

Grid Code Review Panel (GCRP)

24 August 2023

Grid Code Review Panel Minutes

Date: 24/08/2023	Location: Microsoft Teams
Start: 10:00 AM	End: 11:30 PM

Participants

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Robert Marshall	RM	Acting Independent Grid Code Review Panel Chair
Jonathan Whitaker	JWh	Panel Secretary, Code Administrator
Shazia Akhtar	SA	Panel Technical Secretary, Code Administrator
Alastair Frew	AF	Panel Member, Generator Representative
Dhaval Parmar	DP	Alternate, Generator Representative
Graeme Vincent	GV	Alternate, Network Operator Representative
Gurpal Singh	GS	Authority Representative
Jamie Webb	JW	Panel Member, National Grid ESO
John Harrower	JH	Panel Member, Generator Representative
Nadir Hafeez	NH	Authority Representative
Noel McGoldrick	NM	Alternate, Offshore Transmission Licensee Representative
Robert Longden	RL	Panel Member, Supplier Representative
Ross Kirkwood	RK	Panel Member, Onshore Transmission Licensee Representative
Sigrd Bolik	SB	Panel Member, Generator Representative

Apologies

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Alan Creighton	AC	Panel Member, Network Operator Representative
Christopher Day	CD	Alternate, BSC Representative
Darshak Shah	DS	Panel Member, Generator Representative
David Monkhouse	DM	Panel Member, Offshore Transmission Licensee Representative
Matthew White	MW	Panel Member, Network Operator Representative
Rashmi Radhakrishnan	RR	Panel Member, BSC Representative
Trisha McAuley	TM	Independent Panel Chair

Presenters / Observers

Attendee	Initials	
Milly Lewis	ML	ESO, Code Administrator - Observer
Sarah Carter	SC	ESO, Code Administrator Team Manager/Presenter - Chairs Update
Tony Johnson	TJ	ESO, Technical Codes Team/Presenter- GC0156 - Related Electrical Standards and documentation Update

1. Introductions, Apologies and Declarations of Interest

9716. Apologies were received from Alan Creighton, Christopher Day, Darshak Shah, David Monkhouse, Matthew White, Rashmi Radhakrishnan, and Trisha McAuley. No declarations of interest were noted.

2. Minutes from previous meetings

9717. The minutes from the Special Grid Code Review Panel meeting held on 14 July 2023 were approved, along with the minutes from the Panel meeting held on the 27 July 2023 subject to the incorporation of amendments from AC and TJ.

3. Review of actions log

9718. JWh advised that there were no open actions.

4. Chair's update

9719. The Chair advised that TM was hoping to be back for the 28 September 2023 Panel, but Jon Wisdom had been lined up as a back up to cover both Grid Code and CUSC Panels in September if required.

9720. SC explained that TM contract as Independent Chair was up for renewal at the end of September and that the Code Administrator was looking to extend this for another 3 years. SC asked Panel members if they had any feedback in relation to this, and to send it across to SC by Friday 25 August 2023.

5. Authority Decisions

9721. GS stated that the Authority decision for GC0148 was published on the 18 August 2023 and the expected decision date for GC0156 is 6 October 2023.

9721. GS also provided an update on the Future System Operator (FSO) Code Change Programme. GS explained that the call for volunteers for industry representatives to join the cross code working group to develop the FSO code changes closed on 23 August 2023, and the Authority had received nominations from all industry groups along with the role of chair. Once the sift of nominations has been completed an initial confirmation email will be sent out to industry, which is expected to be sent within the next few days. This will be followed up with a more detailed email on the workgroup phase including a timeline of activities, as well as a full set of launch artifacts which will include draft code text, company planning and project management documents. GS advised that if the Panel had any questions on any of this then to contact Kristian Marr and Carly Malcolm, whose details can be found in the call for volunteer's documents. GS advised that the Authority would continue to provide regular updates on the FSO change programme to the Panel.

9722. A Panel member raised a number of points in relation to **GC0148**:

- a) Is the Telecommunications Standard that was sent off to Ofgem as part of **GC0148** going to be implemented on 4 September, or the Telecommunication Standard that is being presented later as part of the Electrical Standards update? (This question was answered later in the meeting – please see minute number: 9758).
- b) When the letter to industry confirming requirements, referenced in the draft holding letter previously sent to all parties stating that they did not currently need to do anything, would updated letters be issued to affected parties?.
- c) There were now two Final Modification Reports (FMR) for **GC0148** on the Code Administrator website, one that is called FMR and the other one is called second FMR, which is confusing, and it is not obvious as to which one is the latest report. The Panel member suggested putting the wording ‘superseded’ in front of the initial FMR report.

9722. JWh agreed to investigate the points raised and feedback to the Panel. **ACTION 438**.

9723. 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 17 August 2023 and is published [here](#).

