Public

Meeting Summary

Grid Code Development Forum – 6 November 2024

Date:	06/11/2024	**Location:**	MS Teams
Start:	09:00	**End:**	11:00

Participants

Attendee	Company	Attendee	Company
Claire Newton	NESO (Chair)	Alan Creighton	Northern Powergrid
Frank Kasibante	NESO (Tech Sec)	Bukky Daniel	EDF Re-UK
John Zammit-Haber	NESO (Presenter)	Matthew Dowds	Muirhall Energy
Rebecca Scott	NESO (Presenter)	Aakriti Gupta	GE Vernova
Farzana Sabiha	Statkraft (Presenter)	Mike Kay	P2 Analysis
Rhiannon Whitty	NESO (Presenter)	Ross Strachan	EDF Renewables
Deborah Spencer	NESO	Graeme Vincent	SPEN
Gordon Frazer	NESO	Nigel Platt	Siemens
David Halford	NESO	Julie Richmond	Scottish Power
Graham Lear	NESO	Maryam Begum	Cummings
Ife Garba	NESO	Lisa Waters	Waters Wye Associates
Gideon Miti	NESO	Harry Burns	EDF Renewables
Jamie Morgan-Wormald	NESO	Sean Gauton	Uniper
Jeno Abraham-Kodmon	NESO	Nicola Barberis Negra	Orsted

Gordon Frazer	NESO	Ruth Kemsley	Our Footprints
Paul Adoba	NESO	Benjamin Marshall	SSE
Mingjia Yin	NESO	Wijeratne Chanura	RES Group
David Lacey	NESO	Rachel Hodges	Cubico Invest
Majid Bahmanzadeh	GE	Angela Olabarri Candela	Iberdrola
Isaac Crawford	NESO	Fabian Moore	SSE
Adanna Ugo-Okoye	Statkraft	Harry Fachiridis	Zenobe
Mathew Ball	EDF Energy	Chris Terry	Fidra Energy
Remesh Greeshma	Statkraft	Adegboyega Akomolafe	Innovo Renewables
Isaac Gutierrez	Scottish Power	Frank Martin	European Energy

Agenda and slides

A link to the Agenda and Presentations from the November GCDF can be found here

GCDF

Please note: These notes are produced as an accompaniment to the forum recording and slide pack presented and provide highlights only of discussion themes and possible next steps.

Meeting Opening – Claire Newton (GCDF Chair) & Frank Kasibante (GCDF Tech Sec) - NESO

The meeting was opened, with an overview of the agenda items that will be covered.

Presentation: Introduction of a new industry protocol in Operating Code 6 of the Grid Code, Rebecca Scott / John Zammit-Haber - NESO

The presenter shared the plan to propose the introduction of a new industry protocol in the Grid Code. Following a review of demand control processes by Ofgem, DESNZ and industry; and in response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, NESO explained the need for a formalized demand control rotation protocol. A protocol has been created under the existing obligations in Operating Code No.6 (OC.6.5.3) but that limits the use, so there is a need for the tool to be formally recognised under Operating Code 6.

Discussion themes / Feedback

It was noted that the evolution of the demand control rotation protocol from an informal agreement to a formalized document was carried out in the period between 2022 and 2024. This document has been signed off by all distribution companies through the Electricity Task Group (ETG).

It was further noted that the new protocol aligns OC6 demand rotation blocks with the Electricity Supply Emergency Code (ESEC) rotation blocks, ensuring better communication with the public and protection of critical sites. The protocol also includes fast-acting blocks reserved for immediate response.

The presenter sought endorsement from GCDF to propose a Grid Code modification to formally include the demand control rotation protocol adding that key areas for consideration in the modification would include how the protocol will be instructed, reprieve from other obligations for distribution networks, and the ownership and review of the protocol.

Stakeholders raised questions about the visibility of demand control arrangements, confidence in load management and the need for standardization.

