

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

3 December 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
Paul Jewell	PJ	Western Power Distribution	DNO (alternate)
Graham Stein	GS	National Grid	OTSO
John Norbury	JN	RWE Trading GmbH	BM Generator
Kyle Martin	KM	Energy UK	Non-BM Generator (alternate)
John Smart	JS	SSE Power Distribution	DNO
Guy Phillips	SA	E.ON	BM Generator
Steve Mockford	SM	UK Power Networks	DNO
Alan Creighton	AC	Northern Powergrid	Observer
Martin Queen	MQ	Ofgem	Authority (alternate)

Apologies:

Chris Alexander	Citizens Advice	Customers
Gareth Evans	Ofgem	Authority
Saeed Ahmed	GTC	IDNO
Nigel Turvey	Western Power Distribution	DNO

1. **Introductions**

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

2. **Minutes of previous DCRP meeting 03 September 2015 – DCRP 15 03 11**

The Panel agreed that the minutes of the above meeting were a true record and approved 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_04_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 meetings held on 16 September and 25 November 2015.

Those issues included:

- ***SHET standards review*** - SHET have been reviewing and updating their standards but recognise that changes to the Electrical standards will affect a number of stakeholders, and are now proposing to adopt NG RES in the main with an accompanying SHET specific document to cover the areas of specific differences.
- ***GC 0087 Development of CG frequency response provisions*** - WG has suggested slightly revised ToR , key changes are picking up interaction with GC 0090 – DCC, GC0091 HVDC, GC0079 and GC0048 to keep all aligned and that no elements required by RfG are omitted.
- ***GC 0075 Hybrid Static Compensators paper*** – the issue relates to the GC definition of the requirement of ‘continuous’ voltage control on transmission connected generators; in particular the requirement for repeatability and frequency of delivery of reactive capability. DCRP to note for possible statcom provisions particularly the switching time requirements from unity to fully lagging or leading.
- ***GC 0023 Protection Fault Clearance times for new generators and distribution systems.*** - This modification addresses two protection issues which were first brought to the attention of the GCRP in 2008. The first issue refers to clarification of the wording associated with fault clearance times in CC.6.2.2.2.2 (a) and CC.6.2.3.1.1 (a). The second relates to provision of Generator Back-Up Protection ***defined within CC.6.2.2.2.2 (b) and co-ordination with NG backup protection.*** The consultation has received five responses and clarifications have been given. One item on applicability to DNOs is outstanding but should be closed soon. The report will proceed to the authority recommending approval.
- ***Grid code development forum*** – Latest proposed meeting cancelled due to lack of issues. Although latest meeting cancelled NG keen for the GCDF to continue.

The Panel noted Grid Code developments.

5. EU Network Codes

Referencing paper DCRP_15_04_03 DS updated the Panel on the latest progress of the EU Network Codes. The key updates related to progress on GB implementation of the Requirement for Generators Network Code and the Demand Connection Code;

Joint GC 0048 Joint GCRP/DCRP Workgroup on GB Application of the Requirement for Generators Network Code (RfG) (meetings 28 October and 19 November)

National Grid has revisited planning for the activities beyond Christmas and has shortened their plan to do the bulk of the work next year rather than the next two years. Their plan is to schedule two days per month, back to back, to work through all the elements of RfG alongside the Demand Connection Code and the HVDC Code as all of these will end up in the Connection Conditions of the Grid. There were some concern between members saying that two days a month will be inadequate, and others arguing for maximising the work that can be done between meetings and ensuring best use of meeting time.

Ofgem outlined some of the activities that they are undertaking in the short term – this was presented to the last JESG and promised to circulate the details – and include how to deal with multiple TSOs (as in GB), derogations and dealing with emerging technologies.

The bulk of the discussion was again given over to banding thresholds. NG is preparing a draft industry consultation paper by January GCRP; with a consultation immediately post the GCRP meeting. To date there has been no comments received on the draft ER G98 (the new ER G83).