6. New Modifications

9724. There were no new Modifications presented to the Panel.

7. In flight modification updates

9725. JWh 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/286096/download>

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

9726. JWh provided an update on GC0103 and advised that the sub-group met on 10 August 2023 to scope how to assess the technical feasibility of harmonising the Relevant Electrical Standards (RES), as requested by the GC0103 Workgroup. Due to the specialist technical expertise required, together with the scale of the task the Transmission Owners (TOs) highlighted concerns about being able to resource such a task in a timely manner. The TOs have set up a session in late August to try and tackle one of the 20 plus line items they need to address, to gauge an estimated timeline and resource requirements. After which a more accurate timeline will be presented to Panel.

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

9727. JWh advised the Panel that the Workgroup have requested a timeline extension to allow them more time to finalise the solution, legal text, and any outstanding queries.

9728. The Panel unanimously agreed to the timeline extension.

GC0139: Enhanced Planning-Data Exchange to Facilitate Whole System Planning

9729. JWh advised the Panel that the Workgroup have requested a timeline extension to allow the sub-group more time to finalise the legal text.

9730. The Panel unanimously agreed to the timeline extension.

GC0155: Clarification of Fault Ride Through Technical Requirements

9731. JWh advised the Panel that the Workgroup have requested a 3-month timeline extension to allow more time to finalise the solution and produce the legal text. The Workgroup report will now be presented to the February 2024 Panel.

9732. The Panel unanimously agreed to the timeline extension.

GC0162: Changes to OC6 to amend the operational timings for the delivery of the additional demand reduction above 20%, with a focus between 20% and 40%

9733. JWh advised the Panel that the Workgroup have proposed deleting the following words “arising from the protection of supplies to critical sites” from terms of reference k and l, to clarify to stakeholders that the modification focuses on switching times.

9734. The Panel unanimously approved the amendments to terms of reference k and l.

8. Prioritisation Stack / Dashboard

9735. The Panel reviewed the prioritisation stack and agreed that no changes were required.

9736. The prioritisation stack can be found via the following link:

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/document/286836/download>

9. Workgroup Reports

9737. There were no Workgroup Reports presented to the Panel.

10. Draft Final Modification Reports**GC0161: Changes to OC6 to allow for site protection**

9738. JWh advised the Panel that **GC0161** will remove the prohibition within the Grid Code that prevents critical sites from being protected. The Code Administrator Consultation opened on the 17 July 2023 and closed on 17 August 2023 and received 3 non-confidential responses, no late responses were received. One legal text issue was raised, where the respondent questioned the use of the word ‘protection’ in the legal text. The respondent felt that as this was a defined term, it should not be used to mean something other than its defined meaning.

9739. JWh stated that they have discussed this with the ESO legal team who have confirmed that they are comfortable with the current drafting of the **GC0161** legal text because the first use of the word “protection” is in inverted commas and second use of the word is not in bold or capitalised. However, if the Panel feel that further clarity is needed then the ESO legal team have suggested either putting the word protection in inverted commas where it is used with a meaning other than the defined one or replace protection and its derivatives with the word excluded and its derivatives. These changes would be limited to the scope of this modification i.e., OC6.1.5 and OC6.5.3 (e).

9740. Three Panel members felt that further clarity was needed to differentiate between the general term protection and protection of the system. But the majority of the Panel, Six Panel members felt that no change was required. As the word “protection” was not in bold, it was already quite clear it was not being used within the context of the defined term and if any changes were to be made to this it may have implications on the rest of the Grid Code. They also felt that as the word “protection” was referring to Electricity Supply Emergency Code (ESEC) protection it could not be changed.

9741. The Panel held their recommendation vote and unanimously recommended that the Proposers Original solution better facilitated the Grid Code Objectives and should be implemented.

Post Panel Note: The GC0161 Final Modification Report (FMR) was circulated to Panel members at 12pm on 24 August 2023 requesting that they check their votes and feedback any issues by 4pm on 24 August 2023. The FMR was then sent to Ofgem at 5pm on the 24 August 2023 for a decision.

11. Reports to Authority

9742. There were no updates for the Panel.

12. Implementation updates

9743. There were no updates for the Panel.

13. Governance

9744. There were no updates for the Panel.

14. Grid Code Development Forum (GCDF)

9745. JW advised that the the last meeting was held on 2 August 2023, and covered the following items:

- Parameters for Storage BM Units;
- Increase in the number of instructions to BMUs; and
- Data collection from Dynamic System Monitoring (DSM) Systems.

9746. The meeting papers and presentation can be found via the following link:

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/calendar/grid-code-development-forum-gcdf-02082023>

9747. The next meeting is planned for 6 September 2023 and the deadline for agenda items is the 30 August 2023.

15. Standing Groups

Distribution Code Review Panel Update

9748. GV advised that the Distribution Code Review Panel met on the 3 August 2023, where they discussed and approved a new modification to go forward which will look to amend P2 (their Security of Supply Standard) to reflect battery storage demand. They also discussed **GC0161** and their equivalent modification which is expected to be sent off to the Authority during week commencing 4 September 2023 for a decision.

