**MINUTES OF THE SONI GRID CODE REVIEW PANEL MEETING**

**Ballsbridge Hotel, Dublin**

**Tuesday 25 April 2017, 1.30- 2.30pm**

Present:

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| **Members/Alternates** | **Representing** | **Position on the GCRP** |
| Raymond Skillen | TSO | Chairperson |
| Sam Matthews | TSO | Member |
| Karen O’Doherty | TSO | Member |
| Conor O’Doherty | TSO | Member |
| Ciaran MacCann | Regulator | Member |
| Alan Kennedy | TSO | Observer |
| Denis McBride | Generator | Member |
| Brian Mongan | Generator | Alternate |
| Joseph Coyle | Generator | Alternate |
| Sam Gibson | Interconnector | Observer |
| Stephen Hemphill | Interconnector | Member |
| Tony McElroy | Generator | Member |
| Ronan McKeown | TO | Member |
| Mervyn Adams | Renewables | Member |
| Alastair Cooke | TSO | Observer |
| Eimear Watson | TSO | Observer |
| Ian Stevenson | TSO | Alternate |
| Leigh McCarthy | TSO | Secretary of the SONI GCRP |
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* 1. Chairperson’s Introduction to the Meeting

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

* 1. Apologies for absence

The Chairperson noted that apologies were received from Ian Bailie, Cathal Martin and Jody O’Boyle.

* 1. Minutes of the Grid Code Review Panel Meeting held on 11th October 2016

The Panel Members were asked if there were any further comments on the minutes from the previous SONI GCRP meeting in January 2017. There being no other comments, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved by the Panel.

* 1. Points arising from minutes
     1. The Chairperson noted the following actions from the previous meeting:
        1. Ian Stevenson to arrange the removal of clause CC5.3.4 from the website version of the Grid Code. This action is now closed.
        2. Ian Stevenson to modify the SONI website to ensure that Grid Code users read the Grid Code in conjunction with an up to date list of modifications. This action is now closed.
        3. The Secretary to contact NI suppliers, NIRIG, SEMO and the other TSO to discuss and evaluate interest in joining the GCRP. Details are still being gathered and this matter will be discussed in further detail later in the meeting.
        4. GCRP members to confirm alternate appointments. This action is now closed.
        5. SONI to confirm trigger for compliance with the RoCoF modification. This action is now closed. Karen O’Doherty confirmed that she has been in contact with Angela Blair to discuss this matter.
  2. Discussion Items
     1. ***Notice Required for Closure of Plant***
        1. The Chairperson advised the GCRP that this matter had been brought forward at the JGCRP by generators seeking an amendment to the Grid Code regarding the requirements for retirement of plant. SONI’s TSO licence requires it to periodically review the Grid Code and propose revisions for the achievement of objectives, one of which is the security of the NI transmission system. Sam Matthews stated his concern that there could be potential security issues in the event that the clause was removed from the Grid Code but it may be possible to allow the TSO some flexibility in specific circumstances. This would depend on the outcome of an All Island review carried out by the TSO’s and the RA’s which was proposed at the JGCRP. Denis McBride queried whether generators will be involved in further discussions on this matter and AES would favour an inclusive approach.

***Action: SONI to inquire if generators would be asked to participate in this review.***

* + 1. ***Controllability of Generation down to 1 MW***
       1. The Chairperson noted the proposal for a joint TSO/DNO working group to be set up in respect of this matter in NI. This was in light of the Requirements for Generators (RFG) Network Code and to maintain transmission system security. SONI would plan to bring forward a proposed revision of Grid Code to enable the TSO to achieve controllability of generation down to 1MW. This Joint TSO/DNO working group would address a number of technical issues involving controllability of generators in NI. SONI taking control allows more renewable generation to be connected to the system. Ronan McKeown confirmed that NIEN would be keen to engage on this issue, as they require visibility of that is happening on the Distribution System including the control of SS wind generation.

