

**Confirmed Minutes of the 57th Meeting of the
GB Distribution Code Review Panel**

3 September 2015

Meeting held via teleconference commencing at 1330.

Attendees:

| Name | | Company | Representing |
|-------------------|----|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Steve Cox | SC | Electricity North West | Chairman |
| David Spillett | DS | Energy Networks Association | Code Administrator |
| Graeme Vincent | GV | SP Energy Networks | DNO |
| Nigel Turvey | NT | Western Power Distribution | DNO |
| Graham Stein | GS | National Grid | OTSO |
| John Norbury | JN | RWE Trading GmbH | BM Generator |
| Garth Graham | GG | Energy UK | Non-BM Generator (alternate) |
| John Smart | JS | SSE | DNO |
| Saeed Ahmed | SA | GTC | IDNO |
| Steve Mockford | SM | UK Power Networks | DNO |
| Guy Nicholson | GN | Element Power | Non-BM Generator |
| Mike Kay | MK | Energy Networks Association | Guest (agenda item 5 & 6) |
| Franklin Roderick | FR | National Grid | Guest (agenda item 5) |

Apologies:

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Chris Alexander | Citizens Advice | Customers |
| Gareth Evans | Ofgem | Authority |
| Guy Phillips | E.ON | BM Generator |
| Kyle Martin | Energy UK | Non-BM Generator |

1. **Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed the Panel to the meeting. Apologies were noted.

2. **Minutes of previous DCRP meeting 04 June 2015 – DCRP 15 02 15**

The Panel agreed that the minutes of the above meeting were a true record and approved their publication to the Distribution Code website.

Action: DS

3. **Matters Arising**

All actions from the above previous meeting were either completed or included on the agenda.

4. **Grid Code Issues**

Referencing paper DCRP_15_03_02 SC provided the Panel with a brief summary update on the distribution code related issues of interest discussed at the recent Grid Code Review Panel meeting held on 15 July.

The Panel noted developments.

5. EU Network Codes

Referencing paper DCRP_15_03_03 MK updated the Panel on the latest progress of the EU Network Codes. The key updates were as follows;

Joint GC 0048 Joint GCRP/DCRP Workgroup on GB Application of the Requirement for Generators Network Code (RfG) (meetings 20/10 July and 18 August)

The Requirements for Generators (RfG) Network Code is still the most advanced of the Connection and Operational Codes. The July meeting of GC 0048 focussed on a line by line review of the published RfG draft and agreement about its detailed effects on GB documentation, mainly the Grid and Distribution Codes, Engineering Recommendations (ER) but also statutory legislation and licences. There is now a plan to take this review into next year to transpose into the necessary details for all the GB documents. As reported previously the WG are currently developing the draft text for the replacements for ER G59 and ER G83 as two separate documents but there is still the possibility of amalgamating them into one single document.

Demand Connection Network Code (DCC)

The latest draft of the DCC has yet to emerge from the commission. A new Joint GCRP/DCRP WG is being proposed to deal with the implementation of the DCC into GB (see below)

With the exception of the GC 0048 work on RfG, in general there has been little progress on other codes since the last update at the Panel meeting in June.

GG asked a question with regards to a passage of text at the foot of page three of DCRP_15_03_03 where it states that there is currently no proposal for the DCRP to publicly consult on the proposed structure of the new set of DCRP governed documents required as part of the implementation of RfG and was wondering if this is still appropriate. MK responded by informing the Panel that earlier in the year Ofgem had questioned the value of running such a consultation at that time so it had been put on hold. MK informed the group that the question of consultation will be kept under review as it is important that stakeholders are (a) aware of what the intention is with regards to any final proposed document structure and (b) that they are given the opportunity to provide feedback on any such proposals. GG responded by indicating he was happy that stakeholders would be given the chance to comment on any proposed structure.

All papers etc from the meetings of GC 0048 working group can be found at the following link: <http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Industry-information/Electricity-codes/Grid-code/Modifications/GC0048/>

Proposed Demand Connection Code (DCC) Joint Panel WG and draft Terms of Reference.

Referencing paper DCRP_15_03_04, FR updated the Panel on the proposal to form a Joint Panel DCC working group to progress any changes necessary to the Grid Code and Distribution Code,, to ensure alignment, to set national parameters as required in the codes, to help identify any other implementation tasks and to identify and engage with impacted industry stakeholders and involve them in this process. The first meeting of this new working group is proposed for 12 October. There was also a request for nominations to the work group.

The Panel agreed to the formation of the proposed Joint Panel working group. DNO nominations to the working group are to be forwarded to DS.

Action: All DNOs

6. **GC 0079 - Joint GCRP/DCRP Workgroup Frequency Changes during Large Disturbances**

Phase 1 - >5MW Settings Changes – DNO progress to date

DS provided an update on the current progress of the DNO implementation of the >5MW RoCoF Settings. The report presented the overall DNO progress to date as at the end of August 2015.

The Panel noted progress.

Phase 2 - <5MW Work Package Update

MK provided an update on the progress of the above workgroup who are investigating RoCoF protection changes to distributed generation protection settings at sites below 5MW. There are two aspects to this work. The first aspect is to research and understand what is connected in GB and to characterise it. This work by Ecofys is near completion and a final report is due to be published.

The second aspect is to understand the characteristics of the generation connected by undertaking research on representative samples of that small generation connected to understand its behaviour and risks in relation to changing RoCoF settings on this type of generation from current G59 settings upto 0.5 or 1 Hz per second. This work by University of Strathclyde is ongoing and a report of this work should be available by the end of September

When the reports are finally published they will be circulated to the Panel.

