Relevant Electric Standards

The Relevant Electrical Standards (RES) was implemented on 9th January 2006 and is applicable in England and Wales only. The RES defines the relevant technical specifications, policies and procedures that must be complied with by all users connected to or seeking connection to the Transmission System in England and Wales. The RES applies to User equipment that is located, electrically or physically within the zone covered by National Grid's substation busbar protection.

National Grid does not intend the RES to be applied retrospectively to existing connections or signed agreements, these are deemed, through connection/acceptance, to meet the requirements of National Grid (unless derogation is in force). National Grid would, however, anticipate that should a User wish to replace an asset within the zone of the busbar protection the new asset would be specified to meet the requirements of the RES. This would not preclude the User from replacing the asset with an identical plant item (e.g. spare from the same site) where its strength and capability can be proven to meet the requirements of connection to that site.

RES Scenarios

To facilitate the implementation of the new standards and to provide additional assistance to Users regarding the applicability of the new standards, National Grid has provided responses to a set of RES scenarios.

It is important to note that the examples provided and the relevant responses are not a comprehensive list of all possible scenarios regarding the applicability of the RES. Should Users have any specific questions regarding the RES they should contact their National Grid Connections Agreements Manager in the first instance.

Examples

1. If a new Party is seeking connection, what standard will be specified in the Appendix F?

    ⇨ The RES should be the document referenced henceforth in all Bilateral Agreements where the User has equipment that interfaces directly with GB Transmission System equipment. The RES should apply in its entirety, not foregoing the parts that are 'guidance only'. There may occasionally be connections that require compliance with additional NGTSs but it is intended that this would be the exception rather than the rule.

2. If a Party with existing agreement referencing certain NGTSs, will the existing NGTS continue to be recognised and frozen?

    ⇨ If the connection remains unchanged there is no need to revisit the agreement at all. The existing NGTS would therefore continue to be recognised and frozen.

3. Party with existing agreement with no reference to NGTSs and having submitted a modification application (and if an Appendix F is included in the Offer), will the RES be referenced and if so what plant would it apply to?

and

4. Party with an existing agreement with reference to a number of NGTSs and having submitted a modification application (and if an Appendix F is included in the Offer), how will the plant subject to the NGTSs and the RES, if referenced, be separately identified.

    ⇨ A modification application can cover a wide variety of scenarios and as such any application of the RES/NGTSs will need to be decided on a case by case basis.

However there exists some general cases where the RES and/or NGTS can be applied:

1. New plant/apparatus installed at existing Connection Point
   - RES standards would apply to the new assets being installed (CC.6.2.1.2 (a) (iii))

2. Replacing an asset with an identical plant item (e.g. spare from the same site, covered by the same Bilateral Agreement)
   - The relevant standards/specification applicable at the time of commissioning would apply (CC.6.2.1.2 (a) (i)). The User will have to prove that the replacement asset has been suitably maintained and that all necessary upgrades and modifications pertaining to the particular asset/site have been carried out.

3. Replacing the asset with a plant item from a different site
   - RES standards would apply (CC.6.2.1.2 (a) (iii)). However National Grid would consider, on request, the use of plant conforming to an older standard where, in National Grid's reasonable opinion, this would not compromise the security and reliability of the GB Transmission System.