

SQSS Panel

1 August 2024

SQSS Panel Minutes

Date: 01/08/2024 **Location:** Microsoft Teams

Start: 14:00 **End:** 15:25

Participants

Attendee	Initials	Company
Teri Puddefoot	TP	Panel Chair
Tammy Meek	TM	Panel Technical Secretary
Alan Creighton	AC	Panel Member, Network Operator Representative
Antony Johnson	AJ	Panel Member, National Grid ESO Representative
Bieshoy Awad	BA	Panel Member, National Grid ESO Representative
Bless Kuri	BK	Panel Member, SHET Representative
Calum Watkins	CW	Authority Representative
Cornel Brozio	CB	Panel Member, SP Transmission Representative
Graeme Vincent	GV	Panel Member, SP Transmission Representative
Le Fu	LF	Panel Member, NGET Representative
Martin Brown	MB	Panel Member, OFTO Representative
Mike Lee	ML	Panel Member, OFTO Representative
Peter Twomey	PT	Alternate, DNO Representative
Roddy Wilson	RW	Panel Member, SHET Representative

Observers/Presenters

Attendee	Initials	Company
Matt Clover	MC	ESO
Michael Rieley	MR	SSE
Mingyu Sun	MS	ESO
Qi Zhong	QI	ESO
Suzanne Law	SL	SSE

Apologies

Attendee	Initials	Company
Garth Graham	GG	Panel Member, Generation Representative
Mark Perry	MP	Panel Member, NGET Representative
Roger Morgan	RM	Alternate, OFTO Representative
Simon Lord	SL	Alternate, Generation Representative
Xiaoyao Zhou	XZ	Panel Member, National Grid ESO Representative

1. Introductions and Apologies

Apologies were received from Garth Graham, Mark Perry, Roger Morgan, Simon Lord and Xiaoyao Zhou.

2. Minutes

The meeting minutes from the Panel on 3 June 2024 were approved subject to minor amendments suggested by AC. A copy of those minutes have been uploaded to our [website](#).

3. Review of Actions within Actions Log

Action 40.8: AJ advised the Authority expect to provide a decision on 23 August 2024 for GC0117. Panel members agreed to keep the action open until a decision is received back.

Action 40.09: Ofgem to give a view on the role and responsibilities of Panel with respect to the FRCR work.

4. Authority Decisions and Updates

None.

5. In Flight Modifications Updates

None.

6. Discussions on Prioritisation

No modifications have changed in priority.

7. AOB

Amendments to Security and Quality of Supply Standard Governance Framework

MC thanked the Panel members for their feedback and suggested amendments to the SQSS Governance Framework document in connection with the Day 1 NESO changes. MC had incorporated the changes noting any changes with regard to housekeeping would be best addressed in a separate mod.

The Chair informed Panel no further input was required from Panel before 1 October 2024 but will require approval from Panel which will show ISOP changes and changes relating to housekeeping which will run concurrently.

AC advised that timing was critical and commented that ESO be careful not to mix the two modifications.

Frequency Risk and Control Report (FRCR) Update

MS thanked everyone for their comments on FRCR 2024 and these would be considered in future. MS noted that FRCR 2024 was submitted to Ofgem on 12 July 2024.

CB noted an independent review of the SQSS allows for the Panel to seek independent advice. He thinks due to the complexity of the work it would be appropriate for the Panel to seek an independent review and this should feed into the timeline.

QZ does not recommend an independent review. However, should Panel decide to take this route they would need to factor in costs, and also resource for that.

ML was of the view they were not qualified to make a decision on the report and Panel shouldn't sign off if they did not know what is in it. Also queried why do Panel need to sign it off and suggest a change in process.

AC advised he had looked at the SQSS noting that in making its assessment, the SQSS Panel will give its view and will seek additional advice where required. AC noted Panel could attend deep dive sessions but asked what weight the Authority were placing on the Panel noting that the Panel were well informed but not experts in this field.

CB queried whether the FRCR should sit within the SQSS Panel and if there was more better option for example, place the obligation on NESO as part of its licence condition rather than as an SQSS requirement.

RW agreed with the above discussions and whilst the deep dive sessions would be informative felt that FRCR was a lot to place on Panel members especially in view of what was being asked to be signed off.

AC requested Ofgem to give a view on the role and responsibilities of Panel with respect to the FRCR work. AC also asked if the FRCR work falls into System Operability Framework. MS advised that FRCR falls outside of System Operability Framework. AC noted that there may be a need to review the FRCR and that it may be better for it to be an action on ESO not Panel. QZ advised that that the ESO is aware of the complexity. BA noted there are lots of issues such as rate of change of frequency but it was important to ensure the scope of FRCR is clearly defined and not mixed up with other things.

The SQSS Energy Code Reform Risk and Impact

SL conveyed concerns over the ECR work in particular where commercial interests could soften and undermine licence standards. SSE see the process of developing and consolidating the current code into a unified code is a very significant risk.

SSE believe they are obliged into following a Unified Code and it should remain as a standalone code.

AC noted there is an obligation to ensure a safe and reliable network and that there was concern over abolishing the panels and having Stakeholder Advisory Forums (SAFs) with many parties and no real technical experience may undermine the rigour and robustness of the codes. There is also a concern commercial interests could outweigh technical requirements which aligns with SSE view.

MR does agree that some change is necessary but thinks there is a risk between commercial drivers resulting in poor technical standards. MR continued they were now at the point where the SQSS is going into a new document and SSE are uncomfortable with this.

SSE will circulate their slides noting the direction of travel and wait for a response from Ofgem. SSE also raised the point that the work was now getting to the point of no return. Ofgem where asked if they have a response.

GV advised that he is part of working group and expect a response back in August and would be good to make Ofgem aware of these concerns. It was noted that if Ofgem are going to make a response, then Ofgem will need to capture them as part of the work.

8. Next Steps

Modification Proposal Deadline for July Panel: 20 August 2024

Papers Day: 27 August 2024

Next Panel: 11 September 2024