

Digitalised Whole System Technical Code (dWSTC) Meeting Minutes

Steering Group Meeting 12

Date: 25/01/2023 **Location:** MS Teams
Start: 2:30PM **End:** 3:30PM

Participants

Attendee	Attend/Regrets	Attendee	Attend/Regrets
Jon Wisdom (JW) NGESO - Interim Chairperson	Attend	Jeremy Caplin (JC) Elexon - Wider Industry	Attend
Alan Creighton (AC) NPg - Distribution Network Operator	Attend	Steve Cox (SC) ENWL - Distribution Network Operator	Regrets
Ruth Kemsley (RK) EDF Renewables - Grid Code Party	Attend	Garth Graham (GG) SSE - Grid Code Party	Regrets
Chris McCann (CMc) ENA - Distribution Code Administrator	Regrets	Gareth Haines (GH) Vattenfall - Independent Distribution Network Operators	Regrets
Gareth Evans (GE) ICOSS - Trade Association	Attend	Barnaby Wharton (BW) Renewable UK - Trade Association	Regrets
Gurpal Singh (GS) - Ofgem	Attend	Ed Rees (ER) Citizens Advice - Consumer	Regrets
Sean Winchester (SW) - BEIS	Regrets	Xiao-Ping Zhang (XPZ) Birmingham University - Wider Industry Alternate	Regrets
Malcolm Barnacle (MB) SSEN Transmission - Onshore Transmission Owner	Attend	Helen Stack (HS) Centrica - Distribution Code Party	Regrets
Jamie Webb (JWe) NGESO - Electricity System Operator	Attend	Banke John-Okwesa (BJO) NGESO - Grid Code Administrator	Regrets
Frank Kasibante (FK) NGESO - Technical Secretary	Attend	Navah Shelva (TM) NGESO - Guest	Attend
Jennifer Groome (JG) NGESO - Grid Code Administrator	Attend	Terri Puddefoot (TP) NGESO - Guest	Attend
Deborah Spencer (DS) NGESO - Electricity System Operator	Attend		

Minutes recipients

Industry - For publication on the WSTC website

Agenda

1. Approval of 14/12/2022 Meeting Minutes
 2. Energy Code Governance reform call for input - Initial thoughts
 3. Industry Engagement - Update
 4. High-level summary on how the project is performing
 5. ASR Workstream - Simplification of Grid Code Definitions options
 6. Members Comments and Any Other Business
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Discussion

The discussions held during the meeting are summarised below:

Approval of 14/12/2022 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved subject to incorporating minor corrections provided by **AC**. To be published on the project website.

Action: **FK** to arrange for their publication.

Energy Code Governance Reform Call for Input - Initial thoughts

JWe provided a brief update noting that the System Operator (SO) was planning to submit a response within the allotted time and was working on final touches of the response. He also noted that engagement with other organisations was underway to get a view on potential areas of alignment. He also noted that:

- I. **On Code Consolidation** - The SO was broadly in agreement that technical codes could be consolidated into one and that more simplification of codes was needed. He also noted that it will be a massive undertaking for Industry and full weight of industry was needed if it were to move at the pace of change.
- II. **On Code Manager** - The SO was broadly in agreement with all suggestions therein.
- III. **On Stakeholder Advisory Forums** - The SO anticipated a lot of challenges in the commercial area noting that it could be resource intensive and therefore an overload for Industry resources. A more strategic approach was needed, retaining fair representation for input by industry parties. Significant weight was also needed behind this if industry were to move at pace.

MB suggested that during the development of the dWSTC project, Transmission Owners (TOs) expressed a view that they were not in favour of inclusion of STC & SQSS into the consolidated code (the relationship between TO/SO is different from the relationship between SO/Customer facing codes) and they wondered whether the SO were in support of consolidation.

JWe responded in the affirmative adding that it was the case, provided consolidation was done in the right way, where it was helpful for industry and where scope was well defined.

MB Agreed that indeed it was about both scope and conflict of interest (E.g., Demand customers voting on an SQSS mod because it was favourable for their stakeholder cohort) and noted that de-risking was important.

JW wondered whether an understanding of the code managers role in this regard would help relieve this worry.

