

MINUTES OF THE SONI GRID CODE REVIEW PANEL MEETING

Ballsbridge Hotel, Dublin

Thursday 10th March 2016, 1.00pm -2.30pm

Present:

Members/Alternates	Representing	Position on the GCRP
Sam Matthews	SONI	Chairperson
Karen Creighton	SONI	Member
Tom McCartan	SONI	Alternate Member
Conor O'Doherty	SONI	Member
Brian Mongan	AES	Member
Billy Walker	NIAUR	Member
Ian Bailie	NIEN	Member
Mike Denny	Gaelectric	Observer
Raymond Skillen	SONI	Observer
Kevin McKeown	Gaelectric	Observer
Aidan Morris	Lightsource Renewable Energy	Observer
Cathal Martin	SSER	Member
Mick McGuckin	Mutual Energy Limited	Alternate Member
David Macartney	Energia	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: Denis Kelly, Jim Cooke and Tony McElroy.

3. Minutes of the Grid Code Review Panel Meeting held on 2nd December 2015

The Panel Members were asked if there were any further comments on the minutes from the previous SONI GCRP meeting in December 2015. 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 An action was noted from the previous meeting for Sam Matthews to circulate the proposed derogation process. This action is now closed.
- 4.1.2 SONI to look at the wording for the Outturn Availability modification. This action is now closed.
- 4.1.3 SONI to circulate a note on derogations to the GCRP. This action is now closed.
- 4.1.4 Sam Matthews to consider the timing of the Grid Code release updates. Changes to the Grid Code are required which have been outstanding since last year. Sam Matthews confirmed a new version of the Grid Code will be published following the introduction of the PPM modification.

Action: Sam Matthews to follow up.

5. Grid Code Modifications

5.1 PPM

- 5.1.1 Karen Creighton highlighted two high level topics that were addressed by consultation responses: definitions and energy storage. She is in the process of going through comments. Nothing confidential has been received so this will be published and sent to NIAUR for approval. Comments were received regarding the data and operation of energy storage, however there are some restrictions around storage at the minute i.e. systems etc. and changes will be required following I-SEM.

Action: SONI to send documents to NIAUR for approval before the next SONI GCRP meeting.

- 5.1.2 Karen Creighton noted that changes will be required to the Grid Code for I-SEM as well. She also noted the PPM GC modification references changes which were made

to the Trading and Settlement Code last December; however the Code has not been updated.

Action: SONI to send a link to the changes to the TSC.

- 5.1.3 Brian Mongan noted that “battery storage” is referred to rather than “energy storage” in the Trading and Settlement Code.
- 5.1.4 Sam Matthews asked when it was anticipated that a report would be provided to the RAs. Cathal Martin suggested that representation from NIRIG should be present if a meeting is held about this. Sam Matthews said this should be discussed with EirGrid as well. Karen Creighton said the report should be with the RAs by May.
- 5.1.5 Cathal Martin noted that not all technology is PPM and such other technology will need to be considered as well. The panel acknowledged this, however the current PPM modification was to enable connections of new technologies which are imminent.

5.2 ***Outturn Availability***

Karen Creighton stated that this matter is currently out for consultation. The consultation closes at the end of March. Brian Mongan said the workshop was helpful.

5.3 ***Dynamic Models***

Karen Creighton confirmed that documentation in respect of Dynamic Models is in the process of being finalised and may need to change to take account of PPM issues.

5.4 ***Retirement of Plant***

This modification has now been approved.

5.5 ***Discussion- Proposed over installation within a generation facility***

Slides presented and discussed by Mike Denny and Kevin McKeown.

- 5.5.1 Karen Creighton noted that registered capacity and MEC are used interchangeably in Grid Code, and in order to facilitate over installation this will need reviewed. This will need to be checked in the Grid Code.

Action: SONI to check the Grid Code.

- 5.5.2 Brian Mongan asked what the basis of firm access is. Karen Creighton confirmed this is MEC.
- 5.5.3 Ian Bailie said that the requirements to review must be processed in a fair manner. He noted that a queue exists and that Gaelectric have been arguing that installation of additional capacity should not be in the batch process.
- 5.5.4 Kevin McKeown requested that “total installed capacity” be specified. Karen Creighton noted that over installation is facilitated in ROI GC already. Cathal Martin states that NIRIG are proposing that SONI does not impose a cap in respect of this. Karen Creighton said that a CER decision dealt with this in RoI, and has imposed a 120% over installation cap.

Action: SONI to review the Grid Code re. overbuild to see if a change is required.

Action: Gaelectric to provide SONI with a tracked changed version of the Grid Code.

- 5.5.5 David Macartney queried whether a sub-group should be set up to discuss this ahead of the next GCRP meeting.

6. Working Groups

- 6.1 Sam Matthews said there is no update from the Network Codes Working Group.
- 6.2 Sam Matthews noted has been no meeting of the DSM Working Group.

7. Derogations

- 7.1 Sam Matthews advised that an email has been sent regarding derogation proposals.
- 7.2 Cathal Martin said this is welcome and aligns with the EirGrid process. Retrospection does not apply. Conor O'Doherty confirmed this is what SONI has been working on to date and that only minor changes have been made in respect of RoCoF. Karen Creighton said that setting a schedule is an example, if compliance is possible it should be done.
- 7.3 Cathal martin said that wind farms have to be diligent and asked if SONI would notify wind farms. Conor O'Doherty said SONI will be pragmatic about this. Cathal Martin said a cost benefit analysis will have to be done if something is applied retrospectively, following the introduction of RFG. Sam Matthews said a derogation should be sent directly to SONI rather than through NIAUR. Brian Mongan asked if both a generator and SONI would require a derogation. Karen Creighton confirmed both would. Cathal Marin said he would like know the benefit to SONI of retrospective application, on a case by case basis, as per the ROCOF modification.
- 7.4 Sam Matthews said these issues will be dealt with at the next meeting. Responses to Sam Matthew's email in respect of this should be sent by 29th April.

Action: Sam Matthews to discuss this further with Billy Walker.

8. New Release of Grid Code and WFSS

- 8.1 Sam Matthews noted that PPM requires an update to this.

9. Priority Dispatch

- 9.1 Sam Matthews and Billy Walker confirmed that no decisions have been made regarding priority dispatch.

Action: Sam Matthews to present this matter to the SEM Committee.

10. Regulator Update

- 10.1 Billy Walker noted a governance update is required. Sam Matthews queried if this would be done on an all-island basis.

11. Any other business

- 11.1 Leigh McCarthy asked the Panel to note the requirement of paragraph 5.4 of the Grid Code Constitution regarding retirement and appointment of members.

12. Arrangements for next meeting

Wednesday 11th May (Belfast)