

# Meeting summary

## Grid Code Development Forum – September 2021

<b>Date:</b>	07/09/2021	<b>Location:</b>	WebEx
<b>Start:</b>	09:00	<b>End:</b>	11:00

## Participants

Attendee	Company	Attendee	Company
Rob Wilson (RW)	National Grid ESO (Chair)	Graeme Vincent (GV)	SP Transmission
David Halford (DH)	National Grid ESO (Presenter)	Pooja Rughoo (PR)	National Grid ESO
Laetitia Wamala (LW)	National Grid ESO (Presenter)	Sean Gauton (SG)	Uniper Energy
Bieshoy Awad (BA)	National Grid ESO (Presenter)	Douglas Allan (DA)	SSE Renewables
Frank Kasibante (FK)	National Grid ESO	Mark Field (MF)	Sembcorp UK
Nisar Ahmed (NA)	National Grid ESO	Martin Aten (MA)	Uniper Energy
Can Li (CL)	National Grid ESO	Michael Preston (MP)	Nordex
Banke John-Okwesa (BJ)	National Grid ESO	Sigrid Bolik (SB)	Siemens PTI
Vicky Allen (VA)	National Grid ESO	Damian Jackman (DJ)	SSE Generation
Kavita Patel (KP)	National Grid ESO	Dan Sanderson (DS)	
Xiaoyao Zhou (XZ)	National Grid ESO	Fraser Norris (FN)	SSE Renewables
Kirsten Shilling (KS)	National Grid ESO	Charlotte Higgins (CH)	TNEI
Garth Graham (GG)	SSE Generation	Alan Creighton (AC)	Northern Powergrid
Mike Kay (MK)	P2 Analysis	Paul Youngman (PY)	Drax
Reena Hirani (RH)	UK Power Networks	Frank Martin (FM)	Siemens Gamesa
Paul Crolla (PC)	Muirhall Energy	Helen Stack (HS)	Centrica PLC

## Agenda and slides

A link to the Agenda and Presentations from the September GCDF can be found here:

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/meetings/grid-code-development-forum-gcdf-07092021>

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## GCDF

**Please note: These notes are produced as an accompaniment to the slide pack presented and detail discussion themes.**

### Meeting Opening – Rob Wilson, National Grid ESO

RW opened the meeting providing an overview of the agenda items for discussion and the order they will be presented

### Whole System Technical Code – Laetitia Wamala, National Grid ESO

*Presentation on the NGESO proposals to create a whole system digitalised Grid Code as set out in the ESO's RIIO-2 business plan. This notes that in year one of the project, engagement will take place with stakeholders to consider the scope of this work and how it should be delivered; Consultation 1 will be published by the end of September 2021.*

#### Discussion themes / Feedback

- There needs be some assurance that there are no further obligations placed on users of the Technical Codes as a result of the creation of a WSTC.  
*The consultation will make clear that the intention is not to change the content of the code.*
  - How many members will be part of the Steering Group and what will be the balance of different industry stakeholders from across these groups?  
*NGESO's response to this was that the consultation is seeking views on the composition of the steering group.*
  - The introduction of an overarching WSTC could potentially make the process more complicated?  
*Possibly, but it could also remove some barriers and if the number of codes is reduced then reduce the burden on stakeholders to be familiar with all of them. Please give feedback on this in the consultation.*
  - The presentation discusses the alignment of codes on key issues and a question was raised in terms of where we think alignment is not in place at the moment as there has been a huge amount of work over the years to ensure alignment?  
*NGESO's response was that the alignment being sought is similar to that recently done for the connection conditions. Clarification provided that the alignment of these sections was due to the need that arose from implementation of the Requirements for Generators code*
  - What timescales are the ESO working to and how does this align with the ENA's Open Networks Project?  
*We are talking to the ENA and engaging with the Open Networks project.*
  - Proposed changes of the codes should take into consideration the different new/small industry stakeholders that will need to interact and conform to different aspects of the code and yet cannot resource a team to review codes on their behalf  
*Noted, and it is one of the key issues.*
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- Who would be the Code Manager for the WSTC and how do we ensure that we do not make it difficult for a new Code Manager to be appointed?

