STC Industry Consultation

At what stage is this document in the process?

CM066: National Grid Legal Separation - consequential changes to reference NGESO in STC Section G and to place Nuclear Site Licence Provisions Agreement obligations on NGET for England and Wales



Purpose of Modification: This proposal seeks to modify the System Operator Transmission Owner Code (STC) to reflect the creation of a new National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) that is legally separated from National Grid Electricity Transmission Limited. Where relevant, references to NGET throughout Section G in order to ensure the obligations on the System Operator and Transmission Owner are clear. It also seeks to modify Section G of the System Operator Transmission Owner Code (STC) to place Nuclear Site Licence Provisions Agreement obligations on NGET for England and Wales.

The purpose of this document is to consult on the proposal presented within CM066 with STC Parties and other interested Industry members. Representations made in response to this Proposed STC Modification Report will be considered by the STC Panel and agreed for inclusion the Final STC Modification Report to be submitted to the Authority.

Published on: 31 May 2018

Length of Consultation: 20 Working Days

Responses by: 28 June 2018



This modification proposal was raised on 17 April 2018 and was presented by the Proposer to the Panel on 25 April 2018.

The STC Panel unanimously agreed that CM066 should follow a standard governance route and proceed to Industry Consultation for 20 working days.



High Impact: None



Medium Impact None



Low Impact National Grid, Scottish Power Transmission, SHE Transmission, Offshore Transmission Owners

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Timetable

The timetable was approved at the Panel on 25 April as follows:

STC Modification Proposal tabled at the STC Panel	25 April 2018
Panel agreed standard governance route	25 April 2018
Issue Industry Consultation for 20 Business days	31 May 2018

Industry Consultation Closes	28 June 2018	
Issue Proposed STC Modification Report to Industry and Authority for 5 Working days	9 July 2018	
Panel to agree Final STC Modification Report	25 July 2018	
Final STC Modification Report issued to the Authority	7 August 2018	
Indicative Authority Decision	11 September 2018	
Implementation	1 April 2019	

Proposer Details

Details of Proposer: (Organisation Name)	NGET
Capacity in which the STC Modification Proposal is being proposed: (i.e. STC Party, Party Representative or person or persons having a relevant interest as may be designated in writing for this purpose by the Authority	STC Party
Details of Proposer's Representative:	
Name:	Bec Thornton
Organisation:	NGET
Telephone Number:	07887 822443
Email Address:	Bec.thornton@nationalgrid.com

Details of Representative's Alternate:		
Name:	John Martin	
Organisation:	NGET	
Telephone Number:	07794 050359	
Email Address:	John.martin2@nationalgrid.com	
Attachments (Yes):		
STC Section G – General Provisions		
For information:		
 Modification Proposals for other Sections and Schedules of the STC (except for Schedules 2 and 14 as no changes are required) will be submitted to the STC Modification Panel in parallel to this one. 		

Impact on Core Industry Documentation.

Please mark the relevant boxes with an "x" and provide any supporting information

BSC	
Grid Code	
CUSC	
Other	

Although this modification proposal does not directly impact other industry codes, other proposed code modifications (Grid Code, CUSC, BSC, Distribution Code, DCUSA, SQSS) are being simultaneously raised to other industry codes as a result of creating a legally separate System Operator.

1 Summary

Defect

The STC defines the relationship between the Transmission System Owners and National Grid as the National Electricity Transmission System Operator (NETSO).

On 1 April 2019 and following legal separation of the System Operator and Transmission Owner within National Grid Group, the STC will no longer place the correct relevant obligations on those two National Grid entities.

The STC currently states the Nuclear Site Licence Provisions Agreement (NSLPA) obligations on Scottish Power Transmission for Scotland, not on Transmission Owners. NGET has the same obligations for England and Wales, but this is currently in the Grid Code. When NGET becomes a Party to the STC as an Onshore Transmission Owner, there will be no obligations in the Grid Code covering this for England and Wales.

What

This proposal aims to modify the structure of the STC to introduce the new NGESO legal entity, and the existing NGET legal entity in a new role as a relevant transmission licensee.

In addition, to the above, in Section G, NGET will need to have the NSLPA obligations placed on them for England and Wales.

The relevant obligations of the System Operator will move to NGESO and National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET) as a Transmission Owner will reflect obligations already in the STC that currently apply to Onshore Transmission Owners.

Why

In order to implement legal separation, changes are required to NGET's existing licence required to implement legal separation; all system operator obligations will be transferred into a new transmission licence for the NGESO and as such need to be reflected accordingly within the electricity codes. The licence changes are the subject of ongoing consultation¹.

NSLPA obligations for England and Wales are currently in the Grid Code, but when Legal separation goes ahead, NGET will not be a party to the Grid Code, so the NSLPA obligations on NGET as a Transmission Owner will be lost.

