

# Grid Code Review Panel (GCRP)

## 26 October 2023

### Grid Code Review Panel Minutes

**Date:** 26/10/2023      **Location:** Faraday House  
**Start:** 10:00 AM      **End:** 12:00 PM

### Participants

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Jon Wisdom	JWi	Acting Independent Grid Code Review Panel Chair
Jonathan Whitaker	JW	Panel Secretary, Code Administrator
Lizzie Timmins	LT	Panel Technical Secretary, Code Administrator
Alan Creighton	AC	Panel Member, Network Operator Representative
Alastair Frew	AF	Panel Member, Generator Representative
Darshak Shah	DS	Panel Member, Generator Representative
David Monkhouse	DM	Panel Member, Offshore Transmission Licensee Representative
Gurpal Singh	GS	Authority Representative
John Harrower	JH	Panel Member, Generator Representative
Nadir Hafeez	NH	Authority Representative
Rashmi Radhakrishnan	RR	Panel Member, BSC Representative
Robert Longden	RL	Panel Member, Supplier Representative
Ross Kirkwood	RK	Alternate, Onshore Transmission Licensee Representative
Sigrid Bolik	SB	Panel Member, Generator Representative
Terry Baldwin	TB	Panel Member, National Grid ESO

### Apologies

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Matthew White	MW	Panel Member, Network Operator Representative
Trisha McAuley	TM	Independent Panel Chair

### Presenters / Observers

Attendee	Initials	
Dechao Kong	DK	ESO, Proposer GC0163
Frank Kasibante	FK	ESO, Proposer GC0164 and GC0165

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Tony Johnson

TJ

ESO, Technical Codes Team/Presenter - Related Electrical Standards and documentation Update

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## 1. Introductions, Apologies and Declarations of Interest

9860. Apologies were received from Matthew White, and Trisha McAuley. No declarations of interest were noted.

## 2. Minutes from previous meetings

9861. The minutes from the Panel meeting held on 28 September 2023 were approved subject to the incorporation of amendments from RR and AC. The minutes from the Special Panel meeting held on 12 October 2023 were approved with no amendments.

## 3. Review of actions log

9862. JW gave an update on the open actions, updating that action 440 would remain open until analysis is completed. Actions 441 and 444 are to be completed at the November STC Panel. Action 442 is currently being progressed so will remain open, and action 443 will be updated at the November Grid Code Review Panel.

## 4. Chair's update

9863. The Chair advised that TM is hoping to be back for the 23 November 2023 Panel, but Jamie Webb has been lined up as a backup if required.

## 5. Authority Decisions

9865. GS advised that GC0156 is with Ofgem for decision, and that they are looking to publish a decision on 15 November 2023 for all ESRS modifications apart from the BSC modification.

9866. An update on the Energy Code Reform was given.

9867. An update on a cross code workgroup for code modification delivery as a part of the FSO implementation, was given. At the first meeting on 19 October 2023 meeting participants discussed a ten-year package of work. The meeting will occur biweekly to develop code change proposals and packages in relation to new roles and duties in FSO license. The purpose of update is to establish a Code Administration point of contact as it may be useful for the code administration team to participate. Updates on developments at this workgroup will be provided by GS periodically.

9868. An action was created for JW to check if a representative from the Code Administrator can attend the cross-code workgroup (Action 445).

9869. GS gave an update on the publishing moratorium. This will run from the 14 December 2023 to the 04 January 2024. Ofgem will still deal with urgent comments during this period.

## 6. New Modifications

### GC0163 – GB Grid Forming (GBGF) - Removal of Virtual Impedance restriction

9870. TB presented slides regarding GC0163, highlighting that this modification arose from the ESO's GB Grid Forming Best Practice Group, and engagement with stakeholders. TB stated that this modification is to remove the restriction on Virtual Impedance, and that they have had unanimous support from stakeholders. TJ added that Virtual Impedance can have significant cost savings, and that previous concerns with Virtual Impedance have been resolved.

9871. DM queried why there was a restriction on Virtual Impedance. TJ stated that there was initially a concern that there could be some interactions if a real impedance was not in place, but that these concerns have now been resolved.
9872. AF queried the deletion of a section of legal text, and asked if there was a risk to the system in removing the requirement for a real impedance. TJ clarified that the issue has been mitigated through the Best Practice Group and noted that there is nothing to prevent the requirement for a real impedance being removed.
9873. AF queried whether Virtual Impedances are used elsewhere on the network, noting that this could potentially be a new technology on the network, and asked whether the modification should be standard governance instead.
9874. RK queried if there were good reasons for a restriction on Virtual Impedance requiring a physical impedance being used in the first place, and queried whether Workgroups were required to discuss the implications of allowing it.
9875. TB clarified that compliance checks have been introduced as part of the Best Practice Group. TJ clarified that the Best Practice Group was set up following GC0137 to cover the detail of Grid Forming including the compliance processes.
9876. JWi queried whether the challenge was because the Panel were concerned the modification should be Self Governance or not, or whether a Workgroup should be convened or not.
9877. SB clarified that the intention of Grid Forming was not to have a physical impedance and thought that the prescriptive nature of the legal text should be altered.
9878. TJ and TB stated that they would be happy to take the modification to Workgroup to consider the system concerns.
9879. DS agreed that more work was required for this modification prior to proceeding to the Code Administrator Consultation.
9880. RL stated that more information was required for him to decide whether the modification could be Self-Governance.
9881. TJ stated that the modification would bring Grid Forming to become more aligned with European standards.
9882. DM queried whether this modification was similar to controllers used in other equipment where software is increasingly being used rather than physical components and is therefore not a new concept.
9883. TJ stated that GB is the first country in the world to have a Grid Forming capability. The initial concern was that lack of a real impedance could be a problem, however this has been resolved with the additional compliance responsibilities that have come out of the Best Practice Group.
9884. The Panel agreed unanimously that the modification meets the Self Governance criteria and asked for it to proceed to Workgroup.
9885. The Panel agreed a timeline for the modification with a Workgroup.
9886. It was agreed that Terms of Reference for GC0163 would be shared and agreed via e-mail (Action 446).