*The Energy Code Reform work highlights that one or more Code Managers will be appointed to oversee the technical codes area. It is also noted that while the ECR is mainly concerned with governance, Ofgem are also looking in parallel at code simplification and consolidation. Work that will be done for digitalisation will be done in such a way that it is transferable.*

- Consideration with regards to 'in flight' mods and whether there should be cut off date for new mods during the transitional period for when the WSTC would be introduced?

*NGESO acknowledged that there will be a transition period e.g. for the digitalised codes there needs to be a period to check that the digitalised code is accurate. Regarding the inflight mods, the proposal is to let the steering group come up with an appropriate timing.*

## Minimum Short Circuit Levels – Bieshoj Awad – National Grid ESO

*This presentation highlighted that generally with the move away from larger synchronous generation system strength has been affected which has meant reducing system inertia and also minimum fault levels. The impact of this may be greater challenges for using in riding through faults on the transmission system, although the Grid Code requirements in this area have not changed. It was noted that while overlapping in terms of subject matter, this presentation does not impact the ongoing urgent Grid Code modification GC0151 which deals with the compliance process that will be followed when it is suspected that a user has failed to ride through a fault. The point of the presentation was to seek feedback on whether additional information on short circuit levels would be useful to stakeholders and if so, what this could comprise. ETYS currently includes max SCLs and the SCL at minimum demand. It could be expanded to include minimum SCLs under certain conditions if these could be agreed and potentially project these into the future. However, this could be a great deal of work for the ESO so the question was whether this would be useful and whether a more targeted response could give similar value.*

### Discussion themes / Feedback

- In terms of existing plant, these would have been built to the existing specifications at the time. Additional spend to potentially meet new specifications could make current plant unviable?

*Noted. No changes to the Grid Code in terms of technical specifications are envisaged as part of this review; and if any change to codes were required to impact existing equipment this would always have to be a demonstrably cost effective solution to changing system needs. But note also that compliance with existing code obligations is by default an enduring requirement.*

- Should the SQSS be updated to include minimum system strength to provide clarity?

*This is an interesting point. There are general requirements on the ESO and TOs to operate and design a stable system and to avoid (for example) voltage fluctuations but there is no actual minimum level of system strength set out. There are standards for voltage and frequency. System strength would however be difficult to specify and if hardcoded in a standard could drive significant operational costs and/or investment.*

## GCDF Process – David Halford, National Grid ESO

*This presentation summarised the purpose of the Grid Code Development Forum and how it is managed and administered which the ESO has just refreshed to align with the Transmission Charging Methodology Forum (TCMF). GCDF is intended to be an open forum providing a front end to the Grid Code panel (and SQSS) at which there is more scope for discussion of issues than at the panels which have to concentrate on the governance process and making decisions. It is open to any stakeholders to submit issues for discussion and the route to do this was set out.*

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## Discussion themes / Feedback

Overall, the group were happy with the GCDF structure, including the setting up of a dedicated webpage for the GCDF going forward

- In order to align more with the TCMF process, should more detailed notes be made available rather than a general overview?

*The ESO recognises that some notes to record key points, actions and next steps are important. However, it was also felt that this should not become too onerous a task as the meeting is meant to be an open discussion forum and not to be subject to strict governance. One to keep under review.*

## AOB

There was no other business raised. RW thanked the attendees and presenters for their contributions and closed the meeting

## Action Item Log

### Action items: In progress and completed since last meeting

ID	Month	Agenda Item	Description	Owner	Notes	Target Date	Status
1	September	Whole System Technical Code	Confirm alignment of the WSTC work with the Open Networks Whole System alignment work	LW		October	In Progress
2	September	Whole System Technical Code	Confirm and/or circulate WSTC consultation once released	LW		27 <sup>th</sup> September	In Progress
3	September	Minimum Short Circuit Levels	Return to GCDF in November with an update, particularly with regards to progress on developing a proposal to include in the ESO System Operability Framework (SOF) document and in terms of the feedback received from the	BA		November	In Progress

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September presentation

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4	September	Minimum Short Circuit Levels	Update Slide 8 of September presentation to include Storage Contribution and Interconnector Despatch	BA		September	In Progress
5	September	GCDF Process	Confirm process to publish notes but to keep this under review	DH	Presentation slides have been amended to reflect that the review and publishing of notes can take place at any point up to 10 business days after the GCDF has taken place rather than these actions happening on the same day	September	Completed

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