

**Unconfirmed Minutes of the 55th Meeting of the
GB Distribution Code Review Panel**

**5 March 2015
Meeting held at ENA commencing at 1330.**

Attendees:

Name		Company	Representing
Mike Kay	MK	Electricity North West	Chairman
Steve Cox	SC	Electricity North West	Chairman (Designate)
David Spillett	DS	Energy Networks Association	Code Administrator
Alan Creighton	AC	Northern Powergrid	DNO
Gareth Evans	GE	Ofgem	Authority
Graeme Vincent	GV	SP Energy Networks	DNO
Graham Brewster	GB	Western Power Distribution	DNO (Alternate)
Graham Stein	GS	National Grid	OTSO
John Norbury	JN	RWE Trading GmbH	BM Generator
John Smart	JS	SSE	DNO
Julian Wayne	JW	Ofgem	Authority (Alternate)
Kyle Martin	KM	Energy UK	Non-BM Generator
Saeed Ahmed	SA	GTC	IDNO
Steve Mockford	SM	UK Power Networks	DNO

Apologies:

Guy Nicholson	Element Power	Non-BM Generator
Guy Phillips	E.ON	BM Generator
Nigel Turvey	Western Power Distribution	DNO
Chris Alexander	Citizens Advice	Customers

1. **Introductions**

The Chairman welcomed the panel members to the meeting. Apologies were noted.

2. **New Chairman**

MK informed the panel members of the proposed change to the Chair of the DCRP. The Chair is formally chosen by the Industry Technical Codes Group (ITCG). The ITCG appointed SC and therefore SC is designated as the new Chair of the DCRP. The formal handover from MK to SC will take place at the next Panel meeting in June.

3. **Minutes of previous DCRP meeting 04 December 2014 – DCRP 14 04 09**

The panel members agreed that the minutes of the above meeting were a true record and approved their publication to the Distribution Code website.

Action: DS

4. **Matters Arising**

With exception of the following updates below all other actions from the previous meeting were either completed or included on the agenda.

Voltage Unbalance

GS provided the Panel with a brief progress update regarding the work proposed by National Grid to harmonize negative phase sequence limits on the transmission systems and to harmonise levels on the 132kV systems and below. A workshop on voltage unbalance was held early February. No particular appetite to form a GC workgroup on voltage unbalance but there was a consensus that National Grid should consider this issue. MK commented that there was a link between this work and ER P29 and any work should be undertaken in tandem. The Panel are to be kept informed of developments and a further update will be provided at the June panel meeting.

Action: GS

Code Administrators Code of Practice (CACoP)

DS informed the panel members that a revised version 1.3 of the CACoP was approved by the Authority and has been published on all 7 Industry Codes websites. DS also updated the panel members on work to develop a new 13th CACoP Principle. This new principle sets out the need for Code Administrators to endeavour to communicate, coordinate and work with each other on modifications that impact multiple Codes and to ensure changes are progressed efficiently. DS will circulate the draft to the panel members for comment.

Action: DS

5. **Grid Code Issues**

Referencing paper DCRP_15_01_02 MK provided the panel members with a brief update on the distribution issues of interest discussed at the recent Grid Code Review Panel meeting held on 21 January 2015. The main issues discussed were as follows:

- **Relevant Electrical Standards** – Work to update the Relevant Electrical Standards continues. The governance of the Scottish ones is still unclear, and NG took an action to lay out the formality of the governance process. There are no major issues for the Distribution Code.
- **Grid Code Governance**
Update on the progress of the Grid Code Governance working group and the proposals from a number of generators to change the GCRP constitution and rules to match those of CUSC. The GC0086 working group has made good progress to date and a working group consultation closed on the 6 January 2015. There were nine responses; three against (from DNOs), two decidedly mixed and four positive. The WG will meet again in Feb to discuss the way forward, with the expectation of a formal industry consultation.

Following a request from KM the panel members discussed the recently published findings of the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) following its investigation into the Energy Market including the industry Codes. The purpose of this investigation was to consider the extent to which the system of code governance might act as a barrier to entry and to pro-competitive innovation and change.

Following the discussion (which included supportive comments on the workings of the DCRP by GE) MK agreed to draft a response to the CMA and he will circulate the draft to the panel members for comment.

Action: MK

- **Rapid Voltage Changes**

The latest proposals will come out for a second industry consultation now, taking on board most of the issues from the first one. This also needs to recognize and harmonize with the joint working group reviewing P28.