Joint European Stakeholder Group (JESG)

9749. The Chair advised that the meeting planned for the 8 August 2023 was cancelled and that the next meeting will take place on 12 September 2023.

16. Updates on other Industry Codes

9750. There were no updates for the Panel.

17. Challenges to Modification progress

9751. JWh advised that between May to July 2023 two timeline extensions were required because of delays in expected legislation, five timeline extensions were required because of delays in producing analysis and another two extensions were required because of delays in producing

legal text. To demonstrate learnings from this, the Code Administrator will make sure that future timelines are more realistic, so that less extensions are required.

18. Horizon Scan

9752. JWh advised that a CUSC modification for the Offshore Co-ordination Project had already been raised and a Grid Code Modification should follow suite shortly. The Grid Code modifications for the first Digitalised Whole System Technical Code (dWSTC) and the Balancing Programme are both expected to be raised in October 2023. The ESO will also be looking to raise a Grid Code modification that mandates generators to provide EMT models for their plants in September 2023.

19. Electrical Standards

EDL Instruction Interface – valid Reason Codes

9753. JWh reminded the Panel that the 20-day Panel review period for the proposed change to the EDL Instruction Interface – valid Reason Codes closes on 24 August 2023. JWh asked the Panel whether they had any comments or objections on this being implemented.

9754. No comments or objections were raised by the Panel.

GC0156 - Related Electrical Standards and documentation

9755. TJ presented the proposed changes to the GC0156 related Electrical Standards and explained that the documentation had already been reviewed by the joint GC0156 Grid Code/Distribution Code Workgroup and Industry (via the GC0156 consultations). TJ explained that table 1.0 was still to be finalised within the Communication Standard, so that would be presented to the September Panel, but the Panel were now being asked to review the remainder of the documents ahead of them being implemented.

9756. TJ went on to explain that the Control Telephony Standard, Communications Standard and Distribution Restoration Zone Control System Standard were all Relevant Electrical Standards (RES) documents which were covered by GC.11 of the General Conditions within the Grid Code and required the Panel to carry out a 20-day review period. Under GC0148 a similar governance processes and timelines had also been introduced within GC.16 of the General Conditions of the Grid Code for the System Defence Plan, System Restoration Plan and Test Plan.

9757. A Panel member queried whether the RES documents that were approved as part of GC0148 would be implemented on the 4 September 2023 and if so, how were they different to the documents being presented to Panel today?

9758. TJ confirmed that the Control Telephony Standard, System Defence Plan, System Restoration Plan and the Test Plan were updated for GC0148 and will be implemented on 4 September 2023. However, as those documents did not include the restoration parts needed for GC0156 further updates have been made to these documents, which is what is being presented to the Panel today.

9759. One Panel member raised a concern that these documents would automatically come in after 20 business days/1 month if no objections were raised by the Panel, but that would be before the Authority had reached a decision on GC0156. The Panel member stated that they needed to be mindful of the different timescales and questioned how they could make sure these documents did not come in until after GC0156 was approved.

9760. TJ suggested that Panel members could feed back during the review window that these documents should not be implemented until GC0156 is approved, so that this is tabled to be discussed at the next Panel, where the Panel could agree that they are happy with the drafting

of the documents but do not believe that they should be implemented until a determination has been made on **GC0156**. However, if the Panel does not agree to the documents coming in then they would have to go off to the Authority for a decision.

9761. One Panel member questioned whether under the Emergency & Restoration Code the Test Plan needed to be submitted to the Authority for approval anyway.

9762. JWh and TJ stated that they would need to double check the governance around these issues and get back to the Panel, but the Authority did already have the Test Plan as part of the **GC0156** package. **ACTION 439**.

Post Panel Note: An email was sent to the Panel on 12.09.2023 to confirm that:

- The panel have a 20-business day review period for The Control Telephony Standard, Communications Standard and Distribution Restoration Control System Standard under the Grid Code General Conditions (GC11.3(b)). Therefore, the last day for review is 22 September 2023.
- The review period for the System Defence Plan, System Restoration Plan, and Test Plan is one month and was introduced under **GC0148**. As **GC0148** was implemented on 4 September 2023, the last day for review will be the 4 October 2023.

20. Code Administrator Update

9763. There were no updates for the Panel.

21. Any Other Business (AOB)

9764. No AOB was raised.

22. Close

9765. 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 28 September 2023 via Microsoft Teams.

New Modification Proposals are to be submitted by 13 September 2023.

Grid Code Review Panel Papers Day is 20 September 2023.