

NATIONAL GRID COMPANY plc

GRID CODE REVIEW PANEL

**GRID CODE PROVISIONS FOR THE FLOW OF INFORMATION ON
FUEL SOURCES AND MOTHBALLED PLANT**

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This paper proposes revision of the Grid Code to introduce a requirement on Generators to provide information on mothballed plant and fuel sources to National Grid. The changes would improve National Grid's ability to meet its obligation under Standard Condition 7.1 of its Transmission Licence. The modification would also support the activities required of National Grid under Part 3 of the Fuel Security Code.

2. Background

- 2.1. Each year Ofgem requests National Grid to provide information on available generating capacity for the forthcoming winter. This is presented to Ofgem in a Winter Operations report, which is subsequently published on the Ofgem web site.
- 2.2. When preparing any assessment of available generating capacity, however, it is not possible to take account of plant that might be able to either return to service from a mothballed state or switch to an alternative fuel, as the relevant information is not currently provided to National Grid.
- 2.3. Ofgem has requested National Grid to undertake collection of this data for Winter 03/04 and to consider appropriate changes to the Grid Code in order to formalise the collection of this data in future years. National Grid has agreed to both requests and has already written to the Generators in respect of the information for Winter 03/04.

3. Issues for Consideration

- 3.1. The issues that will need to be considered before any changes are made to the Grid Code might include:
 - (i) Whether a definition of 'mothballed' is required;
 - (ii) The process for gathering information; and
 - (iii) The format & location of published information

4. The Next Steps

- 4.1. It is proposed that the necessary provisions are developed in conjunction with interested Grid Code Panel members. This could take place by the establishment by the end of September 2003 of a Working Group of interested parties, chaired by National Grid. This would allow an initial report to the November 2003 GCRP with the objective of submitting proposed revisions for consultation to the February 2004 GCRP.

5. Working Group Nominations

- 5.1. The Grid Code Review Panel is asked to nominate representatives to contribute to the proposed Working Group. The first Working Group meeting could be held in mid-October 2003.

6. Recommendation

- 6.1. The Grid Code Review Panel is invited to agree the proposed way forward.

National Grid Company plc

Date: 9th September 2003