The presenter responded that the new protocol would use the same demand blocks as ESEC, allowing better communication with the public about demand reductions, adding that there was ongoing work to harmonize distribution company methodologies for forming demand blocks, ensuring consistency across the industry.

A forum member queried whether the Distribution Code would need updating alongside the Grid Code modification. The presenter agreed to review this with the Energy Networks Association (ENA) at ETG and ensure any necessary updates were made for alignment and consistency between the Codes.

It was also recommended that NESO should cross-check the proposed changes with the capacity market rules to ensure consistency. NESO agreed and acknowledged the importance of this alignment.

Presentation: Introduction of contacts for Network Access Planning into the Compliance Process and Compliance Repeat Plan, Rhiannon Whitty – NESO

The presenter noted that there is currently no requirement under the Grid Code for generators to provide contacts for network access planning, which makes it very difficult, as there is often a need to get third party engagement to proceed with work. NESO would therefore like to propose a minor change to codify the requirement to provide contacts into the compliance process.

Positive impacts were identified. No negative ones were identified if the change were to be implemented. NESO would like to propose the self-governance route and straight to Code Administrator Consultation (CAC). This change is intended to improve the efficiency of network access planning and ensure that generators have better visibility of transmission outages that may impact their systems.

The proposed changes outlined would include adding requirements to European Connection Conditions (ECC .5.2.1) and European Compliance Process (ECP .8.2). This would be incorporated into the compliance process and the compliance repeat plan.

Discussion themes / Feedback

Forum members raised questions about the applicability to Transmission Owner (TO) connected demand and the best place for the requirement, noting that the Grid Code is unclear on this issue. The presenter agreed to consider these points and explore potential improvements.

Another forum member suggested that the requirement to update planning contacts might be better placed in the annual data refresh process rather than the compliance process. The presenter acknowledged this suggestion and agreed to explore this further.

A forum member inquired about the implications for offshore networks and the compliance process. NESO clarified that the modification would focus on planning contacts for network access planning.

A forum member queried if this requirement is in addition to an Integral Equipment Test (IET) notice (of planned testing) and how Generators would provide this to NESO. NESO confirmed that Generators would still have to submit the IET requests, as well as providing this contact information.

Presentation: Analysis of system incidents and losses of load or generation on transmission and/or distribution networks throughout the GB power system, Sabiha Farzana - Statkraft

Statkraft presented an analysis of system incidents and losses, highlighting the need for more granular data and faster reporting of system incidents and reporting to better understand and prevent future incidents. Statkraft proposed changes to the Grid Code to enhance the effectiveness of incident reporting.

Stakraft noted an intention to propose changes to the Grid Code with the aim of improving the effectiveness of incident reporting. These changes would include reducing the reporting time from three months to one month, obtaining more granular data at higher sampling rates, and collecting data from different locations to identify regional variations.

Discussion themes / Feedback

Forum members questioned the benefits of more granular data and faster reporting, what actions are being taken based on the current level of granularity of data, and whether actions would be different if reporting was done faster. Statkraft explained the advantages of accurate analysis and the potential to prevent future incidents. Stakeholders also emphasised the need to understand the problem we're seeking to solve first, and to be cautious about what was being considered for measuring as well as noting that the infrastructure and resource needed to enable delivery of those levels of granularity could be significant.

NESO confirmed that the data from system incidents was considered in the Frequency Risks and Control Report (FRCR) process and highlighted the challenges of faster reporting, due to the need to correctly

collect and analyse data prior to publishing it. They assured that significant incidents were reported as promptly as reasonably practicable.

AOB

The forum Chair informed members that NESO published the advice provided to Government on Clean Power 2030.

The dates for the 2025 GCDF sessions are available on the GCDF webpage.

The Chair thanked the attendees and presenters for their contributions and closed the meeting.

The next GCDF will be held on Wednesday 4th December 2024 with 20th November 2024 being the deadline for agenda items and presentations.