Next meeting is scheduled 17 December

Full details and outputs of joint panel working group GC 0048 can be found at the following link: <http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Industry-information/Electricity-codes/Grid-code/Modifications/GC0048/>

GC0091 Joint GCRP/DCRP Workgroup on GB Application of Demand Connection Code (DCC)

The Joint Panel working group GC0091 held its first meeting on 20 November. Key issues that came out of this meeting were as follows –

- The draft terms of reference have been approved by both Grid and Distribution Code Panels.
- Potentially looks easier than RfG
- There is still some uncertainty as the application of the DCC eg DSR participants and DNO networks.
- Possible need to invite representatives to WG from EUK / Aggregators / Directly Connected Customers (Network Rail, TATA etc.) and CAB
- Need to understand the implications to the Operational Guidelines - there could be implications for parties signing up to DSR picking up obligations in the DCC and the Operational Guidelines
- DNOs need to do a mapping exercise across the DCC – Dcode

The Panel briefly discussed the applicability of the DCC to the connection of “new” distribution networks and also the use of Demand Side Response. JN informed the Panel that Ofgem have an action to clarify this issue of what is meant as a new distribution network. The issue relating to DSR is whether the DCC applies to new DSR services in existing networks or DSR in new distribution networks. Both issues to be clarified at the next meeting of GC0048

Next meeting of GC0048 is scheduled 8 December

GC 0048 – Five new Sub Working Groups

Referencing paper DCRP_15_04_04 DS provided a brief update on the proposal to set up five new GC 0048 sub WGs (modifications). The paper sets out the draft Terms of Reference for the five sub working groups reporting to GC 0048 whose task it will be to prepare specific Grid and Dist Code modifications that are required to implement the national parameters of the Requirement for Generators Network Code.

The Panel was asked to consider the draft ToR for each modification work group and provide any comments where necessary by 17 December.

Action: All Panel Members

EU Network Codes – Connection Codes Progress on the allocation of TSO responsibilities

Referencing paper DCRP_15_04_05 DS provided a brief update on the allocation of TSO responsibilities in relation to the EU Network Codes. As agreed at the October JESG, National Grid has undertaken the first run-through of allocating TSO responsibilities as per the Multiple TSO Clause. The excel spreadsheet contains the initial TSO allocation for all three Grid Connection Codes (RfG, HVDC, DCC) and Ofgem now welcome feedback, comments and/or

suggestions on National Grid's analysis. Please bear in mind that this is very much a first stage and National Grid fully expect there to be alterations and amendments to be made to the attached template before completion of the process. Following this stage, Ofgem will review the submissions and discuss with the relevant parties any conflicts that arise, before circulating a minded-to decision sometime towards the end of March 2016.

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

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

Referencing paper DCRP_15_04_06 DS provided an update on the current progress of the DNO implementation of the >5MW RoCoF Settings. The report highlights the DNOs 2015 Q4 progress with regards to the required changes to the RoCoF settings on sites with Power Stations > 5MW. The report presented two tables. The first table indicating progress of > 5MW connections since 2010 only and the second table indicating progress of all >5MW connections as at the end of November 2015. The Panel noted progress.

There was a brief discussion relating to what action can be taken against those generators who are not cooperating with the DNOs request to amend protection settings. It was agreed that SC GS DS and Ofgem (GE/MQ) would convene a short meeting to discuss what actions could be taken to ensure generators cooperate with the respective DNOs.

Action: SC/DS/GS/GE/MQ

Phase 2 - <5MW Work Package Update

GS 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. The workgroup is now reaching the end of its consideration in this area and it is expected that the work group will be in a position to publish its findings relating to protection settings on <5MW Stations in the New Year. This will also include a CBA.

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 completed and a report is now available.

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 December. The full workgroup report is scheduled for completion sometime February/March 2016.

Circulate the final Ecofys and UoS reports to the Panel.

Action: DS/GS

GC0079 WG - Revised ToR

Request to revise ToR. Following discussion GCRP suggested the ToR to be modified to consider withstand element from RfG and determine this first and then move to protection considerations. Any revision to ToR requires GCRP and DCRP approval as this is a joint WG. WG are currently developing revised TOR.

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. This problem has now been resolved and the working group are currently preparing a consultation draft which may be ready by the end of December.

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– Dec 15 progress update

Referencing paper DCRP_15_04_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

ER G12/4 - Report to Authority submitted 10 November.

Post Meeting Update: On 15 December the Authority directed that the proposed modification to the Distribution Code should be made.

