

MINUTES OF THE SONI GRID CODE REVIEW PANEL MEETING

Ballsbridge Hotel, Dublin

Wednesday 11th February 2015, 1.00pm -2.00pm

Present:

Members/Alternates	Representing	Position on the GCRP
Brendan Woods	SONI	Chairperson
Marie-Therese Campbell	SONI	Alternate Member
Karen Creighton	SONI	Member
Tom McCartan	SONI	Alternate Member
Conor O'Doherty	SONI	Member
Denis McBride	AES	Member
Cathal Martin	SSER	Member
Angela Blair	PPB	Observer
Stephen Hemphill	MIL	Member
Ian Bailie	NIE	Member
Billy Walker	NIAUR	Member
Shane Lynch	Power Generation	House Observer
Leigh McCarthy	SONI	Secretary of the SONI GCRP

1. Chairperson's Introduction to the Meeting

The Chairperson welcomed the Panel Members, alternates and observers and gave an overview of the agenda.

2. Apologies for absence

The Chairperson noted that apologies were received from: William Steele, Jim Cooke and Tony McElroy.

3. Minutes of the Grid Code Review Panel Meeting held on 12 November 2014

The Chairperson noted that comments were received to the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th November 2014 in Belfast and amendments to the minutes were made. There being no other comments, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved by the Panel.

4. Points arising from minutes

- 4.1 The Chairperson noted the following actions from the previous meeting:
- 4.1.1 action regarding the need to set up a meeting to examine the impact of the Network Codes. Marie-Therese Campbell confirmed that she had discussed this with the Generators and Regulators and that if a specific meeting is required the Generators would raise this separately at a Network Code meeting and the Regulators would facilitate;
 - 4.1.2 action to send through slides from the Network Codes presentation. Marie-Therese Campbell confirmed these were sent;
 - 4.1.3 action to consider DSU Grid Code Review Panel Membership. It was noted that Shane Lynch was attending the meeting as an observer;
 - 4.1.4 action with reference to the Wind Farm Settings Schedule modification. Marie-Therese Campbell advised that NIRIG responded and approved the wording. The WFSS will be updated in due course to reflect the change.
 - 4.1.5 Billy Walker confirmed the alignment of the 36 month timeframe in relation to RoCoF; and
 - 4.1.6 Marie-Therese Campbell confirmed that there has been some alignment on an all island basis of testing templates where applicable. These templates have been published on the EirGrid website.

5. Grid Code Review Panel Membership

- 5.1 An action was taken at the previous meeting to review Grid Code Review Panel membership. This is required to be reviewed prior to the next meeting in May. There are only two supplier representatives currently on the panel due to lack of engagement. It was noted that a new Chairperson will be required from September.

Action: All attendees to review and confirm panel membership and alternates (with phone and email addresses for both) and revert to the Secretary prior to 21 April 2015 in accordance with the Constitution. Please note that if you do not intend to change membership please also confirm this in writing.

Action: Shane Lynch to discuss DSU/AGU membership with DSU representatives and confirm in writing to SONI.

6. Network Codes Update

- 6.1 Marie- Therese Campbell advised that there is a proposal to extend the timeline for Network Codes assessment until September 2015. Option 4 is still the working assumption for the final document; however this may be subject to change as assessments develop in 2015. This will be subject for discussion at the Joint Working Group on Network Codes.
- 6.2 Conor O'Doherty noted that there is an internal review of Network Codes implementation being conducted by EirGrid group and this will take into account the Grid Code Review Panel working group's discussions on the Network Codes. Patrick Liddy has been approached for stakeholder input on the Network Codes, particularly in relation to the DCC, but no feedback has been received.

Action: Shane Lynch to speak to Patrick Liddy regarding involvement in the Network Codes work stream.

- 6.3 Denis McBride observed that there has been very little NI participation in the working groups. Ian Bailie noted that there are three DNO representatives involved in this work stream.
- 6.4 Conor O'Doherty advised that the next meeting is on 24th February. Some people are involved in all the Network Codes whilst others are only involved in relation to specific Codes. Cathal Martin said he would be willing to get involved in relation to the RfG Code. Conor O'Doherty commented that there should be involvement in relation to the other Codes as well. Cathal Martin asked to be copied into correspondence on the Network Codes. Denis McBride asked if there could be different representatives for different Codes. Stephen Hemphill confirmed that Moyle will comment on the HVDC Code.

