



**ENGINEERING  
RECOMMENDATION  
P2/6**

**SECURITY OF SUPPLY**

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Energy Networks Association  
Engineering Directorate

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## SECURITY OF SUPPLY

### 1 INTRODUCTION

This Engineering Recommendation is a revision of Engineering Recommendation P2/5 (ER P2/5) issued in 1978, which it supersedes. It is intended as a guide to system planning.

ER P2/5 took into account the results of extensive reliability studies using fault statistics and risk analysis and the relationship of these to the costs of system reinforcements, including the effects on losses. ER P2/6 does not revisit these analyses; it simply replaces the previous Table 2, which related solely to large steam and Open Cycle Gas Turbine sets (that were prevalent at the time ER P2/5 was published in 1978), with a new Table 2 that takes account of modern types of Distributed Generation (DG). In addition to the new Table 2 the guidance on how to assess the security contribution from generation has been captured in a new ENA Engineering Technical Report, ETR130 [Ref 1]; this ETR also contains the references to the background work on the methodology and data capture that underlie the new Table 2.

With regard to the contribution to System Security afforded by DG, Table 2 provides deterministic values that will allow an assessment to be made. However, it may be necessary to carry out a more detailed assessment to determine the contribution from a particular DG plant. Guidance on how to conduct such a detailed assessment is contained in ETR 130 [Ref 1] and a computerised modelling program. The application guide for the modelling program is contained in ETR 131 [Ref 2]<sup>1</sup>.

### 2 RECOMMENDED LEVELS OF SECURITY

Table 1 sets out the normal levels of security required for distribution networks classified in ranges of Group Demand.

If it is known that higher voltage reinforcement is expected in the near future, the improvement in security resulting from this reinforcement may enable lower voltage reinforcement to be deferred<sup>2</sup>. Any departure from the recommended normal level of security defined in this document may require detailed risk and economic studies to be undertaken including any costs of generation operation. An instance where a departure would be justified is for Class E, where the characteristics of the demand curve are such that normal maintenance procedure would entail risk of consumer disconnection. In these cases earlier reinforcement would be required unless alterations to maintenance procedures could be made economically.

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<sup>1</sup> The modelling tool is run in Microsoft Excel ® 2000; it will not run in earlier versions.

<sup>2</sup> Such a deferment may require a derogation to be sought from Ofgem. Ofgem publishes guidance on the need for derogations on its website.

### 3 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Engineering Recommendation the following definitions apply.

NOTE: Defined terms are capitalised where they are used in the main text of this report.

#### **Circuit**

A Circuit is the part of an electricity supply system between two or more circuit breakers, switches and/or fuses inclusive. It may include transformers, reactors, cables and overhead lines. Busbars are not considered as Circuits and are to be considered on their merits.

#### **Circuit Capacity**

The appropriate cyclic ratings or, where they can be satisfactorily determined, the appropriate emergency ratings should be used for all Circuit equipment.

For First Circuit Outages, the Circuit Capacity will normally be based on the cold weather ratings, but if the Group Demand is likely to occur outside the cold weather period the ratings for the appropriate ambient conditions are to be used. Where the Group Demand does not decrease at the same rate as the Circuit Capacity (eg with rising temperature) special consideration is needed.

For Second Circuit Outages, in view of the proportions of Group Demand to be met in Table 1, the most appropriate ratings to use will usually be those for spring/autumn conditions.

“Classes of Supply” are defined in MW, but Circuit requirements should be assessed in MVA with due regard for generating plant MW sent out and MVA capability where appropriate.

#### **Declared Net Capability (DNC)**

The declared gross capability of a Distributed Generation (DG) plant, measured in MW, less the normal total parasitic power consumption attributable to that plant.

NOTE 1: Declared Net Capability (DNC) as used in this Engineering Recommendation should not be confused with declared net capacity (DNC) as used in the Electricity Act and Statutory Instrument 2001 3270.

NOTE 2: For the purpose of this definition the term “parasitic power consumption” refers to the electrical demand of the auxiliary equipment, which is an integral part of the DG, essential to the DG’s operation. For the avoidance of doubt “parasitic power consumption” does not include demand supplied by the DG to an on-site customer.

NOTE 3: The DNC of Intermittent Generation is taken as the aggregate nameplate capacity of all the units within the DG plant, less any parasitic load.

