

Grid Code - Workgroups



June 2017

Grid Code

Who can propose a change to Grid Code?

A proposal to modify the Grid Code may be made:

- a) by **any User**; any **Authorised Electricity Operator** liable to be materially affected by such a proposal; the **Citizens Advice** or the **Citizens Advice Scotland**; or
- b) by the **Grid Code Panel** (Under GR.25.5); or
- c) by the **Authority**:
 - i. following publication of its **Significant Code Review** conclusions; or
 - ii. under **GR.17**; (*The Authority may develop a **Authority-Led Modification** in respect of a Significant Code Review, in accordance with the procedures set out in this GR.17*)
or
 - iii. in order to **comply with or implement the Electricity Regulation** and/or any relevant legally binding **decisions** of the **European Commission** and/or the **Agency**.

The term “User” in the Governance Rules ‘shall mean any person who is under any obligation or granted any rights under the Grid Code’.

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Proposer Ownership

All modification proposals to Grid Code will be:

- **'Proposer Ownership'** which means that once raised by a party **no one else can amend their Proposal** (Objectives (the reason for the change) and solution).
- The Proposer should **indicate their preferred governance route** (including justification) as detailed on the Modification Proposal Form, i.e. Self-Governance, Requiring Authority decision, Urgent criteria and Fast Track
- The Proposer representative will be **responsible** for presenting their Proposal at the Panel **as well as attending Workgroup meetings** to support in writing the **Workgroup Report**.
- The **Code Administrator** will be responsible for writing (as required) the **Grid Code Modification Report to the Authority**

Any current Modification which has not been submitted to the Authority will be progressed under the new Governance Rules.

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Establishment of a Workgroup

- Following a review of a new Modification, if the Grid Code Review Panel (GCRP) has decided not to proceed directly to a wider consultation a **Workgroup will be established** to:
 - evaluate whether a **Grid Code Modification Proposal better facilitates** achieving the **Grid Code Objectives**
 - whether an **Alternative Grid Code Modification(s)** would, as compared with the Grid Code Modification Proposal, better facilitate achieving the Grid Code Objectives
- Based on the GCRP decision **Self-Governance, Normal and Urgent Modifications** can all be progressed though establishing of a **Workgroup** (Fast Track Modifications would not go to Workgroup).
- A single Workgroup may be responsible for the evaluation of more than one Grid Code Modification Proposal at the same time

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Setting a Modification timetable

- **GCRP** and **Code Administrator** shall together establish a **timetable** to apply for the Grid Code Modification Proposal process, taking into account the **complexity, importance and urgency** of the modification
- When setting the **timetable for Modifications**, the GCRP and Code Administrator have the following obligations:
 - Panel establish the part of the timetable for the **Workgroup phase**, which shall be **no longer than six months** (the Panel and/or Authority has the option to object against any requested extensions)
 - **Code Administrator** constructs the **timeline for the Code Administrator Consultation and preparation of the Grid Code Modification Report** to the Authority (normally a two month phase)
- GCRP have the option to amalgamate Grid Code Modifications, where the subject matter is sufficiently proximate.

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Workgroup Terms of reference

- The GCRP shall determine the **terms of reference of each Workgroup** and may change those terms of reference from time to time as it sees fit.
- The **terms of reference of a Workgroup must include** provision in respect of the following matters:
 - the **timetable for the work to be done by the Workgroup**, in accordance with the overall timetable;
 - the **length of any Workgroup Consultation**;
 - those areas of a Workgroup's powers or activities which require the prior approval of the GCRP and
 - the seeking of instructions, clarification or guidance from the GCRP, including on the suspension of a Workgroup Alternative Grid Code Modification(s) during a Significant Code Review Phase.

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Workgroup Key Points – page 1

- A Workgroup shall comprise of at least **five persons**
- Selected by the GCRP from those **nominated by Users or Citizens Advice** for their **relevant experience/expertise** in the areas forming the subject-matter of the Grid Code Modification Proposal(s) and it is the responsibility of the GCRP to **ensure appropriate representation from a cross-section of affected parties**
- Unless the GCRP otherwise determines; **meetings of each Workgroup shall be open to attendance by a representative of any User**, (including any Authorised Electricity Operator; NGET or a Materially Affected Party), the Citizens Advice, the Citizens Advice Scotland and any person invited by the chairperson

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Workgroup Key Points - page 2

- A **representative of the Authority** may attend any meeting of a Workgroup as an observer and may speak at such meeting
- Always be at least **one member representing NGET**
- If the GCRP or Code Administrator is of the view that a Modification Proposal is likely to have an **impact on another Code**; the GCRP may invite another Code Panel to appoint a representative to become a member of the Workgroup
- **Code Administrator** shall in consultation with the GCRP appoint the chairperson of the Workgroup who shall act impartially and as an **independent chairperson**

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Single Workgroup Day

- To align approaches between the GCRP and Workgroup, normal practice will be that all **Grid Code Workgroups** and the **Grid Code Development Forum (GCDF)** will be aligned to take place on a **single day**
- In order to facilitate this change all **pre-reading material** will be circulated for comment **5 working days prior to the meeting**
- The **Code Administrator** will Chair and provide a Technical Secretary for the GCDF and Workgroup as **back to back meetings** on **one day**.
- The expectation for **all** Workgroup members will be to have **completed pre-reading** in order to focus discussion on industry participants queries of the Proposed Modification Solution.
- The **Workgroup Report** content will be **owned and developed** by all **Workgroup Members** with the expectation that the **Proposer will lead** on developing their **solution** and associated **legal text** (legal text should be produced as part of the initial modification proposal)

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Contact Information

- If you would like further general information in relation to the Workgroup phase, or how you may be affected please email: grid.code@nationalgrid.com