

EirGrid and SONI

Joint Grid Code Review Panel Meeting

Thursday 3rd of May 2007

The Wellington Park Hotel, Belfast

Minutes

1. Agenda

- Welcome to members and introductions
- Update on Grid Code harmonisation for the Single Electricity Market
- General overview
- Project Plan
- Update on comments received from Users
- Operational Issues
 - Within-Day Testing
 - Availability Re-Declarations
 - Despatching MW in Exported terms and Mvar at the Generator Terminals
 - Minimum MW Threshold for CDGUs
 - Demand Side Units
- User Paper
 - Overview of the updated Scheduling and Despatch Codes (Common Sections) and the updated new Definitions table
 - Overview of the harmonisation approach of SONI SDC3 and EirGrid OC4
 - Overview of the updated SONI and EirGrid Planning Codes
 - Overview of the updated SONI Connection Conditions
 - Overview of the updated SONI and EirGrid Operation Planning Codes
 - Overview of other modifications required in SONI and EirGrid Codes
 - Future word
- Any Other Business

2. Attendees

2.1 Attendees' List

Ireland GCRP Panel Members

Constituency	Name	Company	Attended?
Chairman	Simon Grimes	EirGrid	ü
Transmission System Operator	Doireann Barry	EirGrid	ü
Transmission System Operator	Mark Norton	EirGrid	ü
IPP Generators (exl. Renewables and CCGT)	Peter Gillespie	Edenderry Power Ltd.	ü
IPP Generators	Neil Bingham	Energia (Huntstown)	ü

(CCGT only)			
Renewable Generators	Patrick O’Kane	Airtricity	
ESBPG	Therese Lannon	ESB	
Public Electricity Supplier	Chevron Nolan	ESB	ü
Independent Electricity Supplier	Bridín Chonceanainn Ní	Fuinneamh Glas Teo	
Demand Customers	Pat O’Donnell	Intel	
Transmission Asset Owner	Donal Phelan	ESB	
Distribution System Operator	Alan Staunton*	ESB	ü
CER	Siobhán Dinneen	CER	ü
Other attendees			
Constituency	Name	Company	
CER advisor	Richard Fairbairn	SKM	ü
TSO advisor	Marie Hayden	EirGrid	ü
TSO advisor	Mark Needham	EirGrid	ü
TSO advisor	Ciara Corby	Client Side Advisor to EirGrid / SONI	ü
EirGrid GCRP Secretary	Emma Fagan	EirGrid	ü

* denotes alternate attendee

Northern Ireland GCRP Panel Members

Constituency	Name	Company	Attended?
Chairman	Robin McCormick	SONI	ü
Transmission System Operator	Brendan Woods	SONI	
Transmission System Operator	Michael Preston	SONI	ü
Transmission Owner	Leslie Bryans	NIE	
Generators	Roger Casement	AES Kilroot	
Generators	Ivan Purvis*	PPL	ü
Generators	Jim Cooke	Coolkeeragh ESB	ü
Second Tier Supplier	Tomás Murray*	ESBIE	
Second Tier Supplier	Neil Bingham	Energia	ü

NIAER	Juliet Corbett	NIAER	ü
Renewable Generators	Paddy O’Kane	Airtricity	
PES	Philip Carson	NIES	
Interconnector	Paddy Larkin	Moyle	
Other attendees			
Constituency	Name	Company	
NIAER advisor	David Nicol	KEMA	ü
NIAER advisor	Richard Haigh	Skyplex	
TSO advisor	Leslie Burns	SONI	ü
TSO advisor	Denis Garrett	SONI	ü
TSO advisor	Andy Lindsay	SONI	
TSO advisor	Nick Molho	Cameron McKenna	ü
SONI Secretary	GCRP Robert Lane	Cameron McKenna	ü

* denotes alternate attendee

2.2 Apologies

Apologies were sent by Paddy O’Kane, Therese Lannon, Pat O’Donnell, Paddy Larkin, Brendan Woods, Leslie Bryans, Stephen Walsh, Brídín Ní Chonceanain, and Donal Phelan

3. **Introduction**

3.1 Following a general introduction by the Chairman, an overview of the issues to be discussed in the meeting was provided to Users (namely Operational Issues, the sections of the Grid Codes under Common Governance and other SONI and EirGrid Grid Code sections). A transition paper was expected to be published by the Regulatory Authorities on May 4th.

3.2 Project Plan

The latest Grid Code Harmonisation Work Plan was presented to Users. The TSOs explained to Users that following the GCRP meeting, comments on the sections discussed at the meeting should be sent to the TSOs by Friday 18 May. The TSOs also stressed that by 19 June, complete sets of Grid Code consultation material would be posted on the TSOs respective websites. A public consultation period will take place from June 19th until July 10th.

4. **Operational issues**

4.1 Within-Day Testing

The TSOs presented the latest update on Within-Day Testing issues. The TSOs explained that it was important to have proposals for managing short notice and short duration tests that are requested by Generators. In particular, the fundamental policy should be that the SMP and transmission system constraint costs should not unduly increase as a result of a Participant

requested test and that all the costs falling out from an uneconomic dispatch could not be shared. Users raised the point that Generators will want to be made whole if a planned test can not happen. It is important to add that under the TSC and current market system design, generators under long term test are treated as price takers for the entire day. An invitation was made by Marie Hayden to Neil Bingham to discuss the query outside of the meeting.

