel papers pack on the National Grid ESO website via the following link:
<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/284056/download>

GC0103: The introduction of harmonised Applicable Electrical Standards in GB to ensure compliance with the EU Connection Codes

9684. ML explained that a sub-group has been set up to investigate the impact assessment and technical side of things. It will meet for the first time on the 10 August 2023, after which an updated timeline will be presented to the August Panel for approval.

GC0117: Improving transparency and consistency of access arrangements across GB by the creation of a pan-GB commonality of Power Stations requirements

9685. ML advised that in September 2021 the Workgroup agreed to update the title of the modification to refer to 'Power Stations' rather than "Power Generating Module". Whilst various modification documentation has been updated, there is no record of this change being approved by Panel. ML asked the Panel to retrospectively approve this change.

9686. The Panel unanimously agreed to this retrospective change but asked that this be amended to "Power Station" i.e., the singular and not the plural.

9687. ML also explained that the Workgroup required more time to undertake analysis for WAGCM1 (Workgroup Alternative Grid Code Modification 1) and asked the Panel to allow for the timeline to remain as TBC until after the next Workgroup on 08 August 2023.

9688. The Panel unanimously agreed to this and noted that a further revised timeline would be brought to the August Panel.

GC0159 Introducing Competitively Appointed Transmission Owners (CATO)

9689. ML explained that the enabling CATO legislation had not been approved by Parliament ahead of the summer recess on 20 July 2023, but a decision is anticipated to be announced between September – October 2023. ML asked the Panel whether they wanted to leave the timeline as TBC or agree a provisional revised timeline.

9690. The Panel unanimously agreed to leave this as TBC.

8. Prioritisation Stack / Dashboard

9691. The Panel agreed that **GC0161** should remain at the top of the stack as it had already been granted urgency and **GC0162** should go in underneath it at number two, subject to an Authority decision approving urgency. If urgency is not granted, the Panel will re-prioritise this at the next Panel meeting.

9692. The Panel reviewed the prioritisation stack and agreed that no further changes were required at this time.

9693. The prioritisation stack can be found via the following link:

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/285006/download>

9. Workgroup Reports

9694. There were no Workgroup Reports presented to the Panel.

10. Draft Final Modification Reports

9695. There were no Draft Final Modification Reports presented to the Panel.

11. Reports to Authority

9696. There were no updates for the Panel.

ESO

12. Implementation updates

9697. There were no updates for the Panel.

13. Governance

9698. There were no updates for the Panel.

14. Grid Code Development Forum (GCDF)

9699. TJ advised that the the last meeting was held on 05 July 2023, and covered the following items:

- Creation of new EDL Reason Codes for the disarming and rearming of response services.
- Digitalised Whole System Technical Code update on the simplification of Grid Section, Operating Code No.2 (OC2), prior to the submission of the modification proposal at a future Grid Code Panel.

9700. The meeting papers and presentation can be found via the following link: <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/calendar/grid-code-development-forum-qcdf-05072023>

9701. TJ also outlined that three presentations were to be presented at the August GCDF relating to i) Parameters for Storage BM Units, ii) the Bulk Despatch Optimiser and iii) Dynamic System Monitoring.

15. Standing Groups

Distribution Code Review Panel Update

9702. There were no updates, but the Panel noted that the next meeting was due to be held on the 03 August 2023.

Joint European Stakeholder Group (JESG)

9703. ML advised that the last meeting was held on 13 June 2023 and that the next meeting will take place on 08 August 2023 .The papers and presentations for the last meeting can be found via the following link: [JESG Meeting - 13 June 2023](#)

16. Updates on other Industry Codes

9704. ML provided an update on the remaining Electricity System Restoration Standard (ESRS) Modifications and advised that the STC modifications CM089 & CM091 Implementation of the Electricity System Restoration Standard & Implementation of Emergency and Restoration Code Phase II were currently out at Code Administrator Consultation and this would close on the 17 August 2023. The Workgroup Report for the SQSS modification GSR032: Facilitate Implementation of the Electricity System Restoration Standard will also be presented to the SQSS Panel on the 28 July 2023.

17. Challenges to Modification progress

9705. There were no updates for the Panel.

18. Horizon Scan

9706. There were no updates for the Panel.

19. Electrical Standards

9707. VA presented the proposed change to the EDL Instruction Interface – valid Reason Codes. This included the removal of 4 existing reason codes for Response Disarming and Re-arming and

replacing them with 6 new reason codes for Response Disarming. VA explained that the ESO were looking for these changes to be in place by spring 2024.

9708. A Panel member suggested that the ESO needs to keep the old codes in the document as these will still be in use, until the transition to new codes are up and running and then remove them with a further change at a later date.

9709. DH and VA agreed to take this approach and to remove the deletions from the document.

9710. The Panel also suggested making the following further changes to the document:

- To avoid any confusion headings should be added into the valid Reason Codes document to differentiate between the codes for Arm and Disarm (as per the slides presented to Panel).
- The sub-heading Conventional rotating plant (Inc Hydro) should be removed from the document along with any references to NETA.

9711. VA and DH agreed to add in the headings but stated that they would need to review whether the other changes were required and that this may not be done in time for this change.

9712. ML stated that the 20 working day Panel consultation period would start after today's Panel meeting and end on the 24 August 2023, which is the same date as the August 2023 Grid Code Review Panel. Any objections or comments will be tabled to be discussed at the August 2023 Grid Code Review Panel meeting.

Post Panel Note: An updated version of this document was circulated to Panel on the 27 July 2023.

20. Code Administrator Update

9713. There were no updates for the Panel.

21. Any Other Business (AOB)

9714. TJ highlighted that as a result of **GC0156** there were a number of electrical standards updates required and that these would be presented to the August 2023 Grid Code Review Panel.

22. Close

9715. The Chair thanked the Panel for their time and contribution and brought the meeting to a close.

The next Grid Code Review Panel meeting will be held on 24 August 2023 via Microsoft Team.

New Modification Proposals are to be submitted by 9 August 2023.

Grid Code Review Panel Papers Day is 16 August 2023, but the GC0161 Draft Final Modification Report will be circulated/published as a late paper on the 22 August 2023.