
CUSC MODIFICATIONS PANEL

Balancing Services Standing Group (BSSG)

Terms of Reference

Introduction

1. This paper outlines the working arrangements and Terms of Reference for the BSSG.

Governance

2. The BSSG is established as a Standing Group under the CUSC Modifications Panel and shall act in accordance with Section 8.21 of the CUSC. The BSSG shall have regard for Core Industry Documents (specifically the Grid Code and the BSC).

Membership

3. The BSSG shall comprise a suitable and appropriate cross section of experience and expertise from across the industry, including:
 - National Grid (Chair & Technical Secretary)
 - National Grid representative
 - Generators (Portfolio, Independent and/or representative from the Association of Electricity Producers)
 - Interconnector Operators (*optional*)
 - Distribution Network Operator (*optional*)
 - Supplier (*optional*)
 - Consumer Focus (*optional*)
 - Ofgem (*optional*)

Meeting Administration

4. BSSG meetings will take place every 6 weeks. Cancellation of meetings must be sufficiently justified and agreed by the majority of the group. Where meetings are cancelled a minimum of 5 business days notice must be provided. Where a meeting has been cancelled or postponed, the minutes from the previous meeting will be approved via email in order for them to be published on the National Grid website in a timely manner.
5. The agenda and any documents relating to the meeting will be circulated to the group 5 business days prior to the date of the meeting.
6. The BSSG meeting should, where reasonably practicable, be held on the same day as the Commercial Balancing Services Group (CBSG) meeting.
7. National Grid will provide technical secretary resource to the BSSG and handle administrative arrangements such as venue, agenda and minutes.

8. The BSSG will have a dedicated page under the CUSC section of the National Grid UK website. This will enable BSSG information such as minutes and presentations to be available to a wider audience. The link to the BSSG page is:
<http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/systemcode/workingstandinggroups/bssg/index.htm>
9. Any communication relating to the work of the BSSG and its meetings must be sent to the appropriate BSSG distribution list in a timely and consistent manner.

Scope and Objectives

10. The BSSG will review the contractual arrangements for the procurement of Balancing Services as set out in the CUSC. This by definition covers the System Ancillary Services of Reactive Power (mandatory and enhanced services), Frequency Response (part 1 – mandatory services), System to Generator Operational Intertripping and the Maximum Generation Service. The overall objective of the group will be to consider potential further developments to the provision of these Balancing Services with regards to procurement, charging principles and contracting and to consider priorities for such developments.
11. More specifically the group shall:

Reactive Power:

- i. Consider the current approach to the procurement of Reactive Power and identify areas for future development; in particular, incorporating offshore, impacts of a new generation mix, embedded generation, issues highlighted from CAP169 (Provision of Reactive Power from Power Park Modules, Large Power Stations and Embedded Power Stations) and ongoing applicability of payment structures.

Frequency Response:

- ii. Consider the current approach to the procurement of Mandatory Frequency Response and identify areas for future development; in particular, development of suitable market arrangements in light of new generation mix, frequency response payments (response energy price, and holding price), and Frequency Response arrangements with respect to Interconnectors.

System to Generator Operational Intertripping:

- iii. Consider the current arrangements for operational intertrips introduced by CAP076 (System to Generator Intertripping Schemes), in particular the ongoing applicability of payment structures. In addition, consider the applicability of any new tripping payment level or structure to the disconnection payment arrangements introduced by CAP048 (Firm Access and Temporary Physical Disconnection).

Maximum Generation Service

- iv. Based upon operational experience of using the Maximum Generation Service consider the arrangements of the Maximum Generation Service.

Information Provision:

- v. Consider the current approach of information provision with respect to balancing services and identify areas for future development within the CUSC.

General:

- vi. Provide a focal point within the industry where parties can debate the high level procurement principles for those balancing services procured via the CUSC and enable all CUSC parties to be better informed.
12. BSSG shall identify a priority order for its work (see below) and agree this with the CUSC Modifications Panel. In addition, where necessary, BSSG shall develop more detailed Terms of Reference for approval by the CUSC Modifications Panel. The BSSG shall review this priority order as each piece of work is completed, and in any event annually.
 13. It should be noted that, in accordance with Section 8 of the CUSC, the BSSG as a Standing Group under the CUSC Modifications Panel cannot itself propose an amendment to the CUSC.
 14. In considering the above issues, the BSSG should be cognisant of any related developments that may progress in any other Industry forums.

Time-scales

15. The BSSG shall consider the scope and objectives above and provide verbal updates at each CUSC Modifications Panel meeting as deemed necessary by the chair and, as a minimum, six monthly.

BSSG Priorities (in order of priority)

- i. Consider the current approach to the procurement of Mandatory Frequency Response and identify areas for future development; in particular, development of suitable market arrangements in light of new generation mix (ongoing working group "Frequency Response Working Group", a joint Grid Code and BSSG Working Group.)
- ii. Consider the mandatory Frequency Response arrangements with respect to Interconnectors (ongoing work within BSSG)
- iii. Consider the issues highlighted from CAP169 (Provision of Reactive Power from Power Park Modules, Large Power Stations and Embedded Power Stations), specifically the suitability of the default payment arrangements. Consider the Reactive payments arrangements for Offshore.

- iv. Consider the current arrangements for operational intertrips introduced by CAP076 (System to Generator Intertripping Schemes), in particular the ongoing applicability of payment structures. In addition, consider the applicability of any new tripping payment level or structure to the disconnection payment arrangements introduced by CAP048 (Firm Access and Temporary Physical Disconnection).
- v. Consider potential improvements to the current payment arrangements for frequency response (to the extent that this has not been covered by the existing "Frequency Response Working Group").
- vi. Consider the current approach to the procurement and payment structures of Reactive Power considering the impacts of a new generation mix.
- vii. Consider the current approach of information provision with respect to balancing services and identify development within the CUSC.