JWe Reiterated that the detail in the call for input was not sufficient at this stage to narrow down on some aspects and that the caveat was 'It is a huge piece of work, and a lot of resource is needed for it to work well'.

RK noted that consolidation was quite hard and that the call for input seemed still vague still seemed vague on what they were asking, to enable constructive responses.

AC Suggested that it was probably a good argument to consolidate customer facing

codes together rather than consolidating customer and industry facing codes together.

GS Reiterated that this was a call for input to gather initial views and Ofgem was hoping to build on these.

Industry Engagement - Update

FK noted there was monthly engagement with Electricity Networks Association (ENA). They had provided contacts of the Open Networks Common Informational Model and Data & Digitalisation Subgroups. A session with these teams had been arranged to discuss both Simplification & Rationalisation and the Digitalisation workstreams. **FK** indicated that the team had also provided an update of the dWSTC project to the Independent Networks Association's Electricity Technical Subcommittee (INAETSC), and the DCUSA Digitalisation team.

High-level summary on how the project is performing

FK provided a summary on ASR performance so far. He highlighted what had been planned versus what had been accomplished during the Initiation and Development phases. He provided a high-level summary of plans for both Industry Comments and Modification/Reporting phases. He shared four insights arising from the ASR workstream. He requested members to provide comments on the redraft of the Grid Code OC2 document.

AC sought clarification whether NGENSO had hired consultants to help redraft OC2 and confirmation that the workstream sought to retain current OC2 obligations?

FK Confirmed that no consultants had been hired and that indeed the objective remained to retain current obligations while simplifying remained.

NS shared brief update on the Digitalisation workstream. Including timelines with next steps being:

- I. Complete solution data analysis
- II. Solution Design
- III. Solution Tool/Platform based on Solution Design

FK shared a brief update on the Guidance and Training workstream, noting that **BJO** was on Annual Leave. He requested the steering group members to provide comments on the material that was shared with them in December 2022.

ASR Workstream - Simplification of Grid Code Definitions options

FK Presented four options proposed by the ASR workgroup about simplifying the GC while looking at definitions.

AC Suggested that considering the 'troublesome definitions' first would be a good step forward. His general concern was the worry that once the activity of recasting definitions was started, there was need to carry their application through otherwise we risked ending up with a more confusing situation.

RK noted her preference for option 3 was worth exploring noting that it would be a worthwhile task that will provide long term value even if all the 771 definitions were reviewed. She emphasised the need to work out a mechanism that could also be presented as a modification even if it made OC2 simplification and rationalisation a bit more challenging.

JW Indicated that he saw what was presented as cons in option No.3 as pros which meant that the exercise would get to a good, rationalised point of view.

JC Noted that from a Balancing and Settlements Code (BSC) perspective, there were references to definitions in the BSC as being 'As defined in the GC'. He noted that option 4 made it harder for BSC users and therefore suggested that the team might have to consider knock on effects to other codes. What seemed like a straightforward process could lead to more issues developing across the spectrum of codes.

RK noted that option 3 assisted the digitalisation work as well.

AC noted that it would be prudent to be with option 3 because it seemed like an onerous task and that the exercise could end up changing definitions again once their context in each application was better understood.

He reminded the steering group that when the European Network codes were going through drafting, there was a single definition set applied across all EU Codes. That brought simplification because a term could be used across several codes. He suggested that this was an approach worth considering, and that probably under code governance, a set of terminologies that could be used consistently across all industry codes would be helpful. A single doc with code definitions could be a way to go.

JW noted the strong feedback on option 3.

RK Noted that it would be helpful to provide the updated document alongside the complete pack of 'new definitions' and that a lot of documents providing guidance needed updating and which the G&T workstream needed to look at.

FK committed to reshare the pack and reiterated that the ASR workgroup was working with the DCode Administrator team to align work.

CMc Confirmed added that the DCode Administrator was interested in following this work.

MB Requested that the slide pack showing summaries of the three workstreams presented at this meeting be shared via circulation.

Members Comments and Any Other Business

JW informed the members that this would be Jennie's last meeting and Terri Puddefoot would be covering her responsibility going forward.