Action: Conor O'Doherty to circulate details of the Network Codes working group and provide an update on RfG to Cathal Martin

7. DSU Update

- 7.1 Marie-Therese Campbell noted that Robbie Aherne had given a presentation to the Joint Grid Code Review Panel that morning in relation to DSUs and that SONI submitted the final recommendation report to the Regulators for approval. At present the modifications submitted to the CER are approved so there is a misalignment in NI and IE until the DSU modification is approved in NI. The regulators have issued a communication on the licensing of DSUs in NI. DSUs will be required to obtain a modified generator licence.
- 7.2 Shane Lynch advised that Power House Generation have been actively involved in a response to SONI.
- 7.3 Shane Lynch asked if the recommendation by SONI to the Regulatory Authorities could be made public. Marie-Therese Campbell noted that there is also a modification to the SEMO Trading and Settlement Code regarding the licensing of DSUs and that this would need approval by the SEMO modifications committee. This is to be presented at the SEMO modifications committee meeting tomorrow.

8. Update on WFPS Setting Schedule- Active power response to frequency injection

- 8.1 The Chairperson noted that an issue arose regarding active power time requirements. SONI proposed a modification to bring this in line with the EirGrid Grid Code and upcoming European Network Codes. Confirmation was received from NIRIG that the wording is acceptable. The WFPS Setting Schedule will now be amended to state that there shall be no inherent delay. This was discussed with NIE.
- 8.2 Marie-Therese Campbell queried whether this would mean a modification to the Distribution Code would be required. The Chairperson confirmed NIE has agreed to this change and suggested this be included on the Distribution Code Review meeting agenda.

9. Update on Grid Code Modifications

- 9.1 The Chairperson noted that "housekeeping" changes are required, including *inter alia*, new references to the Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012. It was proposed that these modifications be presented at the next Grid Code Review Panel meeting for approval rather than a formal consultation process.

Action: SONI to issue a revised version of the Grid Code showing the proposed changes.

- 9.2 Marie-Therese Campbell commented that the WFPS Setting Schedule will require a few modifications which could be published alongside the housekeeping changes. Cathal Martin

queried how it will be notified when these changes are in force. The Chairperson commented that it will be put on the SONI website and a link sent to interested parties in the same way as a consultation, e.g. via EAI etc.

- 9.3 Karen Creighton stated that the Dynamic Modelling modification was with the Regulator for approval. She confirmed that changes were made to the NI modification in line with the presentation David Cashman gave at the JGCRP in November 2014. All changes made to the modification reflect the requests of the generators i.e. retrospection and cost allocation. Denis McBride asked if there are any implications for convention generation. Karen Creighton confirmed that the modification applies to Users, including conventional generation. She explained that the TSO has stated if they have sufficient information to allow them to develop additional models they will not be approaching existing Users, however if additional information is required they reserve the right to ask for it.
- 9.4 Marie-Therese Campbell noted that there are two additional modifications regarding harmonics which relate to the alignment of standards and these are being discussed internally. Ian Bailie advised that SONI is consulting on planning standards. He noted that the standards in NI and IE are not aligned and that the new GB standards, G5/5, in relation to headroom align better with IE standard (IEC6100-3-6) but it will be another year before this is consulted upon. He noted that it would not be prudent for NI to have something in place in this respect which is fundamentally different from NIE. Karen Creighton commented that NI and IE have accepted that there are two different standards, harmonics are not as much of an issue in NI and there is no push for alignment. Cathal Martin advised that in NI this is dealt with on a “first come, first served” basis and is shared in IE, however, in IE exact amounts are known. Denis McBride asked if the standards are G5/5 in NI. Ian Bailie said it is G5/4 and if GB move in relation to this NI will probably follow.
- 9.5 Marie-Therese Campbell advised that a summary was sent to the Regulatory Authorities regarding the Fail to Sync Notice. Billy Walker confirmed that NIAUR are liaising with the CER on this modification. Angela Blair and Denis McBride stated that the previous objections on consultations put forward still apply. Marie-Therese Campbell urged the regulators to approve this modification.

Action: Regulatory Authorities to review SONI’s summary re. Fail to Sync Notice and discuss with CER.

10. Any other business

- 10.1 The Chairperson noted that RoCoF was not on the agenda and asked if there are any issues. Denis McBride said that AES are getting further information in relation to this and they should have a quote by the end of February to share with SONI. Tom McCartan commented that there is an update due from SONI to the Regulatory Authorities in May. The Chairperson noted that a decision is awaited regarding classification of Units as well. Cathal Martin queried whether alternative solutions are being categorised. Tom McCartan said alternative solutions are to be shortlisted and a plan is to be put in place to show alternatives. Cathal Martin commented that the completion date should be the same. Tom McCartan advised that DS3 timelines are set out on the SONI website. Denis McBride said AES are awaiting clarity the shortlisting. Tom McCartan stated that a presentation on DS3 was given in November 2014 and contained details regarding the shortlisting process. AES were advised to check the DS3 website for information and contact SONI if required.

11. Arrangements for next meeting

13th May 2015 (Belfast)