4.2 Availability re-declarations

The TSOs explained that for units declaring themselves available from zero, the effective time for the availability change would be when the unit is capable of being synchronised, which would amount to a change for the Republic of Ireland. Further, all plant including CCGT would be responsible for declaring the availability for the ambient conditions that persist at the time, which would consist a change for the SONI Grid Code. For plant that fails to synchronise, a zero MW availability declaration will have to be made if the plant is late by a prescribed length of time (such as, for instance, 5 minutes or 10% of run up time). Further, the TSOs explained that if a unit started earlier than requested, it would only receive an instructed imbalance energy payment. All these points would now be reflected in the new draft of the SDCs.

A query was raised by one User (Neil Bingham) regarding the proposition that the effective time for an availability change would be when a unit is capable of being synchronised. The User explained that under the TSC, a Unit could be cold but still be available and this seemed to contradict the proposition made by the TSOs. The key detail is that the new arrangement is fair, and that the onus is on participants to send in accurate timely information. The TSOs explained that difference between cold plant and non-available plant is that with sufficient notice cold plant can be dispatched to synchronise at a specific time whereas unavailable plant cannot commence a run-up until all work has finished on the plant.

4.3 Despatching MW in exported terms

The TSOs explained that a final decision had been taken to dispatch active power at exported values. However, the TSOs explained that dispatch instructions would display both exported values and generated values. The export adjustment factor as provided by the generator will be used to convert export values into gross values and both would be sent to the generator. Compliance with dispatch instructions will be measured against the exported MW value. The exported MW figure will then be sent to the market operator for use in settlement. The TSOs also confirmed that reactive Power (Mvar) would still be dispatched in generated terms.

A query was raised regarding how this new mechanism would work when generators were represented by an agent such as NIE PPB. The TSOs explained that the relationship behind the operator and secondary contracts is removed from the Grid Code.

4.4 Demand Side Units

The TSOs presented the latest proposals in relation to Demand Side Units. Essentially, the TSOs explained that no Units below 4MW would be centrally despatched. However, aggregation of Demand Side Units would be allowed (where the supplier is the same) and this should therefore facilitate market participation for Units below 4MW. The TSOs also explained that all Demand Side Units or aggregators in the case of units less than 4MW will be expected to install EDIL.

A query was raised by a User regarding the monitoring of compliance of Demand Side Units. The User highlighted the fact that monitoring compliance for Demand Side Units was more difficult than with other units. The TSOs specified that they would be setting out provisions to deal with these issues in their respective Grid Codes as regards Demand Side Units.

A question was raised by Alan Staunton regarding whether there is any restriction placed on the DSO with regard to DSUs? Restriction on the feeding arrangements or outage constraints.

The TSOs specified that provision may need to be included in the Distribution code or reference may need to be made to appropriate provisions in the Grid Code. Also, the TSOs stated that a DSU is not allowed to be a new exporter, which might take care of some issues.

4.5 Minimum MW threshold for CGDUs

The TSOs explained that they would not be centrally dispatching Units below 4 MW in name plate rating. However, Generation Unit aggregation would be allowed but no component Unit can be greater than 10MW. Units less than 4MW will be able to participate as autonomous Unit and all transmission system connected Units would have obligations to the TSO in respect of system security.

5. **Grid Code Amendments User paper**

5.1 SDC1

The TSOs then gave an overview of the key changes made to SDC1 since the last version which was circulated at the previous GCRP meeting in March. It was explained that the changes had been made to reflect comments made at and following that meeting as well as a result of further reflection given by the TSOs to this section. The key changes made to SDC1 consisted essentially in:

- making further references to “All-Island” factors;
- making terminology changes to wind farm power stations;
- introducing new references to “aggregators” and “interconnector units”;
- making other changes following further comments received from Users.

The TSOs also specified that there were currently considering harmonising the references to “system” and “demand” but that this required paying attention to knock on effects on other sections of the Grid Codes.

5.2 SDC2

The TSOs then presented an overview of the key changes made to SDC2. These changes included:

- general changes similar to those made to SDC1;
- amending SDC2.4.1.3 by removing references to “tie-break” situations and to the random selections of units to be dispatched;
- re-introducing dispatch instruction provisions for Mvar for Generating Units in the ROI; and
- other changes following comments received from Users.

ACTION: The safety of the cross border DSO conditions, agreement for tie lines. Alan Staunton to discuss with Fergal Egan. GC team to follow up with Fergal also.

5.3 SDC new Definitions Glossary

The TSOs gave an update on the changes made to the new definitions glossary for the SDCs. The TSOs explained that they had started to update definitions that had been presented at the previous GCRP meeting and removed certain definitions following changes made to the SDCs. Further, where certain definitions came from the TSC, the TSOs have tried to simplify them by avoiding cross-references to other terms in the TSC, whilst ensuring that the definitions in the Grid Code and in the TSC remained consistent. The TSOs acknowledged that there was still a fair amount of work to be done on making these definitions fully consistent and finalising them. The TSOs also pointed out that where the TSC currently provided an inaccurate description of operational terms, the Grid Code workstream raised some change requests to the TSC workstream.

