



# Unexpected Generation Failure Management

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nationalgridESO

# Context - Recap

- There were 8 transmission faults between 10th February and 18th April where generation was unexpectedly lost coincident with the fault.
- These faults were 'normal' system events with no direct widespread impact.
- However, in some cases the generation losses were significant, close to RoCoF trigger levels and over 1000MW in one case.
- One transmission fault occurred twice 3 hours apart; and the same users dropped generation output on both occasions - had the system conditions been different during the second incident (ie if the RoCoF trigger level had been lower) this could have had repercussions.
- As prudent system and plant operators we cannot afford to expose the system to risks where these have been identified as this would be against our licence obligations.
- The number of incidents in two months and level of risk it posed to the system triggered the need for discussion with industry and the regulator.

# Managing the Risk – The Rationale

The obligations in OC5.4.2 set out a procedure to be followed in the event of persistent failure of a BM unit .

ESO's expectations of Users:

- Users are asked to restrict their output until a FRT issue is ruled out (either MEL to zero or to a safe level). This is to mitigate system risk and **not** to penalise the User.
- Users should be able to quickly explain sudden loss of output not related to FRT when requested by ESO.
- The request to respond to a SIR within 2Hrs is not about finding the root cause or fully explaining the events. It could be as simple as to say that the causes are being investigated and to set out a timeline to give a fuller explanation. It may also include asking the ESO further questions.
- We understand it is not possible for all Users to have the resources to investigate events immediately all the time. However, we expect users to have internal business and operational procedures in place to manage unexpected events and to cooperate with the ESO in reasonable timescales.