#### GC0164 – Simplification of Operating Code No.2

9887. FK presented information regarding GC0164, noting that this modification has been discussed within the Alignment, Simplification and Rationalisation Workstream, and the Steering Group of the Digitalised Whole System Technical Code project. FK noted that the Workstream have

agreed to proceed with simplification of OC2 as a standalone part of the Grid Code, for the initial simplification modification. FK highlighted the benefit of this modification in that obligations within the Grid Code would be clearer to Users. FK highlighted that they have proposed Standard Governance for this modification due to its complexity, and for confidence within industry. FK highlighted the challenge for definitions and the options available, requesting Panel guidance on this and noting the positives and negatives of each approach.

9888. AC requested clarity on whether Panel was happy to provide guidance to the ESO, or to the Workgroup.
9889. JWi queried whether the Panel would want the Workgroup to consider the concern about the definitions as part of their Terms of Reference.
9890. AC noted that those on the Workgroup may not be the right people to decide the strategic direction on the presentation of definitions in the Grid Code, and queried whether the Panel should consider this.
9891. AF queried why a Workgroup was needed when the OC2 rewrite had already been drafted.
9892. FK clarified that a Workgroup was requested due to the level of changes made in the text, and the need for other parties to scrutinise the text.
9893. AC highlighted the need for experts in outage planning to scrutinise the text.
9894. DM noted that the definitions would need further work if they are to apply across the whole Grid Code.
9895. AC noted that the definitions may work in context with OC2, however potentially not within the whole Grid Code. AC also highlighted the potential for different definitions for the same term, for different sections of the Grid Code; highlighting that this could cause confusion for stakeholders.
9896. The Panel agreed unanimously that this modification should follow Standard Governance and proceed to Workgroup.
9897. The Panel noted that the timeline for GC0164.
9898. AC and RL suggested some additions to the Terms of Reference; e) Consider whether the proposed redrafted OC2 is easier for stakeholders to read and understand and that the existing obligations on all parties set out in the current OC2 version have been retained, f) Consider whether it is appropriate to have two sets of Grid Code definitions, one set to use with OC2 and a second (existing) set to be used for all other parts of the Grid Code.
9899. AC also suggested an alternative approach with the definitions; to retain the current definitions and to change the proposed OC2 text accordingly.
9900. FK agreed that the Workgroup could look at this.
9901. The Panel agreed the revised Terms of Reference.

#### GC0165 – Typographical and formatting changes to the Grid Code

9902. FK presented the modification, noting that formatting and typographical changes were required to the Grid Code, and that this modification was raised to correct these. FK noted that he believes the modification meets both the Self-Governance criteria and the Fast Track criteria.
9903. LT presented the proposed changes and the Panel noted that all changes were genuine housekeeping changes.
9904. AC highlighted that there could be further housekeeping changes that need to be raised within a modification for example those emerging from the cross code workgroup for code modification delivery as a part of the FSO implementation.

9905. TJ noted some inconsistencies between the CCs and ECCs, which would be raised in a forthcoming modification. TJ noted that additional housekeeping changes could be combined within this forthcoming modification outside of GC0165.
9906. The Panel unanimously agreed that the modification meets the Fast Track Self Governance criteria and noted the modification timeline.

## 7. In flight modification updates

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

9869. JW noted that the timeline extension is required due to the numerous outstanding actions.
9870. The Panel approved the revised timeline.
9871. RR queried the change to the timeline, noting it has previously changed multiple times.
9872. TJ clarified that there have been many challenges and interactions with other workstreams for GC0117, also noting disagreement within the Workgroup. TJ also noted the difficulty in getting industry views.
9873. RL noted that several modification timelines have slipped, and queried what is being done to manage timescales overall. RL noted that timelines should be sensible from the beginning, with the modifications being assessed thoroughly before they are presented to the Panel. RL queried if there could either be more context for delays, or whether a better process could be developed.
9874. JW agreed to take an action to report back to the panel in November on modification timelining (Action 447).
9875. AC noted that this modification has multiple impacts on other industry initiatives and that Workgroup members may be looking to understand more about the implications for stakeholders. AC also noted that the proposed timeline update for this modification may not be realistic.

