

# Digitalised Whole System Technical Code (dWSTC) Meeting Minutes

## Steering Group Meeting

**Date:** 17/10/2023      **Location:** MS Teams  
**Start:** 2:30PM      **End:** 3:30PM

## Participants

Attendee	Attend/Regrets	Attendee	Attend/Regrets
Jamie Webb (JW) NGESO - Electricity System Operator	Regrets	Sarah Carter (SC) NGESO - Code Administrator	Attend
Alan Creighton (AC) NPg - Distribution Network Operator	Attend	Graeme Vincent (GC) SPEN - Distribution Network Operator	Attend
Ruth Kemsley (RK) EDF Renewables - Grid Code Party	Attend	Garth Graham (GG) SSE - Grid Code Party	Regrets
Mark Dunk (MD) ENA - Distribution Code Administrator	Regrets	Gareth Haines (GH) Vattenfall - Independent Distribution Network Operators	Attend
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
Oana Georgescu (OG) - BEIS/DESNZ	Regrets	Xiao-Ping Zhang (XPZ) Birmingham University - Wider Industry Alternate	Attend
Malcolm Barnacle (MB) SSEN Transmission - Onshore Transmission Owner	Regrets	Helen Stack (HS) Centrica - Distribution Code Party	Regrets
Terry Baldwin (TB) NGESO - Electricity System Operator	Attend	Teri Puddefoot (TP) NGESO - Code Administrator	Attend
Frank Kasibante (FK) NGESO - Technical Secretary	Attend	Frank Martin (FM) Siemens	Regrets

## Minutes recipients

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Industry - For publication on the WSTC website

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## Agenda

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1. Approval of 21/09/2023 Meeting Minutes

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2. Alignment, Simplification & Rationalisation (ASR) Workstream Status
  - Update
  - Steering Group / dWSTC team to consider presenting its progress at the November 2023 Grid Code Development Forum (GCDF)

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3. Digitalisation Workstream Status Update

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4. Members Comments and Any Other Business

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## Discussion

The discussions held during the meeting are summarised below:

### Approval of 20.09.2023 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved by the Steering Group. To be published on the project website.

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

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### ASR Workstream (ASRW)

- Update
- **Steering Group / dWSTC team to consider presenting its progress at the November 2023 Grid Code Development Forum (GCDF)**

FK provided a brief recap regarding ASR Workstream milestones which included, among others, setting up the ASR team, the code simplification survey in September 2022, OC2 Redrafting and solution refinement work.

He indicated the broad engagement carried out to enable refining this work and noted that the required material for a modification proposal had been submitted to the Grid Code Administrator.

He further noted that capturing the costs of this phase of code alignment and simplification work was being considered in an interim report on code simplification work which was being drafted.

Finally, he noted that the ASR workstream team had advised to add the context of definitions challenges to the slides for the October 2023 Grid Code Review Panel (GCRP) on OC2 Redrafting.

AC sought to understand decision around definitions options wondering whether there were two proposals given the fact that governance requires a single proposal. He also noted that the proposer could modify their proposal at Workgroup.

FK noted that it was a single proposal which was to have a new set of improved definitions alongside the OC2 redrafted text.

RK noted that the panel would decide whether the proposal would go to Workgroup.

TB noted that there was one defect, and the proposer could ask panel for their expert opinion. The solution could thereafter be developed via workgroup.

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**RK** presented a few suggestions on the prospects of gauging industry appetite to continue with the ASR workstream and what Industry thought would be a good section of the Grid Code that could benefit from simplification.

She proposed that the GCDF could provide some guidance and suggested to have that conversation at the November GCDF preferably by use of a survey.

She also noted that the Data Registration Code (DRC) schedules were clunky and needed having a look at. Some of the challenges in using noted included:

1. Format is unwieldy and messy.
2. The process of submitting data is manual.
3. Some data does not fit in the forms.
4. Schedules are complex to navigate.
5. There is a potential to rationalise the User Data File Structure (UDFS) contents, the standard elements in Appendix F of the Bilateral Connection Agreement (BCA) and the Planning Code (PC) as well.

She also noted feedback from the September 2022 survey as having indicated Industry's preference to simplify the Planning Code as the next section as well as it being beneficial to have an improved, simplified content before digitalisation.

**TP** reiterated the huge links and overlaps with the digitalisation workstream task and emphasised the need for the two workstreams to work closely together.

**AC** noted that it was fair to ask the GCDF what their thoughts were, and it would also serve as an opportunity to ask for volunteers to the OC2 simplification workgroup.

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### Digitalisation Workstream Status Update

**TP** noted that the digitalisation workstream had held meetings with potential vendors but were still working hard to ensure all the decisions made were the right ones, notably the right product with the right tech solutions and that value for money would be guaranteed. The team was also looking at different technology options to prior to making a definitive choice. She also reiterated that the team was taking a bit longer to choose the product since the Intention was to make the Grid Code more interactive and improve the search functionality.

**RK** warned that Artificial Intelligence (AI) has not always been helpful and was cautious about introducing something that sounds like it will make the Grid Code better but end up making things worse.

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### Members Comments and Any Other Business

**AC** requested for an update on Guidance & Training Workstream

**TP** indicated that a meeting with Energy Networks Association had been held on 17th October 2023 to discuss interactions of the Grid Code with the Distribution Code and the main interactions were still under review and would provide an update when that review is complete.

**GH** wondered what next steps were and when the wider piece of work would be commenced.

**FK** noted that OC2 simplification was a test case. It was going to progress within Open Governance arrangements and a modification to simplify OC2 was due to be proposed at the GCRP on 26th October 2023. He noted that it would be difficult to determine timelines at this stage but would consult with Industry via a survey at the next GCDF to get their views on their preferred GC section that could benefit from simplification.

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