

Confirmed Minutes of the 60th Meeting of the GB Distribution Code Review Panel

2nd June 2016

Meeting held at ENA 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
Kate Dooley	KD	Energy UK	Non-BM Generator (alternate)
John Smart	JS	SSE Power Distribution	DNO
Sotiris Georgiopoulos	SM	UK Power Networks	DNO
Alan Creighton	AC	Northern Powergrid	Observer
Martin Queen	MQ	Ofgem	Authority (alternate)
Saeed Ahmed	SA	GTC	IDNO

Apologies:

Kyle Martin	Energy UK	Non-BM Generator
John Norbury	RWE Trading GmbH	BM Generator
Guy Phillips	E.ON	BM Generator

1. Introductions

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

Despite the considerable efforts previously made there were still some concerns that the meeting representation was network operator biased with limited generator representation. It was also noted that despite numerous invitations there was still no representative from customer's representatives Citizens Advice attending the meeting. DS will contact CA again and will also write to all non-network operator representatives regarding future attendance.

Action: DS

2. Minutes of previous DCRP meeting March 2016 – DCRP 16 01 07

Following circulation of draft minutes several minor comments were submitted. It was agreed that the minutes should be revised to include the proposed changes. With those changes made the Panel therefore accepted that the minutes were a true record and they should be published 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.

DCode

DCRP_16_02_08

4. Grid Code Issues

Referencing paper DCRP_16_02_02, AC provided the Panel with a brief summary update on the key distribution code related issues of interest discussed at the recent Grid Code Review Panel meeting held on 18 May 2016.

Those issues included:

4.1 Energy Storage - The lack of transparency of the requirements in the Grid Code that Energy Storage systems need to comply with is becoming an increasing issue. There are probably DCode issues as well although this hasn't been raised at DCRP yet, but the proposal at the moment is to establish a joint GCRP and DCRP WG.

4.2 Relevant Electrical Standards - There was a further debate on the Relevant Electrical Standards (RES) and whether there should be common standards not just in terms of connection to the Transmission System (i.e. the 275kV NG system in England & Wales and the 132kV system in Scotland) but also for connections to the 132kV Distribution System as this would be easier for developers of larger generation installations. The focus so far has been on connections to the TO systems, but there was mention of the 6 DNOs also coming up with common set of plant standards. See section 10 for further details.

4.3 Notification Insufficient Sufficiency Margin - NGET is considering to rename the Notification Insufficient Sufficiency Margin warning to System Margin Notice primarily to try to minimise the risk of warnings being misinterpreted by the press.

4.4 OC6 – There was a discussion on NGET's thought on using OC6.7.1 Emergency Instructions to turn DG generators off. A development to watch out for. This will be discussed at the forthcoming GCDF and the Panel wanted to ensure that any instructions would be issued on a last recourse action. DNOs will be represented at the GCDF and will feed in to the discussion the thoughts and view of the Panel.

Action: DS/GV

The Panel noted developments.

5. EU Network Codes

5.1 Referencing paper DCRP_16_02_03 DS updated the Panel on the latest progress and developments 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. Full details of the latest progress of each individual code can be found in paper 16_02_03.

Referencing paper DCRP_16_02_03a DS provided the Panel with an update on the proposal to establish a new GB implementation workgroup for the Transmission System Operation Guideline (TSOG) network code. Following a brief discussion the DCRP approved the proposal and members will now be sought to represent the distribution network operators. DS will inform GC0048 of the decision.

Action: DS

There was reference in the paper to Low Frequency Demand Disconnection (LFDD). The Panel briefly discussed this topic and it was referenced that there is some work underway investigating LFDD. This work may be either a GCode work item or indeed may sit with the ENA Transmission and Distribution Interface WG. DS will investigate and report back to the Panel.

Action: DS

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

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

Referencing paper DCRP_16_02_04 DS provided an update on the current progress of the DNO implementation of the >5MW RoCoF settings changes. The report highlights the DNOs 2016 Q2 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 and the second table indicating progress of all >5MW connections. The programme of all changes is currently just over 70% complete the deadline for the completion of the programme of retrospective changes remains 1st August 2016.

There were further discussions relating to what further actions DNOs can take to encourage those generators who have not yet amended their protection settings. The DNOs each provided a update on progress and actions they have taken to get the remaining generators to comply. MQ suggested that the DNOs produce a report which highlights the consolidated key actions taken to date and also identify the best practice DNOs have taken/used to try to get those Generators who have so far not complied with their obligations to change the RoCoF protection settings.

Action: DNOs/DS

Following some additional discussions relating to possible DNO Ofgem derogations it was suggested by one DNO that this may not be a possible course of action. It was agreed that the DNOs would summarise their legal position on the derogation process.

Action: SC/DS

As a result of these discussions it was suggested that the following actions should be taken:

1. DNOs to continue with the settings change programme with the aim of trying to complete all changes by 1/8/16
2. The workgroup GC0079 needs to be made aware of the problems associated with this Phase1 programme and what the possible repercussions are for Phase 2 of work and ensure they are considered in ToR.
3. A letter will be circulated to all relevant generator trade associations informing them of the problems and potential consequences of non-compliance with the settings change programme.