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¹ Future Arrangements electricity System Operator Informal consultation on ESO Licence Drafting

How

On 22 September 2017, NGET published an open letter on its approach to modifying the relevant Industry Codes on 22 September 2017² stating that NGET intended to raise one Code Modification proposal for each Industry Code, but further work into assessing the changes required means that for the STC, 5 modifications need to be raised. CM066 is the one of these.

In addition, to the above, in Section G, NGET will have NSLPA obligations placed on them as the Onshore Transmission Owner for England and Wales.

2 Governance

Justification for Standard Procedure Normal Procedure

On 25 April 2018, the STC Panel agreed with the Proposer's view that this Modification should proceed along the standard governance route for an Authority decision.

3 Why change

Following the joint statement issued by BEIS, Ofgem and National Grid on 12 January 2017 entitled "Statement on the future of Electricity System Operation" and the subsequent consultation response by Ofgem on ESO separation on 3 August 2017³, the obligations in the STC will need to be modified to reflect the System Operator requirements and to place the current Transmission Owner requirements on NGET as a Transmission Owner.

NGET and NGESO will become separately licensed entities as a consequence of NGET partially transferring its existing licence to NGESO (the System Operator elements only) to NGESO under section 7A Electricity Act 1989 and NGET will retain the Transmission Owner elements.

4 Panel View

On 25 April 2018, the STC Panel agreed that CM066 should be progressed using the standard route and be issued to Industry Consultation for 20 Working days. The views of the STC Panel were as follows:

National Grid

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² NGET's Open Letter Open Letter 22 Sept 2017

³ Ofgem's Consultation Response <u>Future Arrangements Electricity System Operator Ofgem Response</u>

National Grid is supportive of CM066 and agrees it should follow a standard route and the Authority make the decision.

Offshore Transmission Owners (OFTO's)

The OFTO's are supportive of CM066 and agree it should follow a standard route and the Authority make the decision.

Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc (SHET)

SHET is supportive of CM066 and agree it should follow a standard route and the Authority make the decision.

SP Transmission Limited (SPT)

SPT is supportive of CM066 and agree it should follow a standard route and the Authority make the decision.

5 Code Specific Matters

Technical Skillsets

Not applicable for this Modification.

Reference Documents

Please refer to Section 3 above for further information.

6 Solution

NGET has been replaced by NGESO where relevant throughout the STC Sections and Schedules in order to ensure the SO and TO obligations are clear.

In Section D, Paragraph 3, actions in relation to NLSPAs will reference NGET as well as Scottish Power Transmission Ltd.

7 Impacts & Other Considerations

All parties to the STC are impacted, to the extent that the relationship between the all Transmission Owners will change to be with NGESO not NGET.

Does this modification impact a Significant Code Review (SCR) or other significant industry change projects, if so, how?

N/A

8 Relevant Objectives

Relevant Objective	Identified impact
(a) efficient discharge of the obligations imposed upon transmission licensees by transmission licences and the Act	Positive
(b) development, maintenance and operation of an efficient, economical and coordinated system of electricity transmission	
(c) facilitating effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity, and (so far as consistent therewith) facilitating such competition in the distribution of electricity	
(d) protection of the security and quality of supply and safe operation of the national electricity transmission system insofar as it relates to interactions between transmission licensees	
(e) promotion of good industry practice and efficiency in the implementation and administration of the arrangements described in the STC.	
(f) facilitation of access to the national electricity transmission system for generation not yet connected to the national electricity transmission system or distribution system;	
(g) compliance with the Electricity Regulation and any relevant legally binding decision of the European Commission and/or the Agency.	

The Proposer believes that this change will better facilitate relevant objective (a), by attributing the appropriate obligations to NGESO as System Operator and the Transmission owners in accordance with the new NGESO Transmission Licence and modified NGET Transmission Licence obligations.

9 Implementation & Transition

Legal text for CM066 has been drafted using the baseline of April 2018 STC text and as the modification progresses through the governance process, the text may need to be revised in light of Business as Usual modifications to the STC. The Code Administrator will ensure that the Proposer is aware of any Business as Usual Modification Proposals and the Proposer will take into account any relevant amendments to the CM066 that may need to be made prior to 1 April 2019 and notify the STC Modification Panel should anything in CM066 require further modification as a result of this.

CM066 may require transitional changes to the STC and these will be discussed with the STC Panel and drafted into the legal text CM066 as and when the Proposer becomes aware of these.

CM066 together with the other four associated STC Modification proposals and the associated STC novation agreement in respect of National Grid's legal separation are all interdependent and as such, are all required to be implemented as a single update to the STC on 1st April 2019 following The Authority's determination.

10 Legal Text

Text Commentary

In Section D, Paragraph 3, actions in relation to NLSPAs will reference NGET as well as Scottish Power Transmission Ltd.

Please refer to Attachment 1 for proposed text.

11 Recommendations

At the STC Panel meeting on 25 April, the STC Panel:

- Agree unanimously that CM066 should follow the standard route with the Authority making the decision
- Agreed that the report should be issued for Industry Consultation for 20 working days.