### GC0154: Incorporation of interconnector ramping requirements into the Grid Code as per SOGL Article 119

9876. JW presented the new timeline for GC0154, noting the delay of the Code Administrator Consultation due to discussions at the previous Grid Code Review Panel meeting.
9877. Panel members agreed the revised timeline.
9878. JW queried whether the FMR could be sent to Ofgem prior to Christmas.
9879. AC highlighted a concern that there were significant legal text changes following the Workgroup Report, and queried whether the Code Administrator could have an internal review process on legal text prior to submission to Panel (Action 448).

## 8. Prioritisation Stack / Dashboard

9880. The Panel reviewed the prioritisation stack to add the new modifications to the prioritisation stack.
9881. DS queried the prioritisation of GC0155 and its impact on compliance, querying if it should be moved to a higher priority.
9882. The Panel agreed to add GC0163 and GC0164 into the prioritisation stack above GC0163.

9883. TB queried whether GC0159 needed to be moved up the priority stack now that the enabling legislation has been passed through parliament. It was agreed by the Panel that this could be reviewed following the new timeline being presented to Panel.

9884. The prioritisation stack can be found via the following link: [Grid Code Review Panel Meeting \(Faraday House\) - 26.10.2023 | ESO \(nationalgrideso.com\)](#)

## 9. Workgroup Reports

9885. There were no Workgroup Reports presented to the Panel.

## 10. Draft Final Modification Reports

9886. There were no Draft Final Modification Reports presented to the Panel.

## 11. Reports to Authority

9887. There were no updates for the Panel.

## 12. Implementation updates

9888. There were no updates for the Panel.

## 13. Governance

9889. There were no updates for the Panel.

## 14. Grid Code Development Forum (GCDF)

9890. JW advised that the the last meeting was held on 04 October 2023, and covered the following items:

- Creation of an Interconnector Framework.
- Data collection from Dynamic System Monitoring (DSM) Systems.

9891. The meeting papers and presentation can be found via the following link:

[Grid Code Development Forum \(GCDF\) - 04.10.2023 | ESO \(nationalgrideso.com\)](#)

9892. The next meeting is planned for 01 November 2023 and the deadline for agenda items was 25 October 2023, so these are currently being finalised. It is expected that there will be an update regarding the Digitalised Whole System Technical Code.

9893. RK queried whether the DSM Data collection covers Scotland in addition to GB.

9894. TB shared that the discussion covered the differences in Scotland, and that they are in the initial scoping stage, so discussing options.

## 15. Standing Groups

### Distribution Code Review Panel Update

9895. AC updated the Panel that the Distribution Code modification in association with GC0162 is progressing.

9896. AC confirmed that work associated with the changes to Distribution Code associated with the FSO implementation are also progressing.

### Joint European Stakeholder Group (JESG)

## ESO

9897. JWi advised that the previous meeting took place on 10 October 2023; the meeting materials and headline report can be found at the following link: [JESG Meeting - 10 October 2023 | ESO \(nationalgrideso.com\)](https://nationalgrideso.com).
9898. The next meeting will take place on 14 November 2023.
9899. JWi noted that the Interconnector Framework Consultation is out and welcomed any views from the panel on the proposals.

### 16. Updates on other Industry Codes

9900. RR noted that BSC changes as a result of GC0117 would progress following Authority Decision. TJ noted that this would be the case for all consequential modifications.
9901. JWi noted that there was a storage event on 16 October 2023 and getting relevant info from batteries into control room systems and BM was discussed.

### 17. Electrical Standards

9902. TJ clarified that comments from Graeme Vincent and AC have been addressed, noting that these are ready to be reviewed.
9903. JW queried whether the Test Plan needed to be sent to the Authority for approval, which TJ confirmed.
9904. TJ also stated that the materials cannot be uploaded onto the website until all have been approved.
9905. RL queried whether the documents would come back to the Panel for approval, which was confirmed by AC and TJ. An action was created for TJ to confirm agreed changes with AC and Graeme Vincent and to circulate the associated documents with the panel (Action 449).

### 18. Any Other Business (AOB)

9906. TJ stated that as part of GC0148, a letter was prepared to make stakeholders aware of their obligations and the change. TJ confirmed that this would be circulated to customers once Panel members have agreed to the content.

#### **Panel Meetings**

9907. JW asked the panel for input on the frequency of in-person Panel meetings in 2024.
9908. AF noted that online meetings work well.
9909. AC noted that there are benefits of meeting face to face, however suggested that face to face meeting could provide opportunities e.g. for workshops on a topical subject to be held after Panel to make best use of time.
9910. RL noted the value in reasonably regular face to face meetings.
9911. RK queried if the location could be varied to suit other Panel members.
9912. RL noted that some Panel members used the opportunity of being in Warwick to visit other ESO colleagues.
9913. SB noted they would appreciate a meeting in Scotland.

### 22. Close

9914. 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 23 November 2023 on Teams.**

**New Modification Proposals are to be submitted by 08 November 2023.**

**Grid Code Review Panel Papers Day is 15 November 2023.**