5.4 SONI SDC3 v EirGrid OC4.3

The TSOs then explained that they would not be preparing a common section to cover the issues dealt with in the SDC3 section of the SONI Grid Code and the OC4.3 section of the EirGrid Grid Code. The TSOs explained that in their current form, both sections were fairly consistent although a few changes needed to be made to make them fully consistent with each other.

5.5 Wind farm issues

The TSOs then explained the changes to be made to wind farm power station terminology in the SDCs as well as in the WFPS 1 Code of the EirGrid Grid Code. In essence, the TSOs explained that all wind farm power stations would be referred to as “WFPS”. Wind farms that can automatically act upon a remote signal to adjust their active power output would be referred to in both Codes as a “Controllable WFPS”. As Controllable WFPSs cannot be centrally dispatched by the TSOs, they would be Price Takers under the TSC. On the other hand, a wind farm that can act upon a dispatch instruction to adjust its output will be characterised as a “Dispatchable WFPS” and will be characterised as a Price Maker under the TSC. All dispatchable WFPSs will be required to install EDIL.

5.6 EirGrid OC4.6.3.7 (operating margin)

EirGrid explained that the words “following an event” would be inserted at OC4.6.3.7 of the EirGrid Grid Code at the end of the new proposal for “substitute reserve”. This was as a result of a comment following the previous meeting.

5.7 EirGrid OC2

EirGrid then presented the main changes made to the OC2 section of the EirGrid Grid Code. In particular, the EirGrid OC2 section was amended to make more references to All-Island factors and refer to the co-ordination between both TSOs e.g. outage planning would be co-ordinated. A query was raised by the Regulatory Authorities regarding why there was no explicit reference to the “All-Island system”. The TSOs explained that this was because this term was not an existing term in either of the Grid Codes and each Grid Code was applicable in its own jurisdiction in respect of its own transmission system. Each TSO will continue to schedule and plan outages on its own system.

5.8 EirGrid Planning Code and Planning Code Appendix

EirGrid explained that amendments had been made to the Planning Code Appendix to refer to the standard temperature and pressure conditions on which the CCGT matrix was based. This also included correction of typos.

5.9 SONI Planning Code

SONI presented an overview of the key changes made to the Planning Code since the last version that was circulated at the previous GCRP meeting. In particular, it was explained that the key changes consisted in changing the WFPS terminology by replacing references to “PD WFPS” with “Controllable WFPS” and “D WFPS” with “Dispatchable WFPS”. Other more minor changes were also made following comments received from Users such as re-inserting the reference to “90 days” at PC7.2.2.

5.10 SONI connection conditions

The TSOs explained that the key changes to the SONI Connection Conditions were as follows:

- the scope was extended at CC3 to include “interconnector owners”;
- references to Licence Standards were simplified by referring only to “Licence Standards” rather than TO or TSO licence standards;
- amendments were made to the safety sections of the Connection Conditions (CC10.2 and 10.3) to reflect the role of the TO in appointing safety staff and carrying out safety procedures;
- other changes were made such as updating the WFPS terminology as explained above.

5.11 SONI OC2

SONI explained that the changes made to the OC2 section of the SONI Grid Code were very similar to the changes made to the OC2 section of the EirGrid Grid Code. In particular, the main changes consisted in reinforcing the All-Island flavour of OC2 and making the consequential WFPS terminology changes.

5.12 Other SONI sections

SONI explained that 9 further sections of the SONI Grid Code had also been posted on the SONI website recently (namely the Introduction, OC1 to OC9). Most of the changes made to the sections were consequential changes following changes made to the common sections of the Grid Code. The TSOs reminded Users that a separate User paper describing the key changes made to each of these sections had also been published on the SONI website.

SONI also explained that although no further GCRP meeting was planned going forward, SONI would be happy to organise a separate GCRP meeting with Users in the North to discuss changes specific to these other SONI sections. SONI asked Users to let SONI know if they would be interested in the organisation of such a meeting.

6. Conclusion

6.1 The meeting then came to a conclusion. The TSOs reminded Users that should they have any comments on the sections presented at the GCRP meeting, these comments should be sent to the TSOs by Friday 18 May. Further, the TSOs reminded Users that complete sets of Grid Code consultation material would be posted on the TSOs respective websites by 19 June 2007.

6.2 SONI also reminded Users that should they wish to have a meeting to discuss the changes specific to SONI sections, they should notify SONI of their interest.

6.3 AOB: No “Any Other Business” items were raised.

- 6.4 Any other comments on the meeting to be circulated by May 18th? Minutes to be provided (normally within 2 weeks) .
- 6.5 The TSOs stated that there are no specific plans to hold another joint GCRP meeting prior to June 19th however, if users feel the need to have another meeting, they should contact the secretary of either board.
- 6.6 The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance especially those who had travelled long distances and the meeting was deemed to be closed.