Action: DS/GS

GC0079 WG - Revised ToR

Referencing paper DCRP_15_03_05 MK informed the Panel that the Phase 2 work also included specific requirements to set a RoCoF withstand value for all new generating equipment (above 800W, ie all generation directly affected by the EU Network Code Requirements for all Generators (RfG)). In early thinking on the challenges of specifying a withstand value, it has become clear that there are allied concepts that need to be considered too. Paper DCRP_15_03_05 explains these and also includes a revised Terms of Reference for GC0079.

The DCRP noted the developments and approved the revised Terms of Reference.

Post meeting note these ToR revisions were not approved by GCRP.

7. **Joint Panel ERG5 WG – Progress update**

GS provided the Panel with a latest progress update report into the work to revise Engineering Recommendation G5. Due to a resourcing issue this work has been in a hiatus for a couple of months. GS informed the Panel that the resourcing problem has now been rectified and the working group will be reconvened in early November with new representation from National Grid.

As a result of the delay in the revision to G5 this has had a knock on effect to the publication of the Code of Practice. DS informed the Panel that final draft is going through a formal ENA sign off process and should be published in due course.

8. ENA Documents for revision– Sept progress update

Referencing paper DCRP_15_03_06 DS updated the Panel on the overall general progress of the revisions to a number of Distribution Code qualifying standards documents (ie annex 1 and appendix 2 documents). Key highlights were as follows;

Annex 1 Qualifying Standards

The revision to ER G59/3-2 (2015) was finally approved by the Authority and was published on the 1 September.

ER G12/4 underwent a public consultation on the proposed amendment relating to the provision of an earth electrode at S/L pillars. There were no adverse comments. Report to the Authority is being prepared.

Work revising ER P2 is progressing well with some initial findings presented to the WG on 20 July. Next meeting of the WG is 23 September. All minutes and progress reports are available at the D Code website - <http://www.dcode.org.uk/dcrp-er-p2-working-group.html>

Appendix 2 Qualifying Standards

Following approval by the Panel, ER G87 (2015) was published on 22 July.

ER G81 parts 1-7 are now complete and are ready to submit to the Panel for approval to publish. DS asked if he could circulate the documents via email for approval by the Panel prior to the next Panel meeting in December. The Panel agreed to this request.

Action: DS

DG Connection Guides – Revision to the Guides are now complete and ready for approval by the Panel. Similar to G81, DS requested permission to circulate the Guides via email for approval by the Panel prior to the next Panel meeting in December. The Panel agreed to this request.

Action: DS

ER P24 - First meeting of P24 Task Group held on 23/06/15. Meeting minutes and actions when agreed will be published to the D Code website. Revision of the document is underway. A debate initiated by the P24 Task Group on the ‘ownership boundary’ will be raised with the DNOs for further discussion.

9. New Distribution Code User Guide - DCRP 15 03 07

DS provided an update on the progress to develop a Distribution Code user guide. A near final draft of the user guide was circulated to the Panel for review and comment

The summary mapping table DCRP_15_03_07 was presented to the Panel to aid the review. The mapping table identifies the changes made to the D Code and how the relevant parts have been transferred to the User Guide.

DS kindly requested that the Panel review the Distribution Code user guide and provide feedback by close of business Monday 30 September.

Action: Panel**10. CMA Energy Market Investigation**

DS provided a brief update on papers DCRP_15_03_08 and DCRP_15_03_08a.

DCRP_15_03_08 is a report summarising the provisional finding of the CMA into its investigation into the Energy Market. The key issue for the Panel is the investigation into Industry Codes. In the investigation the CMA considered whether the current system of code governance delivers timely change needed to support competition, innovation and wider policy objectives.

The CMA have provisionally found **a combination of features of the wholesale and retail gas and electricity markets in Great Britain that are related to industry code governance and which give rise to an** adverse effect on competition through limiting innovation and causing the energy markets to fail to keep pace with regulatory developments and other policy objectives. These features are as follows:

- (a) parties' conflicting interests and/or limited incentives to promote and deliver policy changes; and
- (b) Ofgem's insufficient ability to influence the development and implementation phases of a code modification process.

In paper DCRP_15_03_08a the CMA sets out a series of possible remedies to address the above findings. In addition to the three potential remedies set out below, CMA has also invited submissions on any other remedies that stakeholders think may be required to improve the system of code governance.

Remedy 18a- Recommendation to DECC to make code administration and/or implementation of code changes a licensable activity.

Remedy 18b – Granting Ofgem more powers to project-manage and/or control timetable of the process of developing and/or implementing code changes

Remedy 18c – Appointment of an independent code adjudicator to determine which code changes should be adopted in the case of dispute

The CMA invited views on the effectiveness and proportionality of the three proposed remedies and also invited responses to a series of supporting questions. The responses from stakeholders can be found [here](#).

It is expected that the CMA's final report will be published sometime November – December 2015.

11. DP6.2 Equipment at the Ownership Boundary

Referencing paper DCRP_15_03_09 DS provided the Panel with an update on the progress to developing revised text with regards to DPC 6.2. Following discussions the Panel agreed to the recommendation to adopt option 1 but with the removal of reference to LV.

A Report to Authority would now be prepared and submitted on behalf of the Panel.

Action: DS

12. CACoP – Version 4 with new Principle 13

With reference to paper DCRP_15_03_10 DS updated the Panel on the publication of the latest version of the Code Administrators Code of Practice which now includes the new principle 13. The new principle will ensure Code Administrators conduct cross code coordination to progress changes efficiently where proposed modifications impact multiple Codes.

14. AOB

There was none.

15. DCRP Administrative Review

The Panel expressed that it was content with the manner in the operation of the Panel and the manner in which Panel business was discharged.

16. Date of next meeting

Next meeting is scheduled Thursday 3 December 2015 via Teleconference