

MINUTES OF THE JOINT GRID CODE REVIEW PANEL MEETING

Held at the Grand Canal Hotel, Dublin

On Thursday 9 September 2010 at 14.00

Present:

Members/Alternates	Representing	
Dick Lewis	SONI	Chairman of the NI GCRP
Jon O'Sullivan	EirGrid	Chairman of the ROI GCRP
Tom McCartan	SONI	As an alternate for Alex Baird
Brendan Woods	SONI	
Bronagh McKeown	SONI	As an observer for SONI
Adrian Henning	SONI	As an observer for SONI
Arlene McGrath	EirGrid	As secretary of the EirGrid GCRP
Mark Norton	EirGrid	
David Joyce	EirGrid	
Yvonne Coughlan	EirGrid	
Brian Williams	EastWest Interconnector	
Chevron Nolan	ESB Customer Supply	
Jim Cooke	Coolkeeragh ESB Power Station	
Rónán Ó hÓgartaigh	ESB Networks	
Joe Duddy	RES	
Ger Harnett	Bord Gais Energy	
Gary Thompson	Bord Gais Energy	
John Lynch	CER	
Ivan Purvis	AES Kilroot Power Limited	
Brian Mongan	AES Kilroot Power Limited	As an observer
Mick McGuckin	Mutual Energy	As an alternate for Stephen Hemphill
Denis McBride	PPL	
Derek Scully	VPE	As an alternate for Kevin Hannafin

Brian McAuley	SEMO/EirGRid	
Yazhou Lei	Wind Prospect	
Jane McArdle	SSE Renewables/Airtricity	
Barry Sherry	Endesa Ireland	
Louise Stevenson	CMS Cameron McKenna	Secretary of the SONI GCRP

1. Introduction to JGCRP meeting

- Jon O’Sullivan, acting as Chairman at the JGCRP meeting, welcomed Panel Members to the meeting and provided an overview of the agenda. He then introduced new members to the panel.
- The Chairman asked whether there were any queries or comments about the minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 January in Belfast- none were raised. Comments received from David Macartney, from whom apologies had been received, in respect of the minutes from the 20 May meeting were noted.
- The Chairman provided updates on the actions from the last meeting.
 - (a) ***Action: SEMO to work up a few examples of how the proposed instructions would work in practice and circulate them to the Panel within 3 weeks of the JGCRP meeting. JGCRP mailing list to be used for circulating worked examples. Generators may circulate the worked examples more widely if they wish.*** Worked examples of how instructions proposed by the TSO in the event of failure to follow a Notice to Synchronise Instruction and a failure to reach Minimum Generation would work in practice were circulated in July.
 - (b) ***Action: TSOs to circulate internet links to the relevant [EU] consultation documents.*** SONI and EirGrid have posted links to some of the relevant EU documents. The Chairman explained that the links provided were not necessarily an exhaustive list. The Chairman also explained that EirGrid during the ROI GCRP held that morning had agreed to update its website with the information that it is aware of. An explanation was provided in respect of the comitology process being followed and the TSOs’ involvement in the European process.

2. Failure to Sync/Failure to reach Minimum Generation consultation Update

- Jon O’Sullivan explained that the responses received to the published consultation substantiated the discussions held at the last JGCRP. He went on to state that there were still ongoing discussions, between the TSOs and internally within each TSO.
- It was explained to the Panel that the TSOs would be recommending to the Regulators that the Grid Codes be amended to incorporate a Failure to Follow Notice to Synchronise Instruction, as well as Failure to Reach Minimum Generation Instruction in the event that a CDGU trips before reaching Minimum Generation. The TSOs would not be recommending that the Grid Codes be amended to provide for a Failure

to Reach Minimum Generation Instruction to be given where a CGDU fails to reach Minimum Generation within a specified time.

- Representatives of the TSOs expressed that the TSOs believe this to be the best approach at the present time. In lieu of an amendment to the Grid Codes to allow a Failure to Reach Minimum Generation Instruction to be used when a CDGU fails to reach Minimum Generation within a specified time, the report to be made to the Regulators will make clear that this decision will be reconsidered should the TSOs think it necessary.
- Jon O’Sullivan then gave a summary of the responses received from respondents, focussing on the fact that many believed the proposals to be commercially unfair. He noted that the TSOs believe the proposals to be fair.
- In respect of the Failure to Reach Minimum Generation within a specified time, Jon O’Sullivan explained that EirGrid was minded to see the points made by many Generators. EirGrid believes that the existing EirGrid Grid Code provides it with a way of dealing with such a situation, as it allows it to modify operating characteristics appropriately. It was explained that the SONI Grid Code provides similar principals though a different process is followed to achieve the same results.
- It was noted that although the practices currently provided for in the Grid Codes may not have been followed to date, the TSOs have the right to amend characteristics. In Northern Ireland the process is more complex in light of OC11, but the end goal can be achieved. The current process will be reviewed when OC11 is reviewed. Commercial payments will be affected under the processes already provided for in the Grid Codes, but this will act as an incentive.
- Denis McBride queried whether under the new proposals Generators would lose Start payments. It was explained that Generators would remain on the bars, though after monitoring and testing may need to redeclare.
- Jim Cooke then asked whether there was an option for Generators to declare availability below Minimum Generation. It was noted that if it is safe to hold at that level it can be done, but the TSOs will not allow a Generator to be on outside of safe operational zone.
- Brian McAuley asked for confirmation that a Failure to Reach Minimum Generation Instruction would not be given when Minimum Generation level was not reached within specified time but the Generator was on the bars. Jon O’Sullivan and Dick Lewis confirmed this was the case.
- Denis McBride raised a query as to whether a Generator would get a Start Payment when it failed to reach Minimum Generation because it had tripped. It was explained that a Failure to Reach Minimum Generation Instruction would negate a Notice to Synchronise but that the Generator would get payments for uninstructed balances.
- It was suggested that a paper would be prepared for submission to the Regulators by 30 September and would be issued to the Regulator shortly thereafter.

3. Formal arrangements to deal with TSC changes that may require Grid Code changes

- It was decided by the Panel to defer this item to the next meeting.

4. Any Other Business

- There was no other business.

5. Arrangements for next meeting

- It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on **Thursday 27 January 2011 in Belfast.**

APPROVED