

# STC Modification Panel Minutes: 29 March 2023

## STC Modification Panel Minutes: Meeting Number 210

**Date:** 29 March 2023    **Location:** Microsoft Teams

**Start:** 10:00am    **End:** 11:35am

### Participants

Attendee	Initials	Company
Paul Mullen	PM	Chair, Code Administrator, National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO)
Rashpal Gata-Aura	RGA	Tech Sec, Code Administrator, National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO)
Elana Byrne	EB	Code Administrator, National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) Observer
Jamie Webb	JW	National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO)
David Halford	DH	National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO)
Keith Jones	KJ	National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO)
Rob Wilson	RWI	National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO)
Neil Sandison	NS	Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc. (SHET)
Martin Cammidge	MC	Scottish Power Transmission plc. (SPT)
Richard Woodward	RW	National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)
Mike Lee	ML	Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO)
Joel Matthews	JM	Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO)
Nadir Hafeez	NH	Authority Representative
Carly Malcolm	CMal	Authority Representative
Christian Mark	CM	Authority Representative – Head of Future System Operator
Apologies	Initials	Company

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Michelle MacDonald Sandison	MMacDS	Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc. (SHET)
Nicola Bruce	NB	National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO)

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### 1. Introductions and Apologies for Absence

6134. Apologies were received from Michelle MacDonald Sandison and Nicola Bruce.

### 2. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

6135. The Panel approved the minutes from the meeting held on 22 February 2023 (subject to minor comments from the Panel being incorporated) (**Post Panel Meeting Note:** The minutes are now available on the National Grid ESO [website](#).)

### 3. Review of Actions

6136. There were no due actions from the February 2023 Panel meeting.

### 4. Authority Decisions and Update

6137. NH talked the Panel through the decisions expected on the STC modifications:-

- **CM078 - Connections Triggering Distribution Impact Assessment** – Expected date of decision was 14 February 2023 in line with the associated CUSC Modification (**CMP328**). **CMP328** has been sent back for further work/clarification and no decision received for **CM078**.
- **CM080 - Transmission Impact Assessment process** - Expected date of decision on this modification and the related CUSC Modification (**CMP298**) is 26 April 2023.
- **CM085 - To clarify OFTO reactive power requirements at <20% output** – Expected date of decision is 31 March 2023. (**Post Panel note: CM085 was sent back 31 March 2023 for further work/clarification**)

6138. NH updated the Panel on the Code Governance Reform (CGR) and that call for input closed on 1 February 2023. All non-confidential responses have been published on the Ofgem website. Ofgem are currently reviewing all the responses and will keep the Panel updated on future engagements in key policy areas. The non-confidential responses on Energy Code Governance Reform can be viewed via this [link](#).

6139. CM (Ofgem representative) then presented **Future System Operator (FSO) – Implementation of Code Changes**, full details can be found on the slide pack within the [Panel Papers](#).

6140. CM advised the Panel that DESNZ and Ofgem will use bespoke processes to deliver FSO licences and code changes based on stated policy aims and the parameters of the Energy Bill.

6141. CM informed the Panel that the key focus for Ofgem was on the creation of two new licence conditions for the FSO – one for Electricity Act and one for Gas Act as well as

co-ordinating the changes to the code. Ofgem were working closely with ESO, Elexon and NGET as delivery partners to identify and drive some of the changes that may be required.

6142. CM also noted that since publication of the decision in April 2022, there had been much work behind the scenes regarding roles and responsibilities, looking to codify these in the draft licencing conditions and codes and also engagement in building up relationships with the delivery partners (ESO, Elexon and NGET).
6143. CM advised that the Energy Bill was making good progress and was now with the House of Lords with the next stage re: content of the bill scheduled for 17 April 2023.
6144. CM informed the Panel that the most important thing for Ofgem and the rest of the industry was, the powers the bill provides to co-ordinate and drive the implementation of the FSO, giving Ofgem the power to change the licences and codes solely for the purpose of the creation of the FSO. CM highlighted that this would mean that Ofgem would not have to use Section 11 of the Electricity Act to meet the licence conditions. There would also be no need for standard modification powers and procedures to amend codes.
6145. CM emphasised that this Energy Bill was focused on delivering and be operationally ready for the FSO on day one.
6146. CMal clarified that no betterment is one of the principles agreed by Ofgem and their project partners and all the modifications would be going as a single package via powers under the Energy Bill.
6147. CMal advised that the expectation was that around June/July 2023 (when Energy Bill is expected to have received royal assent), Ofgem would issue the consultation on the licences themselves.
6148. Whilst there were no questions/queries raised at Panel, Ofgem were happy to receive any questions via email or telephone.

