

Electricity Transmission  
Industry participants and  
Interested parties

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10<sup>th</sup> December 2012

## **SENT ON BEHALF OF THE NETS SQSS REVIEW PANEL**

Dear Colleague

### **National Electricity Transmission System Security and Quality of Supply Standard (NETS SQSS)**

#### **SQSS Industry Consultation: Offshore Infeed Loss (GSR013)**

On behalf of the NETS SQSS Review Panel, I am pleased to provide details of the latest SQSS consultation document<sup>1</sup>. This presents the findings of the review of the criteria applicable to the offshore infeed loss risk, and suggested modifications to the SQSS. The Review (GSR013) has been undertaken by a cross-industry Working Group comprising of representatives from the onshore and offshore transmission licensees, generating companies, and industry consultants.

The GB transmission licensees are required to plan, operate and maintain the GB transmission system in an efficient and economic manner and to facilitate competition in the electricity market. Compliance with the requirements of the NETS SQSS is a GB transmission licence requirement and consequently a primary objective of the NETS SQSS planning criteria is to support the licensees' obligations.

Industry feedback is sought through this consultation as to whether the proposals further the SQSS Principles and the proposed new SQSS Objectives.

The current SQSS Principles are:

- (i) development, maintenance and operation of an efficient, economical and coordinated system of electricity transmission;

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/gbsqsscode/Modifications/GSR013/>

- (ii) ensure an appropriate level of security and quality of supply and safe operation of the National Electricity Transmission System; and
- (iii) facilitating effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity.

The SQSS Objectives (as proposed under the recently revised Governance Framework) are to:

- (i) facilitate the planning, development and maintenance of an efficient, coordinated and economical system of electricity transmission, and the operation of that system in an efficient, economic and coordinated manner;
- (ii) ensure an appropriate level of security and quality of supply and safe operation of the National Electricity Transmission System;
- (iii) facilitate effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity, and (so far as consistent therewith) facilitating such competition in the distribution of electricity; and
- (iv) facilitate electricity transmission licensees to comply with their obligations under EU law.

### **Consultation Questions**

Specific questions have not been posed in the Working Group Report but are included here instead. As such, stakeholders are invited to provide comments on the following:

1. Do you agree that the proposed modification meets the principles and/or objectives of the SQSS?
2. HVDC converter fault – do you agree with the conclusion that HVDC converter faults are likely to occur at a frequency which should be covered by Normal Infeed Loss Risk and current SQSS remains valid in this area?
3. Risk of multiple cable failure due to anchor damage – do you agree with the conclusion that there is no significant merit for SQSS to specify an offshore cable separation to mitigate the risk of multiple cable failure due to anchor damage?

We welcome your views, in particular in relation to the above questions, but also in general on any matters relating to the Review of offshore infeed loss within the NETS SQSS. We would appreciate if all responses are received by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013 and responses should be addressed to:

 **James Cooper (NETS SQSS Secretary)**  
National Grid  
National Grid House  
Warwick Technology Park  
Gallows Hill  
WARWICK  
CV34 6DA

 **James.Cooper3@nationalgrid.com**

The consultation documents and further information can be found on the NETS SQSS website:

<http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/gbsqsscode>

Should you have any questions on this consultation, please don't hesitate to contact myself, James Cooper or any member of the SQSS Review Panel.

Best Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Hiorns'.

Andrew Hiorns  
Chair, NETS SQSS Review Panel

CC Sheona Mackenzie (Ofgem)