

## MINUTES OF THE GRID CODE REVIEW PANEL MEETING

Held at the Clarion Hotel, IFSC, Dublin

On 27 January 2010 at 10:30am

### PANEL ATTENDEES

<u>Name</u>		<u>Present</u>	<u>Role</u>
Jon O'Sullivan	JOS	Y	Chairman
Jane McArdle	JMcA	Y	Renewable Generators
Gráinne O'Shea	GOS	Y	ESBPG
Chevron Nolan	CN	Y	ESBPES
Ger Harnett	GH	Y	Independent Electricity Supplier
Rónán Ó hÓgartaigh	RO	Y	Distribution System Operator
John Lynch	JL	Y	CER
Simon Grimes	SG	Y	EirGrid Representative
Mark Norton	MN	Y	EirGrid Representative
Brían McAuley	BMcA	Y	Market Operator (Alternate)
Barry Sherry	BS	Y	Endesa (Alternate)

### OTHER ATTENDEES

<u>Name</u>		<u>Present</u>	<u>Role</u>
Stacy Altman	SA	Y	CER (Advisor)
Arlene McGrath	AMcG	Y	GCRP Secretary
Geoff Clarke	GC	Y	CER Technical Advisor (SKM)
Patrick Liddy	PL	Y	Activation Energy DSU (Observer)
Daniel Joyce	DJ	Y	EirGrid (Advisor)

### APOLOGIES

<u>Name</u>		<u>Present</u>	<u>Role</u>
Conor Healy	CH	N	Transmission Asset Owner
Donna Kearney	DK	N	EirGrid Representative
Peter Gillespie	PG	N	IPP Generators (exl. Renewables and CCGT)
Miguel Gonzalez	MG	N	Independent Generators (excl. Renewables)
Garrett Blaney	GB	N	IPP Generators (CCGT only)
James Gallagher	JG	N	HVDC Interconnector

### Introduction to GCRP meeting & Approval of Minutes

1. The Chairman welcomed Panel Members to the meeting and provided an overview of the agenda.
2. The Chairman reported that Garrett Blaney had resigned from the Joint Grid Code Review Panel. The Chairman noted that Garrett Blaney will be missed and on behalf of the panel he wished him well in his new capacity with the CER. The Chairman reported that EirGrid will contact Independent CCGT appointees to elect a new member for the vacant position.
3. The Chairman noted all apologies received and acknowledged a letter received from Miguel Gonzalez appointing Barry Sherry as his alternate.
4. The Chairman also welcomed Patrick Liddy, Geoff Clarke and Daniel Joyce who will present some of the Grid Code wind issues.
5. The GCRP approved the minutes of the previous meeting held in Belfast on 24<sup>th</sup> September '09.

### Key Principles

Discussion on Registered Capacity and Maximum Export Capacity (MEC)	JO'S
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Connection Agreement refers to the MEC and the Grid Code refers to the Registered Capacity.</li><li>• The Registered Capacity is not a defined term in the Connection Agreement.</li><li>• EirGrid need to clarify the position and process for notice of change to the MEC and to the Registered Capacity.</li><li>• Gráinne O'Shea recommended that EirGrid also look at the T&amp;SC and apply consistency throughout.</li></ul> <p><b>ACTION: EirGrid to clarify the notification process for making a change to the MEC and for making a change to the Registered Capacity.</b></p>	