#### **Distributed Generation (DG)**

A generating plant connected to the distribution network, where a generating plant is an installation comprising one or more generating units.

#### **Distribution Network Operator (DNO)**

The organisation that owns and/or operates a distribution network and is responsible for agreeing the connection of DG to that network. A DNO might also be referred to as a Distributor.

### **First Circuit Outage (FCO)**

Signifies a fault or an arranged Circuit outage, but in classes C to F supplies to consumers should not be interrupted by arranged outages.

### **Generation Unit Load Factor**

$$\frac{\text{Total electrical energy sent-out by the unit per year (MWh)}}{8760(\text{h}) \times \text{Declared Net Capability of the unit (MW)}}$$

### **Generator**

A person who generates electricity under licence or exemption from Section 4.1(a) of the Electricity Act 1989 or the Electricity (Northern Ireland) Order 1992.

### **Group Demand**

The DNO's estimate of the maximum demand of the group being assessed for ER P2/6 compliance with appropriate allowance for diversity. The Group Demand at grid supply points must be consistent with the demand data submitted to a transmission company under the terms of the GB Grid Code.

NOTE: Further advice on estimating Group Demand for groups containing DG is given in ETR 130 [Ref 1].

### **Intermittent Generation**

Generation plant where the energy source of the prime mover can not be made available on demand.

### **Non-intermittent Generation**

Generation plant where the energy source for the prime mover can be made available on demand.

### **Persistence ( $T_m$ )**

$T_m$  represents the minimum time for which an Intermittent Generation source is expected to be capable of continuously generating for it to be considered to contribute to securing the Group Demand.

NOTE: The treatment of Persistence is considered more fully in ETR 130 [Ref 1].

### **Second Circuit Outage (SCO)**

Signifies a fault following an arranged Circuit outage.

NOTE: The recommended levels of security are not intended at all times to cater for a first fault outage followed by a second fault outage or for a simultaneous double fault outage. Nevertheless, in many instances, depending upon switching and/or loading/generating arrangements, they will do so.

### **System Security**

The capability of a system to maintain supply to a defined level of demand under defined outage conditions.

### **Transfer Capacity**

The capacity of an adjacent network which can be made available within the times stated for the First and Second Circuit Outages in Table 1. Transfer Capacity will be limited by Circuit Capacity or other practical limitations on power flow associated with the outage(s) in question.

#### 4 CAPABILITY OF A NETWORK TO MEET DEMAND

- a. The existence and possible provision of Transfer Capacity should always be considered when assessing the need for reinforcement.
- b. The capability to meet a Group Demand after First and Second Circuit Outages should be assessed as:
  - The appropriate cyclic rating of the remaining transmission or distribution Circuits which normally supply the Group Demand, following outage of the most critical Circuit (or Circuits); plus
  - Transfer Capacity which can be made available from alternative sources; plus
  - For demand groups containing DG, the contribution of the DG to network capacity as specified in Table 2.
- c. Note that the assessed capacity may need to be reduced to ensure that, under normal running conditions, equipment is not loaded to a point where it would suffer loss of life.
- d. Table 2 sets out the contribution to System Security expected from DG connected within a demand group; see ETR 130 [Ref 1] for background notes and guidance on application. This contribution depends on the DG plant availabilities and operating régimes.
- e. When using this Engineering Recommendation to assess the contribution from DG, it is recommended that account is taken of the forecast operating plans and probable operating régimes and capabilities of the DG plant.
- f. When using Table 2, and the supporting tables, to identify the contribution to System Security afforded by a particular DG plant, there are two considerations that need to be taken into account:
  - 1) Table 2 provides a simple analysis that will produce a result within the confidence level of the data used to derive that Table.
  - 2) In the event that it is necessary to carry out more detailed analysis or if the type of DG under consideration is not listed under Table 2, reference should be made to the guidance given in ETR 130 [Ref 1].
- g. It is a requirement that the loss of a DG contribution should never have a greater impact on System Security than the loss of a Circuit(s). This requirement is tested by comparing the capacity of the largest Circuit(s) with the contribution from each DG. For Non-intermittent Generation the DG contribution is assessed using the data in Table 2-3. This specifies the number of generating units (N) in a multi-unit plant that are equivalent in reliability terms to a First Circuit Outage (FCO). Intermittent generators are considered as single units for this evaluation. The tests that must be met for each DG are that:
  - the cyclic rating of the largest transmission or distribution Circuit supplying the Group Demand is greater than the contribution of either; the N largest DG units for Non-intermittent Generation; or the DG capability for Intermittent Generation; and

- the cyclic rating of the two largest transmission or distribution Circuits supplying the Group Demand is greater than the contribution of the N+1 largest DG units for Non-intermittent Generation.