Action: DNOs

Action: GS

Action: ENA

6.2 Revised Terms of Reference for joint Panel workgroup GC0079 (for approval by Panel)

Referencing paper DCRP_16_02_04a, GS provided the Panel with the background and reasons as to why there is a need to amend the ToR for GC0079. In general the amendment involves removing work associated with RoCoF withstand from WG GC0079 and including it within the remit of WG GC 0087. Following discussion there was still some significant concerns from the DCRP reps regarding proposals for the implementation of the Phase 2 < 5MW programme. The Panel rejected the amended ToR as they did not include the necessary implementation plan detailing how the Phase 2 programme would ensure completion by the required date. GS agreed to feed this back to the GC0079 WG and would recommend further improvements to the TOR in particular section 9(1) of the draft ToR thus addressing to some degree the DCRP concerns. QA commented that it was important that before any suggested change was present to the Authority there would need to be further work to outline a viable implementation plan.

Although the ToR were not approved by the Panel without amendment to 9(1) the Panel would like to see the work of GC 0079 continue.

Action: GS

6.3 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 currently trying to complete the CBA which is indicating that the work should proceed to revise the settings for <5MW generation. The WG have an outstanding query with Ofgem with regards to the depth the WG needs to go in relation to the funding and commercial arrangements of any future change programme. The workgroup also needs to be made aware of these problems associated with the Ph1 programme and what the possible repercussions are for the Ph2 work.

A final workgroup report should be available late June.

The Panel noted progress.

7. ER P2 Revision – Progress update

DS provided a brief update on progress of the revision to ER P2. Currently there is a public consultation underway requesting stakeholders to respond to the proposed options identified by the consortium. The consultation closed 12 June.

8. ENA Documents for revision– June 16 progress update

8.1 Referencing paper DCRP_16_02_05 DS updated the Panel on the general progress of the revisions to a number of Distribution Code qualifying standards documents (ie annex 1 and appendix 2 documents).

The Panel noted progress.

9. Ofgem CGR3 Implementation of Code Governance Review Phase 3 Final Proposals

9.1 Ofgem CGR3 Final Proposals Presentation

Unfortunately Ofgem were unable attend the meeting and this item was held over until the next Panel meeting in September.

Action: Ofgem/DS

9.2 Ofgem CGR3 Letter to Code Administrators

Referencing paper DCRP_16_02_06a DS briefly updated the Panel on the purpose of Ofgem's letter. The letter sets out Ofgem's CGR3 Final Proposals and a high level framework against which the code bodies will need to deliver. The next steps are for the code panels and administrators to develop options, proposals and recommendations and coordinate, as appropriately with each other to do so. Ofgem would welcome being kept informed of progress and being involved in discussions as necessary. In the annex to the letter there is a summary of the key requirements of the code bodies in taking forward implementation of Ofgem's CGR3 proposals.

Ofgem has requested that Code Administrators provide them with a plan to implement the CGR3 Final Proposals in respect of the Distribution Code. Ofgem expect the plan to include an outline of how the Code Administrator and the Panel expect to implement these proposals, particularly where there is a need for the industry Code Administrators to work together. The response should also include a timetable for implementation and the plan needs to be submitted to Ofgem by Friday 3 June 2016.

Post meeting note – A revised response was submitted to Ofgem on behalf of the Panel by the D Code Administrator and a copy is attached with these notes.

Action: DS

9.3 Code Administration response to Ofgem letter

Referencing DCRP_16_02_06b, DS provided the Panel with an update on the proposed draft response to Ofgem's letter. This was subsequently revised and submitted to Ofgem on 3 June. See 9.2 above.

The Panel noted the contents of the proposed response and consented to the submission of the letter.

9.4 CACoP data metrics questions and guidance

Referencing DCRP_16_02_06c DS updated the Panel on the new guidance issued by Ofgem for Code Administrators to use when submitting the quarterly progress reports. This document sets out the necessary guidance for code administrators to complete the CACoP Data Metrics. It should also assist interested parties in understanding the CACoP Data Metrics. The aim of this guidance is to ensure that all data is collected in a consistent manner from all code administrators.

The Panel noted the new CACoP data metrics questions and guidance.

10 GC 0094 Relevant Electrical Standards

Referencing paper DCRP_16_02_07 FR provided the background to the paper. Electrical standards contain the technical specifications, policies and procedures that must be complied with by all Users connected to or seeking connection to the Electricity Transmission System. These standards are owned by the Transmission Owners – National Grid for England & Wales and SHE Transmission and SP Transmission for Scotland. Similar standards are owned by the Distribution Network Operators in England & Wales and Scotland which Users have to comply with if they wish to connect to the Distribution System. A question was raised regarding the current regional differences in standards and how they apply to the Users at their connection points. The paper sets out options to align the standards.

The three options proposed:

- The Scottish TOs adopt the England & Wales standards (the RES) and create interface documents detailing any remaining differences. While a viable solution this does require work to keep up to date.
- Create a core set of standards for the Transmission System. This potentially leads to an inconsistency of application at 132kV.
- Undertake a wider review of the Transmission and Distribution standards together to create a core set of standards. These standards could be held by the Energy Networks Association (ENA). Variations to the standards will be subject to justification.

Following discussion the view of the Panel was that there appeared to be no justification to undertake any work to align Distribution electrical standards; as Panel members were not aware of any customer or user concerns. The Panel therefore suggested that any work to review the standards should be focused on transmission RES. FR will feedback to GCRP the views and decision of the Panel.

Action: FR

11. AOB

Future meetings – It was suggested that all future meeting should be arranged via use of Outlook meeting appointments. DS agreed to send out meeting invites for all future meetings.

Action: DS

12. DCRP Administrative Review

DCode

DCRP_16_02_08

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.

13. Date of next meeting

Thursday 8 September 2016 – Teleconference

Meeting Dates for 2016:

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