Discussion on the Wind Workshop that took place in EirGrid Offices 1/12/09	JO'S

- The main purpose of the workshop was to discuss the practise of wind farm commissioning and Grid Code compliance testing.
- Following on from the workshop a customer wind farm commissioning pack and Grid Code compliance testing documents are now available on the EirGrid website.
- Jane McArdle expressed that the workshop was excellent and a good discussion took place with a wide range of stakeholders. She also reported that clarity now exists around the wind farm commissioning phase and grid code compliance; however she did note that some projects may be further along the development line and experience difficulty in following the process.
- The chairman noted that the process applies to all Gate 3 projects.
- At the workshop the industry agreed on an availability signal standard and that is now in operation.
- Jane McArdle recommended an additional member join the GCRP to represent renewables.
- The Chairman agreed with this suggestion considering that there is currently 1200 MW of wind on the power system and this will rise to 40% in 2020.
- John Lynch queried how the new member will be elected to the panel.
- The Chairman noted that in accordance with clause 7.5 of the constitution "*The Chairman shall have the power, having consulted existing members, to appoint any additional Members of the Panel on a permanent or temporary basis as the Chairman considers appropriate from time to time. Such additional members may include the following:*
  - (a) representative(s) of any consumer group;*
  - (b) representative(s) of any interconnected party;*
  - (c) representative(s) of the Generators;**The Secretary shall notify the existing members of the Panel of such additional appointments within ten (10) Business Days of such appointments.*"
- Following a members discussion it was agreed that the Chairman approach IWEA and National Offshore Wind to invite them to appoint another person to represent renewables on the GCRP. The member must have an application in Gate 3 to the transmission system. The Chairman will suggest to IWEA and National Offshore Wind to consider Meitheal Na Gaoithe when making their choice.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daniel Joyce provided an explanation on the different types of Wind Farm Extensions that exist and a possible modification may be brought to the Grid Code.</li> <li>• Daniel Joyce went on to discuss Wind Farm availability signals. There has been an industry move away from the 0-10mA range because it caused operational issues; a zero signal could indicate the required signal or that the signal has failed, to a 4-20mA range. Since the workshop a new availability signal range has been agreed and there has been an overall improvement in the quality of signals.</li> <li>• EirGrid have also undertaken a body of work to look at the voltage control of DSO Wind Farms with the DSO.</li> </ul>	
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Discussion on the Generator Workshop that took place in EirGrid Offices 09/12/09	JO'S
<p><b><u>Discussion on Staffing Levels – operating a unit remotely</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chairman explained that no alteration to the Grid Code is necessary but clarification is required. The Grid Code clause OC7.2.4.2.3 states that “<i>The <b>Control Facility</b> shall be staffed by a <b>Responsible Operator(s)</b> who shall respond to communications from the <b>TSO</b> without undue delay (except where otherwise provided for by agreement between the <b>Generator</b> and the <b>TSO</b>, such agreement not be unreasonably withheld)</i>... “. This requires clarity as it is non-transparent for new entrants to the market; it is difficult for them to understand the standards and requirements.</li> <li>• EirGrid are considering a policy for remotely controlled units, however there are other issues to consider such as a unit being the largest unit on the system.</li> <li>• Gráinne O’Shea noted that further clarification is required. ESB PG like the way it currently works and it may merit holding a workshop to discuss this. She also reported that there may be implications for the hydro plants; they provide other functions beyond electricity such as flood control.</li> <li>• Mark Norton suggested that the issue may not be with the size of the plant but more to do with the function of the plant.</li> <li>• Barry Sherry also raised <del>a possible future modification that</del>; the definition of the control facility as it stands in the Grid Code does not state <del>a location in relation to the unit</del> <b>the location of the control facility in relation to the unit.</b></li> </ul>	<p>Comment [amg1]: This comment was made by Barry Sherry 16/02/2010.</p>

**ACTION: EirGrid to further consider this issue and bring this back to the next GCRP.**

**Discussion on the latest Grid Code**

- Version 3.4 is available on the EirGrid website.
- This new version includes the modifications:
  - MPID191 Automatic Generator Control (AGC).
  - MPID192 Secondary Fuel Testing Procedure.

**Discussion on Secondary Fuel Consultation**

- Stacy Altman updated members. EirGrid are due to issue a recommendation paper within the next two weeks. The slight delay is due to further consideration around the compensation method. Following the recommendation paper the RA will issue their final decision.
- The Chairman noted that EirGrid have not performed any Secondary Fuel testing to date.

**ACTION: EirGrid to issue a recommendation paper and the RA to issue their final decision.**

**Discussion on MPID 195 Planned Plant Closures**

- The Chairman noted that Donna Kearney was unavailable to attend the GCRP and in her absence he will provide an overview of the proposed Grid Code changes set out in MPID 195 and MPID 196.
- Modification MPID195 relates to Registered Capacity; if a change is made to the Registered Capacity or if the plant is due to close under the Grid Code the user is currently obliged to give two years notice. The CER recommends that the time frame should be increased to three years.
- The Chairman further explained that the MEC is defined in the Connection Agreement and a change to the MEC requires two years notice under this agreement. TUoS charges apply if the obliged notice period is not given.
- The Chairman agreed there is a lack of clarity in notifying changes to the Registered Capacity. The only sanction under the Grid Code is that we write to the user to report a non compliance. TUoS charges apply to the MEC only.
- Gráinne O'Shea expressed that clarity is required to link it altogether and currently she feels uncomfortable with the proposal. [Power Generation will support if \(a\) not binding \(i.e.](#)

like GAR) and can change mind without penalty or loss of connection rights and (b) no increase in TUoS penalty (i.e. currently must pay TUoS for 2 years after notification of closure - so this should not increase).

**Comment [amg2]:** This comment was made by Grainne O'Shea 12/02/2010.

- Barry Sherry also expressed his concern with the time frame of three years.
- The Chairman explained that the RA is driving this recommendation for reasons of system security and ultimately the risks to the consumer.
- Stacy Altman expressed that the RA is only proposing a change to the time scale and the background to this requirement remain as is.
- John Lynch suggested modifying the proposed text to include less than or equal to 50MW.

