Code Administrator Meeting Summary

GC0117: Improving transparency and consistency of access arrangements across GB by the creation of a pan-GB commonality of Power Stations requirements

Date: 9 November 2021

Contact Details

Chair: Nisar Ahmed, National Grid ESO Nisar.Ahmed@nationalgrideso.com / 0777 3043068
Proposer: Garth Graham

Key areas of discussion

The Workgroup discussions are summarised according to agenda items:

ENA Open Networks Presentation

Odilia Bertetti (OB) and Avi Aithal (AA) delivered a presentation *on WS1B P6* Operational DER Visibility and Monitoring to the Workgroup. It was clarified that the project covers Cost, Monitoring and visibility rather than control although control is something that Open Networks will look at in the longer term. It was noted that within Open Networks there is no intention to look at implications on the Balancing Mechanism, Frequency Control or Wider Access. This presentation document is available in the papers circulated to the Workgroup by NA on 8 November 2021. The following points/issues were noted:

- The Workgroup to liaise with Open Networks as the solution develops particularly to avoid negative implications. Open Networks were invited to attend future meetings.
- DNOs should ideally have visibility of embedded generation of 1MW above, which should be available to the ESO however this facility only provides for visibility and not control or interactions with the Balancing Mechanism. Open Networks are tasked with reporting their findings on the visibility aspects at the end of the year.
- The Open Networks work will also include a CBA to determine the cost against the benefit of providing the enhanced visibility.
- During the discussion, the ESO noted that under the Grid Code and Bilateral Agreement, operational metering signals should be refreshed ever 1 second. For Embedded Generators connected to the DNO System (with no CUSC Contract) it was not clear that

SCADA systems had the ability to transmit operational metering data at the sarem refresh rate and indeed whether it could be regarded as real time data.

- There would be costs on customers where there is no sufficient control in place.
- There is no clear open governance on Open Networks for the Workgroup to refer to. It was noted that Open Networks is largely a piece of work developed between the DNO's and ESO under the auspices of Ofgem's direction and as such was not open to the full Governance Process as per the Industry Codes.
- Remote monitoring on all new sites is determined by the HV designs for each DNO.

It was agreed that OB and AA would attend future workgroup meetings to further discuss some of the above issues and for them to bring updates following queries raised by the Workgroup. AA agreed that their presentation may be included as part of the Annexes within the Workgroup report. Also, the Workgroup would like to review the CBA once this is completed.

It was queried if Open Networks had discussed the issues of Wider Access, Frequency Control and interaction with the Balancing Mechanism.

Retrospectivity discussion (slide 3 of WG Planning presentation pack)

The Proposer clarified that there are four options for retrospectivity. These include (i) full retrospectivity, (ii) retrospectivity applied in respect of data alone, (iii) retrospectivity applied to RfG compliant plant or (iv) no retrospectivity. The ESO favours no retrospectivity due to the potential complexities that may result and the additional costs to which existing User's may be exposed. One workgroup member promoted the use of retrospectivity in relation to data alone.

Thresholds Preferences slides (20 – 24 of WG Planning presentation pack)

Option 1: 10 MW as large (slide22)

- Under this option, a Small Power Station would be a Power Station with a Registered Capacity of less than 10MW and a Large Power Station would be one with a Registered Capacity of 10MW and above. This would apply across the whole of GB.
- The technical requirements are based on the Power Generating Module definitions under RfG of type A, B, C and D.G99 would apply in accordance with RfG which largely mirrors the Grid Code which has also been developed from RfG.
- AC noted an error on slide 2 the Small Power Station threshold should cover 0MW to 10MW and not 0MW to 100MW. LT to make amendments prior to circulation of Workgroup documents. **ACTION**

Option 2: 100MW as Large (slide 23)

- Under this option, a Small Power Station would be a Power Station with a Registered Capacity of less than 100MW and a Large Power Station would be one with a Registered Capacity of 100MW and above. This would apply across the whole of GB
- The ESO have concerns over this option due to the implications on visibility and control for Embedded Generation, impact on costs through the Balancing Mechanism and the ability to control plant for the purposes of frequency control. It was noted that if there are fewer participants in the BM there will be less visibility and fewer parties to issue instructions to therefore pushing up operating costs.

- Data sharing between ESO and DNO must be coordinated though it was noted that Open Networks will help with this.

WAGM1

- Under this option, the current Power Station Thresholds of Small (less than 50MW), Medium (50 – 99.9999MW) and Large (100MW or Greater) that current apply in England and Wales would be applied in Scotland. The Large Medium and Small Power Station classification criteria would then be the same across GB.

Thresholds Matrix (Advantages & Disadvantages slides 25 – 27 of WG Planning presentation pack)

Some Workgroup members did not agree with all of the Advantages and Disadvantages in the Threshold Matrix and requested that an editable version is circulated for review. LT to share an editable up to date version of the Workgroup planning presentation slides to the Workgroup for review and comments. **ACTION.**

It was agreed that all amendments made will be discussed at the next Workgroup session on 14 December 2021.

Some issues raised are:

- GV noted that there is no advantage of a reduction in cost to Small and Medium Power Stations in SHET as shown in slide 26 of the Workgroup planning presentation pack other than there could be a future cost saving as there would be no ongoing need to supply data or comply with requirements going forward.

- Inconsistent phrases used in some parts.

Action Log review

The Workgroup talked through each action in the order it had been logged. The Workgroup agreed to close actions **13, 15 and 16.** Current open actions can be found in the Actions log that would be circulated within the Workgroup papers.

Questionnaire

There has been no further response received since the last workgroup meeting hence no further updates.

Next Steps

- Reschedule next meeting on 14 December 2021 to 11am start time.
- Invite ENA presenters to join next meeting for updates.
- Points for discussion:
    - Questionnaire Updates.
    - Open networks further discussion and engagement.
    - Define the differences in the obligations between BEGA / BELLA.
    - Define definitions – e.g. Maximum Capacity, Registered Capacity etc.

- How many Power Stations with a Registered Capacity of between 10 – 100MW are in the BM, especially in England and Wales.
- Begin gathering consultation questions and start drafting Consultation Document.

Participants

Attendees	Initial	Company	Position
Nisar Ahmed	NA	Code Administrator National Grid ESO	Chair
Banke John-Okwesa	BJO	National Grid ESO	Technical Secretary
Alan Creighton	AC	Northern Powergrid	Workgroup Member
Calum Watt	CW	SSEN Transmission	Workgroup Member
Garth Graham	GG	SSE Generation	Proposer
Graeme Vincent	GV	SP Energy Networks	Workgroup Member
Isaac Gutierrez	IG	Scottish Power Renewables	Workgroup Member
Mike Kay	MK	Electricity North West	Workgroup Member
Paul Youngman	PY	Drax	Workgroup Member
Richard Wilson	RW	UK Power Networks	Workgroup Member
Tim Ellingham	TE	RWE	Workgroup Member
Avi Aithal	AA	Open Networks, ENA	Presenter
Odilia Bertetti	OB	Open Networks, ENA	Presenter
Louise Trodden	LT	National Grid ESO	Presenter
Tony Johnson	TJ	National Grid ESO	Presenter

For further information, please contact the Code Administrator.