## 5. New STC/STCP Modification Proposals for Panel Decision

6149. The Chair advised that three new modifications had been received for March 2023 Panel.
- PM0129 - “Compliance Processes and Modelling amendments following 9 August 2019 Power Disruption”.***
6150. DH summarised that as follow-on to the Grid Code Modification **GC0141**, it had been identified that a change would be required to **STC Procedure 19-5** for the production and type of models required, and the sharing of models for sub-synchronous torsional interaction (SSTI) and sub-synchronous control interaction (SSCI) studies, in order to harmonise the with the Grid Code.

6151. The change was to ensure consistency between the Grid Code and STC when the Offshore Transmission System was originally bound by the Grid Code as an OTSUA, but then migrates to an OFTO where STCP19-5 which covers the Offshore Transmission System Compliance Process and Testing applies.
6152. The proposed legal text was shared with the OFTO Panel Representatives on the 28 February 2023 for review/comment but no comments yet received and the Panel agreed that a further clarification discussion between the Proposer and Panel OFTO representatives was needed before Panel could decide on whether or not to implement **PM0129. ACTION.**
6153. The Chair invited RWI to present the STC and STCP modifications **CM090/PM0130 – “Housekeeping changes to simplify FSO transition”**
6154. RWI talked through the background to these modifications stating that minor housekeeping changes were proposed to make the FSO transition simpler to implement.
- Throughout the STC and STCPs, references to NGENSO would be amended to ‘The Company’
  - A new/amended definition would be added to the STC to set out that at present ‘The Company’ refers to NGENSO
  - The front sheet and revision schedule of each STCP would also be amended to reference ‘The Company’ and the STC definition
  - As the institutional changes to establish the FSO were brought forward, the majority can then be realised through a further amendment to the ‘The Company’ definition to refer to the new name for the FSO when that was determined
  - This treatment had long been used in the CUSC and a change to adopt use of ‘The Company’ was made to the Grid Code at legal separation (housekeeping modification [GC0115](#)) – but not to the STC which employed a minimum change approach at the time
  - Draft proposals were presented at the February 2023 Panel with samples of legal text. Proposals were now being raised officially with all legal text completed (10 sections, 11 schedules and 53 STCPs) – for more details please see the slides within the [Panel papers](#).
6155. MC raised a question on the mention of “**TOGA**” and whether was would be addressed. RWI responded that whilst this had been noted and was clearly incorrect, the solution was not clear at this stage. These modifications had been worked on the strict rule of no betterment and the only way to get these through the proposed governance route was that there was no materiality, and were not changing anything substantive.
6156. The Panel unanimously agreed that **CM090** should follow the Fast-Track and Self-Governance route and unanimously agreed to implement **PM0130. (Post Meeting Note: CM090 Appeals window opened from 30 March 2023 to 5pm 24 April 2023 with implementation on 25 April 2023 for CM090 (if no Appeals received) and PM0130)**

## 6. Draft STC/STCP Modifications

6157. None.

## 7. Inflight Modification Updates/Potential New Modifications

6158. The Chair advised the Panel that the Cross Code modification tracker had been shared for their reference.

## 8. Workgroup Reports

6159. None.

## 9. Draft Final Modification Reports

### ***CM088 'Fault Ride Through Definition.***

6160. **CM088** seeks to make changes of **Section K** of the STC to achieve harmonisation with the Grid Code following the approval of **GC0141** on 12 December 2022 and makes amendments to Connection Conditions (CC) and European Connection Conditions (ECC) sections of the Grid Code in respect of defining the requirements of the Fault Ride Through.

6161. The Panel unanimously recommended implementation of **CM088** and the Final Modification Report will be sent to Ofgem on 12 April 2023 (**Post Meeting Note: CM088 Final Modification Report sent to Ofgem 12 April 2023**).

6162. **CM088** documentation can be found [here](#).

## 10. Code Administrator Update

6163. None

## 11. Any other Business

6164. PM requested Panel views on the next face to face meeting. The Panel all agreed that face to face meetings were welcomed, however sufficient notice needs to be given to make the appropriate arrangements but agreed that May 2023 Panel would be a suitable opportunity for a face to face meeting.

## Date of next meeting

6165. The next STC Panel meeting will be held on **Wednesday 26 April 2023**

6166. New Modification Proposal date **Tuesday 11 April 2023**

6167. Panel papers day **Tuesday 18 April 2023**