**ACTION:**

- **The Chairman agreed to further discuss this proposal with the RA. EirGrid will formulate a process around notifying a change to the Registered Capacity and the MEC. Final consideration will be made at the next GCRP.**
- **Change the proposed text to less than or equal to 50 MW.**

**Discussion on the Notification and Reporting of Medium/Long Term Operational**

**Characteristics, MPID196**

- The Chairman provided an overview of the proposed Grid Code changes set out in MPID 196.
- John Lynch pointed out that the term Major Outage is not defined in the Grid Code glossary.

**ACTION: EirGrid will circulate a definition for the term Major Outage and if no objections are raised the proposed modification will be recommended to the CER.**

**Facilitation of Renewables**

- The Chairman reported that EirGrid and SONI are conducting a unique renewables study around dynamic studies, fault levels, flexibility requirements, reserve requirements, ramping requirements. EirGrid and SONI are the first in the world to undertake such a study.
- The study group will make a presentation on the results and everyone is welcome to attend. The tentative date for this presentation is Feb 2010 and the location will be Belfast.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A paper is due to be issued in March 2010.</li> </ul>	
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**SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

ACTION	MEMBER
<p><b>MPID 190: Alignment of CC.7.2.2.1 with the latest European standard dealing with insulation co-ordination (currently IEC 60071-1 Ed. 8.0)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EirGrid propose to simplify the Grid Code and remove any conflicting issues with regard to clearances and safety standards. These standards are more appropriately left to the respective legislation (ETCI) and ESB Safety Rules.</li> <li>• EirGrid and the DSO will work together on this item.</li> </ul>	<p><b>EIRGRID</b></p>
<p><b>Two Year Generation Outage Schedule - modification proposed by ESB Customer Supply to the Trading &amp; Settlement Code (T&amp;SC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This proposal is formally withdrawn because no changes are required to the Grid Code.</li> <li>• The EirGrid GCRP has no objections in supporting the original proposed modification to the T&amp;SC subject to the SONI GCRP agreeing to the proposal.</li> </ul>	<p><b>ESBCS to revert back to T&amp;SC Panel.</b></p> <p><b>EirGrid to discuss with SONI</b></p>
<p><b>MPID 187: HVDC Interconnector Standards and Capabilities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Lynch reported that the CER consultation period ended in December. A couple of responses were received. CER are now putting together a decision paper and they plan to publish this by mid to late February.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CER</b></p>
<p><b>MPID 193: A Proposal from ESB Power Generation to Modify the Grid Code Definition for Within-Day Test</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This proposal was recommended to the CER on 10/11/09.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CER</b></p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Lynch reported that they are due to respond on this proposal soon.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Performance Monitoring</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chairman reported that the GPIs are separate to Performance Monitoring, GPIs fall under the Harmonised Ancillary Services package. They will come into operation 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2010.</li> <li>• Gráinne O'Shea recommended that retrospection on the RA decision should be applied to the date of submission of Grid Code derogations and any GPIs charged should be refunded from the date of submission if the derogation is approved by the CER. John Lynch noted that the CER will consider this recommendation.</li> <li>• Anne Trotter (EirGrid) has visited all conventional generators to give a high level explanation of the Performance Monitoring reports and she is due to visit the Wind Farms shortly.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CER</b></p>
<p><b>CER Recommendations on Planned Plant Closures and the Notification and Reporting of Medium/Long Term Operational Characteristics</b></p> <p><b>MPID 195 Planned Plant Closures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EirGrid will clarify the notification process in making changes to Registered Capacity (Grid Code) and MEC (Connection Agreements).</li> <li>• EirGrid will further discuss this proposal with the CER.</li> <li>• Following clarification the proposal will be brought back to the next GCRP meeting for discussion.</li> <li>• John Lynch noted that the proposal should state less than or equal to 50MW.</li> </ul> <p><b>MPID 196 Reporting of Medium/Long Term Operational Characteristics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EirGrid will circulate a definition for the term <b>Major Outage</b> and if no objections are raised the modification will be recommended to the CER.</li> </ul>	<p><b>EIRGRID</b></p>
<p><b>New Member</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following a members discussion it was agreed that the Chairman approach IWEA and National Offshore Wind to invite them to appoint another person to represent renewables on the GCRP. The member must have an application in Gate 3 to the transmission system. The Chairman will suggest to IWEA and National Offshore Wind to consider Meitheal Na Gaoithe when making their choice.</li> </ul>	<p><b>EirGrid</b></p>

**Wind Farm Extensions**

- EirGrid will give further consideration to a definition for wind farm extensions which may result in a proposed modification at the next GCRP.

**EirGrid**