ER P2 - The work continues to progress but slightly behind schedule due to the delay in DNO provision of data to consortium and finalising DNO/Consortium interviews. Draft report covering WS2.1 to WS2.6 works issued by Imperial College on 10 Nov 2015 to all DCRP P2 WG members for review and comment. The key conclusions from this report will feed into the WS2.9 draft options report. Further discussion and clarification on the 433 page Imperial College report to be held at meeting of the working group scheduled for 24/11. Although the final WS 2.7 report was complete and issued NERA has considered some late comments on the final report. A Stakeholder workshop is expected to take place late February or early March 2016 and the Panel will be informed when further details are available on any workshop dates venues etc.

Action: DS

All minutes and progress reports uploaded and available at the D Code - <http://www.dcode.org.uk/dcrp-er-p2-working-group.html>

Appendix 2 Qualifying Standards

ER G81 parts 1-7 - Ofgem has consented to the progress of the documents given no comments were received from the Electricity Connections Steering Group. Since last DCRP discussions in September a number of edits have been required. Final document will then be submitted to Panel for approval to publish. Expected to be submitted for Panel approval in January.

Action: DS

DG Connection Guides – Stakeholder consultation completed and subsequent revision to the guides completed. Since last DCRP meeting in September some further amendments were required to the Guides. The Consultants now working on producing final drafts that will be submitted to the Panel for final approval to publish

Action: DS

ER P24 - The details of the ownership debate were discussed again by the Task Group on 23/09/15 and it was suggested that DNO/TNO would be willing and agreeable to continue to own operate and maintain 25 kV assets as per the current P24 is but where new power electronics/developing technology are proposed for a connection by Network Rail , then careful consideration would be required and Network Rail ownership would be preferable.

The next meeting of the task group is scheduled for January 2016.

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

DS provided an update on the progress to develop a Distribution Code user guide. This guide is based on the Grid Code guide published by National Grid. A near final draft of the user guide was circulated to the Panel for review and comment and the panel was asked to provide feedback by 30 September. Subsequently comments were received and those comments were all accepted and the draft updated accordingly. The document is now ready to publish.

Action: Panel

10. Reports to Authority

DP6.2 - Equipment at the Ownership Boundary - Report to Authority was submitted 10 November. On 10 December the Authority directed that the proposed modification to the Distribution Code should be made.

Post Meeting Update: A revised version of the Distribution Code was published and applicable from 1 January 2016.

ER G12/4 - Clarification on the use of earth electrodes at SL pillars - Report to Authority was submitted 10 November. On 15 December the Authority directed that the proposed modification to the Distribution Code should be made.

Post Meeting Update: A revised version of the Engineering Recommendation G12/4 was published and applicable from 1 January 2016.

11. Ofgem's Code Governance Review – Public Consultation

Referencing paper DCRP_15_04_09 DS reminded the panel of the ongoing Public Consultation relating to Ofgem's Code Governance Review Ph3. In the consultation document Ofgem set out their Initial Proposals for the third phase of their Code Governance Review. The proposals build on reforms they have already introduced to improve code governance based on the arrangements and institutions currently in place. Ofgem recognise that more fundamental reform may be needed and in this regard and welcome that the CMA is exploring this, given that it has provisionally identified industry code governance as having an Adverse Effect on Competition as part of its ongoing Market Investigation Reference.

Ofgem's Initial Proposals are in line with their commitment to Better Regulation principles and to reducing regulatory burdens on industry while maintaining effective consumer protection. They cover four main areas: the SCR process; the self-governance process; code administration; and the governance arrangements for charging methodologies.

Ofgem are seeking stakeholder responses to their Initial Proposals by 18 December.

12 CACoP Update – Distribution Code Annual Report 2015

DS informed the Panel that under the requirements of Principle 13 of the Code Administrators Code of Practice it is intended that the D Code Administrator will undertake a customer satisfaction survey. The survey will be aimed at the Users of the D Code and also Members of the Panel. It is expected that the survey will commence December 18 through to January 22 2016. DS will update the Panel on the results of the survey at the next Panel meeting in March.

Action: DS

13. AOB

There was no additional business.

14. 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.

15. Date of next meeting

Thursday 10 March 2016 – Meeting at ENA

Meeting Dates for 2016:

Thursday 9 June – Teleconference

Thursday 8 September – Teleconference

Thursday 8 December - Teleconference

Meeting Dates for 2017

Thursday 9 March – Meeting at ENA

Thursday 8 June – Teleconference

Thursday 7 September – Teleconference

Thursday 7 December - Teleconference