For this assessment the total contribution of the DG is calculated as F% (as defined in Tables 2-1 and 2-2) of the DNC. N is the number of Non-intermittent generation units equivalent to a FCO, as specified in Table 2-3. Further guidance on the assessment of DG, and its treatment both where these assumptions are not valid (ie where the DG is dominant), and where generation should be discounted on a de-minimis basis, is given in ETR 130 [Ref 1].

- h. For generation contributions to count towards System Security it is essential that all other technical issues (eg protection stability, fuel supply control etc) and commercial issues (eg operating régime) are fully considered. Further guidance is given in the ETR 130 [Ref 1].



Table 1

Class of supply	Range of Group Demand	Minimum demand to be met after		Notes
		First Circuit Outage	Second Circuit Outage	
A	Up to 1MW	In repair time: Group Demand	Nil	Where demand is supplied by a single 1000kVA transformer the "Range of Group Demand" may be extended to cover the overload capacity of that transformer.
B	Over 1MW and up to 12MW	(a) Within 3 hours: Group Demand minus 1MW (b) In repair time: Group Demand	Nil	
C	Over 12MW and up to 60MW	(a) Within 15 minutes: Smaller of (Group Demand minus 12MW); and 2/3 of Group Demand (b) Within 3 hours: Group Demand	Nil	Group Demand will be normally supplied by at least two normally closed Circuits or by one Circuit with supervisory or automatic switching of alternative Circuits.
D	Over 60MW and up to 300MW	(a) Immediately: Group Demand minus up to 20MW (automatically disconnected) (b) Within 3 hours: Group Demand	(c) Within 3 hours; For Group Demands greater than 100MW: Smaller of (Group Demand minus 100MW); and 1/3 Group Demand (d) Within time to restore arranged outage: Group Demand	A loss of supply not exceeding 60 sec is considered as an immediate restoration. The Recommendation is based on the assumption that the time for restoration of Group Demand after a Second Circuit Outage will be minimised by the scheduling and control of planned outages, and that consideration will be given to the use of rota load shedding to reduce the effect of prolonged outages on consumers.
E	Over 300MW and up to 1500MW	(a) Immediately: Group Demand	(b) Immediately: All consumers at 2/3 Group Demand (c) Within time to restore arranged outage: Group Demand	The provisions of Class E apply to infeeds to the distribution system but not to systems regarded as part of the interconnected Supergrid to which the provisions of Class F apply. For the system covered by Class E consideration can be given to the feasibility of providing for up to 60 MW to be lost for up to 60 seconds on First Circuit Outage if this leads to significant economies. This provision is not intended to restrict the period during which maintenance can be scheduled. The provision for a Second Circuit Outage assumes that normal maintenance can be undertaken when demand is below 67%. Where the period of maintenance may be restricted paragraph 3 of section 2 applies.
F	Over 1500 MW	In accordance with the relevant transmission company licence security standard		

**Table 2**

<b>Type of Distributed Generation</b>	<b>Contribution</b> (see Note 1 below)
Generation as listed in Tables 2-1A and 2-1B	F % of DNC
Generation as listed in Tables 2-2A and 2-2B	F % of DNC (see Note 2 below)
Plant operating for 8 hours (see Note 3 below)	Smaller of value derived from relevant row above; or 11 % of Group Demand
Plant operating for 12 hours (see Note 3 below)	Smaller of value derived from relevant row above; or 12 % of Group Demand

NOTE 1: The contributions derived from this table apply from the point of time when the DG is connected or reconnected to the demand group following the commencement of an outage. This may be immediately if the DG does not trip, otherwise it will be from the point of time when the DG is reconnected.

NOTE 2: The value derived applies to the complete DG plant irrespective of the number of units.