***Action: SONI to setup a Joint TSO/DNO working group to enable SONI to achieve controllability down to 1MW in NI.***

* 1. SONI Grid Code Modifications
     1. ***Metering Code***
        1. Alastair Cooke noted that a presentation was given regarding advanced metering reconciliation in January 2017. Following comments received at this meeting from GCRP members the text was amended prior to an open consultation. No responses were received to the consultation. The Regulators gave approval and modifications will be added to the next draft of the Grid Code.
     2. ***ISEM***
        1. The ISEM modification proposal was presented to the JGCRP meeting immediately preceding this SONI GCRP meeting and the TSOs indicated their intention to submit final drafts to the RAs for approval. As a result there was no need to repeat the entire presentation at this SONI GCRP. However, Alan Kennedy advised the GCRP that the SDC3 section of the Grid Code re. frequency related dispatch instructions re. CDGUs and Wind Farms requires alternative wording regarding signals and target frequency. This is just a factual correction and shouldn’t be contentious. Full details of this proposed amendment were included in the information pack provided to GCRP members on 10 April 2017.
     3. ***Over Installation/Zero Export update***
        1. Eimear Watson presented slides which are included in Appendix A below.
        2. Mervyn Adams asked if Registered Capacity is the same as the Ofgem term “Defined Network Capacity”.

***Action: Eimear Watson to confirm definition.***

* + - 1. The Chairperson confirmed that the working group for reducing controllability down to 1MW will not be all-island, just Northern Ireland.
      2. Mervyn Adams asked if zero export is different to “off grid”. Eimear Watson confirmed it is.
    1. ***Power Park Module consultation response discussion***
       1. The Chairperson confirmed that following the last GCRP meeting, SONI have engaged with Cathal Martin and Joe Duddy around comments RES submitted to the PPM consultation
       2. Karen O’Doherty presented slides which are included in Appendix B below.
       3. Brian Mongan noted there is currently no service for importing from batteries. The Chairperson noted that the wording should be changed to reflect when reactive power is being consumed. Karen O’Doherty noted that the definitions would be amended for clarity.
       4. Mervyn Adams suggested that a cross-reference should be included on the graph.
       5. Karen O’Doherty noted that if Registered Capacity is greater than 10MW the terms of the Grid Code will apply and the PPM modifications have been written in light of this rule. If there are changes in the future that alter this rule, requirements for large non-energy providing services providers may be different.
       6. Brian Mongan stated that as there was currently no System Service in place for this capability, plant may not be designed to achieve it. Karen O’Doherty clarified that technical capacity must be designed to comply with the Grid Code.
       7. Karen O’Doherty advised that the PPM modifications will only apply from November 2016 and will not have retrospective effect.
  1. Regulatory Updates
     1. Ciaran MacCann confirmed that there are no further updates in addition to those given at the JGCRP. One requested temporary derogation from a wind farm generator is currently being considered by the Utility Regulator, and is with the TSO for comment.
  2. Website Update
     1. Ian Stevenson confirmed this action is now closed. All updates have been made and all modifications and minutes included. SONI will continue to keep this up to date going forward.
  3. Grid Code Constitution Review
     1. The Chairperson noted the previous discussion on the GCRP composition. Ian Stevenson confirmed that the Grid Code Constitution will be reviewed and amended following consultation.
     2. Two applications for membership have been received from suppliers and the Utility Regulator will decide the appointment of a Member. Ciaran MacCann confirmed the Utility Regulator will review this.
     3. Ian Stevenson advised that RES representatives are being contacted via NIRIG. Mervyn Adams confirmed that NIRIG has approached members regarding PV and storage and should make progress regarding interest over the next few weeks.
     4. Ian Stevenson further advised that nominations have been received from SEMO. The other TSO did not believe it was necessary to appoint a Member to the GCRP. Applications for membership has been received from two potential DSM Members, these have also gone to the Utility Regulator for consideration.
     5. The Secretary advised that no Members will be appointed until the Constitution is amended to reflect the proposed revisions to membership. This will only be amended following consultation and approval from the Utility Regulator in accordance with the requirements of Condition 16 of SONI’s TSO licence.
     6. ***Action: UREGNI to confirm the successful supplier and DSM member.***
  4. Any other business

No other business was discussed.

* 1. Arrangements for next meeting

It is anticipated that the next SONI GCRP meeting will take place in Belfast. The date and venue will be confirmed at a later date.

Appendix A

[Slides to be included in the final pdf draft]

Appendix B

[Slides to be included in the final pdf draft]