

Meeting summary

Grid Code Development Forum – October 2021

Date:	06/10/2021	Location:	WebEx
Start:	09:00	End:	11:00

Participants

Attendee	Company	Attendee	Company
Rob Wilson (RW)	National Grid ESO (Chair)	Sudharsana Govindaswami	Cummins Inc
David Halford (DH)	National Grid ESO (Tec Sec)	Harry Hailwood	Brook Green Supply
Laetitia Wamala (LW)	National Grid ESO (Presenter)	Josh Logan	Drax
Can Li (CL)	National Grid ESO (Presenter)	Richard Woodward	National Grid ET
Frank Kasibante (FK)	National Grid ESO	Iwan Watkin	AECOM
Nisar Ahmed (NA)	National Grid ESO	Robert Mitchell	EDF Renewables
Bieshoy Awad (BA)	National Grid ESO	Tim Boorsma	Gazprom
Banke John-Okwesa (BJ)	National Grid ESO	Steve Baker	National Grid ESO
Vicky Allen (VA)	National Grid ESO	Pooja Rughoo (PR)	National Grid ESO
Graz Macdonald	Waters Wye Associates	Sean Gauton (SG)	Uniper Energy
Ruth Kemsley	Russet Engineering		

Agenda and slides

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

<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/grid-code-old/meetings/grid-code-development-forum-gcdf-06102021>

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 a run through of current open actions.

Whole System Technical Code – Laetitia Wamala, National Grid ESO

The digitalised Whole System Technical Code (WSTC) project has now issued its first consultation to industry which will run until 12 November 2021. The WSTC Team presented the high-level scope of the consultation paper and signposting attendees to additional opportunities to engage with the digitalised WSTC project.

Discussion themes / Feedback

- If a new WSTC is created, what will be the transition time in terms of when it will become legally binding?
It is acknowledged that there will be a period of time when checking will need to be performed on the new published code to ensure there are no errors, with testing internally and externally completed before it becomes legally binding. We welcome comments in terms of how this might be best performed as part of the consultation feedback.
 - What do we mean when we refer to “Self Service”?
Self Service would give users the ability to go to the website and input their particular connection details e.g. voltage, size etc, which should then output what the users particular technical requirements against the code are, without having to read the whole code document.
 - What is the view of the ENA on the consolidation of the Distribution Code into the Whole System Code and why it is it not a joint consultation with them?
This is a whole industry consultation and as a project team we are now getting to a point where we will be handing over to a Steering Group that will be set-up as part of the next steps. There is a question in the consultation in terms of who should be part of that SG and we expect the ENA to be part of this. The SG will be run by industry and will address questions like this that extend beyond the ESO’s remit.
 - The WSTC is not intending to change any of the current technical requirements that users need to conform to at the moment and is more about aligning the Grid Code and Distribution Code to ensure these requirements are documented in the same way
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- There was a feeling that in terms of stakeholder engagement, there is a concern that for anything that is technical related, it is always the existing technical experts that are involved. At a suitable point it would be valuable to get some industry 'newbies' to play a part in ensuring simplification happens and the risk is that only people who are already familiar with the process will get involved and not new entrants that may not be aware of this project and not engage

We are aware that more established parties are more likely to participate in this project than new entrants so we are reaching out as much as we can, including asking DNOs to send out communications to their customers and also participating in as many industry forums as we are aware of. The ask from the project team is to make them aware of any forums that we think might be attended by new entrants. There is a growing requirement for trade associations to get more involved as they have the resource to represent their members, but priority is always the issue.

SQSS Review – Can Li/Bieshoy Awad – National Grid ESO

The ESO are engaging with wider industry on a targeted set of issues with the SQSS to initiate a focused review as part of our RIIO-2 plan. Year 1 of this task in 2021/22 stated that the ESO would seek to engage with stakeholders and explore the scope of these activities. The presentation identified some of the key topics/issues for review and invited stakeholders to feedback on these identified issues and any other concerns on the application of SQSS in order for an update of the SQSS to reflect the current energy landscape and meet the net zero ambitions.

Discussion themes / Feedback

- Why do we think CATOs are an issue currently?
The legal framework for CATOs is not finalised yet; and the SQSS currently only defines NGET, SHETL & SPT as onshore TOs. Going forward it will also need to ensure CATOs are included where appropriate SQSS and might need to differentiate the role of CATOs to the current TOs depending on how CATOs are set-up and whether this is similar as well to OFTO arrangements.
- Surely the responsibilities of TOs & CATOs system requirements should be governed under the STC and not SQSS which should be TO agnostic i.e. it relates to overall system design and safety etc?
Whilst we agree with this, we are not talking about changes to the design of the system, but whether there is a need to change the SQSS once CATOs are legally defined to make sure they are equally covered; as the SQSS refers to NGET, SHETL & SPT, it may need to refer to CATOs as well. The major impacts will be within the STC though.
- Is this an opportunity for simplification and to remove the requirement for quoting individual TOs?
Possibly, and it also worth noting that the Energy Code Reform alludes to the fact that the technical codes are viewed as 'one area' which could mean consolidation and simplification are options here, but this is something that we need to monitor as the ECR work progresses.
- What will the next steps be e.g. will a consultation be published?
There will be more engagement it is likely that some form of consultation will be produced when there is enough material for this to seek views on from stakeholders. Further updates will be presented at GCDF. It was noted that a consultation would be welcomed.

AOB

Nisar Ahmed from the Code Administration Team discussed new modifications that will be raised for the Grid Code, STC, SQSS & CUSC updating the language used to make them "Gender Neutral" e.g. replace "Chairman" with "Chair". The current plan is that the Grid Code and CUSC mods will be raised in November with STC and SQSS to follow in early 2022.

It is anticipated that these changes will go through the self-governance route.

- It was asked how projects like the WSTC will be resourced due to the complexity of the task?
It was appreciated that this is a large piece of work and is one of several significant initiatives such as the expansion into offshore, CATO and Energy Code Reform which is why we need stakeholders help in terms

of prioritisation. Resource issues are a concern both in the ESO and also in industry due to the finite capacity to engage with major changes.

RW thanked the attendees and presenters for their contributions and in closing the meeting reminded everyone that the GCDF is an open forum and agenda items are invited from all parties.

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	Confirms steering group will be set-up to manage interactions	October	Completed
2	September	Whole System Technical Code	Confirm and/or circulate WSTC consultation once released	LW		27 th September	Completed
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 September presentation	BA		November	In Progress
4	September	Minimum Short Circuit Levels	Update Slide 8 of September presentation to include Storage Contribution and Interconnector Despatch	BA		September	Completed

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
6	October	SQSS Review	Confirm next steps with regards to how stakeholders will be kept updated in relation to the SQSS review	CL/BA		December	In Progress