NOTE 3: The values in these two rows assume that the operating period is such that operation spans the peak demand, and the demand at start-up is the same as the demand at shut-down, ie operation is symmetrically placed on the daily load curve. If these conditions do not apply, the contribution could be optimistic (eg at one extreme, the contribution would be zero if the operating period did not span the peak demand at all), in which case the generation ought to be treated as a special case and therefore subject to detailed studies to assess the expected level of contribution – See ETR 130 [Ref 1].

**Table 2-1 F factors in % for Non-intermittent Generation**

The F factors for non-intermittent generation are related directly to the number of units in the generating station. It is assumed that the energy source for the prime mover is available on demand so that Persistence does not need to be considered.

Table 2-1A High confidence data

<b>Type of generation</b>	<b>Number of units</b>									
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10+</b>
Landfill gas	63	69	73	75	77	78	79	79	80	80
CHP sewage treatment using a spark ignition engine	40	48	51	52	53	54	55	55	56	56

Table 2-1B Sparse data

Type of generation	Number of units									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+
Waste to energy	58	64	69	71	73	74	75	75	76	77
CCGT	63	69	73	75	77	78	79	79	80	80
CHP sewage treatment using a Gas Turbine	53	61	65	67	69	70	71	71	72	73

NOTE: This table is provided for guidance, however the data sets used to create this table have limited statistical robustness and the DNO should take care when using these F factors for these types of generation. It is preferable to seek site specific data when looking to assess the contribution to System Security from the types of DG listed in this table.

**Table 2-2 F factors in % for Intermittent Generation**

The F factors for Intermittent Generation are related directly to the period of continuous generation (ie Persistence) and are not affected by the number of units at an individual site.

NOTE: Recommended values of  $T_m$  are shown in Table 2-4.

Table 2-2A High confidence data

Type of generation	Persistence, $T_m$ (hours)							
	½	2	3	18	24	120	360	>360
Wind farm	28	25	24	14	11	0	0	0

Table 2-2B Sparse data

Type of generation	Persistence, $T_m$ (hours)							
	½	2	3	18	24	120	360	>360
Small hydro	37	36	36	34	34	25	13	0

NOTE 1: The “small hydro” DG plants used to produce Table 2-2B were all rated below 1MW with water storage.

NOTE 2: This table is provided for guidance, however the data sets used to create this it have limited statistical robustness and the DNO should take care in establishing appropriate F factors for this type of generation. It is preferable to seek site specific data when looking to assess the contribution to System Security from a small hydro DG plant.

**Table 2-3 Number of DG units (N) contributing to FCO**

Type of generation	Number of units									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+
Landfill gas	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3
CCGT	1	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3
CHP sewage treatment, using a spark ignition engine	1	2	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	7
CHP sewage treatment using a Gas Turbine	1	2	2	3	3	3	4	4	4	4
Waste to energy	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	4	4
Wind farm	1 (see Note below)									
Small hydro	1 (see Note below)									

NOTE: For Intermittent Generation N is assumed to be 1 in all cases because the DNC used to determine the contribution to System Security is the DNC of the complete plant.

**Table 2-4 Recommended values for  $T_m$**

This table provides recommended values for  $T_m$  for three system conditions that may apply at the time that an infeed is lost. For example, "Switching" values apply where the DG contribution is only required for the time necessary to reconfigure the system by switching operations.

P2/6 demand class	Switching (see Note 1 below)	Maintenance	Other outage (see Note 2 below)
A (FCO)	N/A	N/A	N/A
B (FCO)	3 hours	2 hours	24 hours
C (FCO)	3 hours	18 hours	15 days
D (FCO and SCO) (see Note 3 below)	3 hours (see Note 4 below)	24 hours	90 days
E (FCO and SCO) (see Note 3 below)	N/A	24 hours	90 days

NOTE 1: Switching values for  $T_m$  are only appropriate where sufficient Transfer Capacity exists within the times specified in ER P2/6 Table 1.

NOTE 2: Examples of "other outage" are an unplanned outage or an outage as part of a major project.

NOTE 3: SCO only applies for demands greater than 100MW.

NOTE 4: FCO only applies where compliance is achieved by automatic demand disconnection of 20MW or less.

## REFERENCES

1. Engineering Technical Report 130: Application Guide for Assessing the Capacity of Networks Containing Distributed Generation.
2. Engineering Technical Report 131: Analysis Package for Assessing Generation Security Capability – Users' Guide.