

Draft Minutes of the SONI Grid Code Review Panel (GCRP)

10 May 2023

Attendance:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Role</u>
Sam Matthews (SM)	Y	SONI GCRP Chairperson
Conleth McAteer (CM)	Y	TSO Member
Brian Mongan (BM)	Y	Aggregator Member
Sam Gibson (SG)	N	Interconnector Owners
Neil Johnson (NJ)	Y	Interconnector Owners Alternate
Stephen Brownlees (SB)	Y	Generators
Jody O'Boyle (JO)	Y	Utility Regulator (UR)
Ben Harris (BH)	Y	Utility Regulator Alternate
William Deane (WD)	N	RES – Small Scale
Krishna Anaparthi (KA)	Y	Electricity Storage
Jim Cooke (JC)	Y	Generators
Leonard Taggart (LT)	N	NIE Networks
Francesca McKee (FM)	Y	TSO - Observer
Finian Hagan (FH)	Y	TSO - Observer
Deirdre Hughes (DH)	Y	TSO - Observer
Aaron Keogh (AK)	Y	TSO - Observer

Introduction to GCRP Meeting & Approval of Minutes

SM welcomed all members to the meeting.

Minutes

- No comments were received to previous minutes, and they were deemed approved.

Actions

- Draft Derogations and Modifications lists issued to members for comment – action closed.

Modifications and updates

RoCoF

CM updated - Consultation was finalised and report is submitted to UR for approval.

SB – commented the requirements of grid code compliance testing are in excess of those set out in grid code for RoCoF

JO updated - Modification has gone to the UR Senior Team for approval.

Additional signal requirements for Solar

CM updated - Consultation period & extension to consultation period finished- no feedback received. SONI will issue consultation report to UR for approval.

CM presented a housekeeping addition for inclusion in modification – update to a diagram to change “WFPS” to “PPM”.

JO – requested all diagrams were checked to ensure any further housekeeping is also captured within this update.

EP Kilroot MCR clause

CM provided an update on ongoing review of MCR clause by Jacobs. Jacob's review and assessment underway since January. It is being progressed as a two part assessment, Market research and techno-economic analysis. Market research divided into three parts - EU directives, OEM capabilities, and other TSO Grid Code requirements. Techno-economic assessment will assess the impact of minimum generation at a system level in terms of costs and impact to environment. Entire assessment is due to be completed in mid-June and will recommend a new Grid Code requirement.

SB expressed concerns regarding the applicability of the techno-economic assessment. SB stated that the new requirement should be based on technical capability only.

BM supported this position.

SM stated that the wider considerations of the changes to the overall system and direction of travel need to be considered.

CM reiterated that it is the entirety of the assessment - Market research and techno economic assessment that will dictate the new GC requirement and that any update to the MCR clause will be rooted within generator's technical capability.

Implementation of Connection Network Codes

CM updated - RFG now full incorporated into NI Grid Code following the UR granting outstanding derogations in February. SONI have submitted updated HVDC requirements to UR.

JO - there is currently no further update on approval.

CM stated when this approval is closed out SONI will bring an HVDC modification to the GCRP.

CM updated – SONI are undertaking a gap analysis with a view to incorporating the DCC requirements into Grid Code. SONI will work with UR to close out the DCC Requirements required amendments. The aim is to have a DCC modification with the GCRP in September.

Derogation and Modification Register

CM sought feedback on the draft Derogation and Modification registers and stated SONI aim to resolve items that are “TBC” within the register in June in coordination with the UR.

SB states it is important to highlight which items active derogations within the registers.

CM - SONI will introduce a derogation section to SONI website. The modification register will be added to recently updated modification section of the Grid code website.

Modification to Constitution

FM presented on proposed modification to the Constitution. This proposes three meetings per year instead of four. Members can request additional meetings as required. Update meeting frequency to be at regular intervals rather than specified months. Proposed change of official venue from Castlereagh House to online.

SB indicated four meetings is preferable to three. CM reiterated that any member can request a GCRP be held.

SB and BM indicated that it is preferable to have meetings in person. CM updated that Mutual Energy had also stated a preference to have a face to face meeting.

BM stated that instead of Castlereagh House the wording should be changes to “another suitable venue agreed by GCRP”.

DSU Definition

CM requested any final comments. There were no final comments. SONI will progress to consultation.

Grid Code Implementation of ESPS

CM requested any final comments.

KA stated that a mode 4 that is included in the latest modification was not in the initial consultation.

CM stated that this was an intermediary requirement that was not more onerous than what was consulted upon. This was required to reflect current operation of ESPS which was an oversight within the initial document. This mode was discussed within the consultation period with ESI and no issues were raised. CM asked were there any concerns with the latest text.

KA did not state any concerns with mode 4.

AK stated that mode 4 was included in the redline and greenline versions sent to the GCRP in April.

UR Update

CM asked was there any further update from the UR in addition to that presented at the JGCRP.

JO stated there was nothing additional.

AOB

Changes to GCRP personnel

CM asked if there were any required changes to Grid Code personnel. No changes required. CM replaces Marie-Therese and Conor O'Byrne as TSO Member, while FM and FH will also be in attendance going forward.

Next GCRP

CM proposed June or September for next GCRP depending on content available for panel review

SM suggested end of June more appropriate given expected delivery of MCR report

SB stated that there should be sufficient time to digest MCR report prior to next panel.