

# STC Modification Special Panel Minutes

## 09 September 2024

### STC Modification Special Panel Minutes: Meeting Number 227

<b>Date:</b> 09 Sept 2024	<b>Location:</b> Microsoft Teams
<b>Start:</b> 16:30	<b>End:</b> 17:10

### Participants

Attendee	Initials	Company
Milly Lewis	ML	ESO Panel Chair (Industry Code Governance Manager)
Elana Byrne	EB	ESO Tech Sec, Code Administrator
Kayte Stanton-Hughes	KSH	ESO Code Administrator (Secretariate)
Nadir Hafeez	NH	Authority Representative
Scott Bull	SB	Authority Representative
Richard Woodward	RW	National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)
James Norman	JN	ESO Representative
Harriet Eckweiler	HE	Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc. (SHET)
Mike Lee	MLE	Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO)
Claire Newton	CN	National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO)
Emily Rice	ER	Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc. (SHET)
Joel Matthews	JM	Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO)
Lynne Bryceland	LB	Scottish Power Transmission (SPT)

Apologies	Initials	Company
None		

### 1. Introductions and Apologies for Absence

6818. No apologies were received for the Special Panel.

## 2. Workgroup Reports

6819. The Chair updated the Panel members of the current situation following discussions on 12 July 2024 at a Special STC Panel, advising of the extended timelines and queries raised regarding the 01 January 2025 target date. A request was made for ESO to have further conversations with the Authority with regards to this date.
6820. A verbal update was given by ML advising of movement away from 01 January 2025, in relation to the implementation of the modifications. It was outlined that the code modifications, methodologies and Licence change proposals would all be coupled for a joint decision. It is expected that the Authority will make that decision in Q1 2025 for implementation.
6821. Timelines for the connection modifications have been revised to give Workgroups understanding of the plan for the next 2 months. It was noted that the ICR stream (CMP434 and CM095) will have more Workgroups than Gate 2 workstream (CMP435 and CM096).
6822. The revised timeline was planned to avoid industry events where possible, however a Revenue and Charging event is to be held on 24 September, therefore the currently planned CMP434/CM096 meeting, will be moved to 25 September.
6823. When updating the timeline, consideration was given to work taking place on Connection Reform and being mindful of having Workgroups on consecutive days.
6824. It was pointed out that target objectives had been added to the timeline for each meeting which for the discussions in the upcoming Workgroups.
6825. As part of the timeline the Final Workgroup Reports are planned to be finalised and shared with Panel members on 05 November 2024.
6826. CM096 has fewer Workgroups planned with the current timeline but the Workgroup Report is also planned to be issued on 05 November 2024.
6827. A further Special Panel will be arranged for 08 November 2024 to review Terms of Reference before proceeding to Code Administrator Consultation.
6828. The Code Administrator Consultation will be issued for 11- 22 November 2024.
6829. The Code Administrator Consultation analysis and DFMR (Draft Final Modification Report) generation will take around 13 business days. This is based on the Workgroup Consultation which had around 200 responses across the four modifications. It was agreed that as much time as possible should be allocated for industry to review, consider any challenges and work alongside the Connections team to ensure all risks are mitigated ahead of CUSC Panel submission.
6830. Panel will receive the DFMR earlier if there are considerably less responses received.
6831. A Special Panel will be arranged for 20 December 2024 for members to review the Final Modification Report and make their recommendation.
6832. The Final Modification Report will then be issued to the Authority on evening of 20 December 2024. The Authority decision will consider the methodologies, modifications and licences for Q1 and implementation in Q2.
6833. The methodologies consultation is planned to be issued at the same time as the Code Administrator Consultation to offer industry confidence that the methodologies have been taken into consideration as having interdependencies within Connections Reform.
6834. CUSC Panel members have unanimously approved the timeline but noted the clash of meetings on 24 September and the potentially high volume of responses to the Code Administrator Consultation (CAC). It was agreed that the CAC responses can be shared with Panel before the DFMR. Code Governance will provide an overview for the DFMR as per normal practise and any confidential responses will not be shared.
6835. RW noted that the turnaround for industry to provide the Workgroup Consultation responses was not ideal, and asked whether improvements could be made for the CAC to

remind industry of the purpose of that consultation. Concern was raised that industry use as to reopen/re-negotiate the solution. Important that Code Governance team and Proposers set out its purpose in the first instance to ensure quality responses.

6836. RW had concerns that when the Final Modification Report was issued to the Authority in December, it was not held up in any way over the Christmas break. A suggestion was made for an early Extraordinary Panel meeting in January 2025.
6837. ML advised a contingency plan was in place if 20 December 2024 date was at risk.
6838. RW advised that when NGET responded to Workgroup Consultation there was little time to discuss responses. A plan would need to be in place for the STC aspect as there was some unresolved detail around CM096.
6839. ML advised this had been accommodated in the timelines.
6840. HE asked if the Code Administrator Consultation could be extended if required.
6841. ML advised the Code Administrator Consultation ends 22 November 2024 and there was a possibility for responses to be received over the weekend (23 November, 24 November). Further extension would need consideration as part of Licence changes for the Authority, there is a mandatory “standstill period” of 56 days and the implementation cannot be any earlier as these changes will be reviewed as a package.
6842. LB reiterated the concern of timelines in relation to consultation responses as 8 working days is tight for the teams to pull together consultation responses, especially as the methodologies’ consultations will be being taking place at the same time. This raised the question of what the consultation timelines are for the three methodologies.
6843. ML advised the methodologies consultation would be live for slight longer than Code Administrator Consultation.
6844. LB advised they would approve the timelines, adding they had a concern and wanted it noted that people’s wellbeing should be taken into consideration, not just TOs and those doing consultation responses but the Code Governance team as well.
6845. LB went on to say there should be an appreciation for amount of work taking place and a need for mindfulness and wellbeing for all involved.
6846. ML advised that the aspiration is to have sign-off on 08 November, the Code Administrator Consultation will be issued on Monday 11 November, maybe earlier if possible.
6847. RW reiterated LB’s concern for wellbeing, and asked if there was any aspiration to bring timings forward to maybe accommodate an extra week for the Code Administrator Consultation, as that would give a good chance of quality outcomes and a sensible timeline.
6848. ML responded advising it would all dependent on everything going to plan.
6849. EB advised that the key objectives added against the Workgroups on the timeline had been very helpful to structure the planning for meetings. EB noted that there is an exercise that the Chairs and Proposers are going through to assess the ordering of discussion topics to be applicable to when documentation and any Alternatives are going to be reviewed.
6850. EB asked the Panel Members for their agreement of the timelines to be put forward to Ofgem. **None were noted.** It was taken that the Panel unanimously agreed for the timeline as of 09 September 2025 to go to Ofgem.

### 3. Next Steps

6851. ML advised letters will be issued to the Authority in relation to the urgent Connection modifications requesting approval of the changes to the timelines. The hope is to have a decision by Friday 13 September. In the meantime, placeholder meeting invites will be

issued for Workgroups based on the timeline and calendars will be updated from week commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> onwards.

- 6852. NN reminded ML that the letters should contain a summary of what has been discussed at the Special Panel meetings.
- 6853. ML confirmed that the letters would comply to this.
- 6854. HE confirmed an alternate for future Panel communications.

#### Date of next meeting

6855. The next regular STC Panel meeting will be held on **Wednesday 25 September 2024**

6856. New Modification Proposal date **Tuesday 10 September 2024**

6857. Panel papers day **Tuesday 17 September 2024**