6. EU Network Codes

Referencing paper DCRP_15_01_03 MK updated the panel members on the latest progress of the EU Network Codes.

Requirements for Generators Code.

The first formal Comitology meeting for RfG was held 4 February 2015 in Brussels. The discussions were constructive, focusing on the key issues identified by Member States. The Commission has asked Member States to submit final drafting suggestions on the text to the Commission to fully consider their concerns, and amend the text accordingly.

DECC sought final comments and they had to be submitted by close Monday 9 February. DECC understand the Commission's intention is then to circulate a further draft of the code taking account of Member States' comments and then have a second meeting of the Comitology committee in the Spring (no confirmed date) where it is possible that a vote could be taken.

GC 0048

A joint Distribution Code Review Panel and Grid Code Review Panel workgroup (GC0048) is charged with implementing the Requirements for all Generators in GB, including setting those parameters that the RfG leaves to national interpretation. The workgroup will propose the necessary changes to the Grid Code, Distribution Code and supporting Engineering Recommendations.

All papers etc from the meetings can be found at the following link:

<http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Industry-information/Electricity-codes/Grid-code/Modifications/GC0048/>

The proposals for implementing the RfG into the D Code and associated documents is firstly to produce a simple suite of documents for new users, but retaining the historic D Code, G59 and G83 as at the date of RfG implementation. This will be important as a point of reference for existing generators already connected at that date.

For new generators it is proposed to replace DPC7 of the D Code and also ER G59 and G83 with five new documents. Although there will be commonality and duplication between the documents, the scope of each is aimed at a specific group of Users.

The proposed scope of each document is:

1. Type tested generation of <16A per phase, connected in a single premise
2. Type tested generation of <16A per phase, connected co-temperaneously in multiple premises in close proximity. Also type tested generation of >16A per phase but <50kW.
3. Non-type tested generation, and generation >50kW but less than 10MW
4. Generation in the size range 10MW to 30MW
5. Generation >30MW or any generation connected at 132kV or above.

The division between documents 4 and 5 is dependent on where the banding threshold between Type B and Type C generation ends up being drawn.

The above structure and approach was briefed to DCRP members and stakeholders at a workshop at ENA on 30 January 2015. The workshop attendees endorsed the approach.

Early drafting on documents 1 and 2 has started with a view to taking mature drafts to the GC0048 meeting on 19 March. It would be intended to bring consultation versions of these documents to the June DCRP meeting. Dependent on progress in GC0048 it might not be possible to run a public consultation in June. However, the DCRP will be kept updated and if necessary convene extraordinary Panel meetings by teleconference to maintain progress.

Demand Connection Code.

The DCC Network Code is currently with the European Commission, pending commencement of Comitology. No further information has been issued by the European Commission on the progress of DCC through the Comitology process. It is understood that discussions by the Cross-Border Committee are expected to commence after RfG.

Emergency and Restoration Code.

On 29 January 2015, ENTSO-E released a new draft of the code. The Drafting Team Emergency and Restoration took into consideration stakeholders' comments gathered through the three previous workshops and the two public consultations over the last months. The fourth and final Public Stakeholder Workshop on NC ER was held on 12 February 2015 to present how stakeholders' comments were taken into account in the code. It is expected that a final draft of the NC will be delivered to ACER for review in April 2015.

System Operational Codes

The Commission has received ENTSO-E's feedback. The discussions with ENTSO-E still focus on the aspect of whether these codes should be network codes or guidelines although the latest thinking suggests the commission are proposing to merge the three operations codes into one guideline package, plus, if the timing is right, subsume the Emergency & Restoration code into the same package. The Commission is not yet discussing the content. .

7. DCRP WG revising G59/3-1 (following comments from DG installers) - Update

At the Panel meeting in December 2014 the members approved the setting up of a small DCRP WG to review some issues associated with the testing requirements contained in G59/3-1 (2014). These issues were causing some concerns for Installers. Subsequently the WG has proposed some minor revisions. The paper sets out those revisions and sought the approval of panel members to commence a 4 week public consultation on the proposed changes.

The panel members unanimously agreed to the commencement of a public consultation.

Post Meeting Note – The DCRP public consultation opened on 16 March and will close on 13 April.

8. Joint GCRP/DCRP Workgroup Frequency Changes during Large Disturbances

Revised Terms of Reference for GC0079 Working Group

The panel members accepted the revised terms of reference for the GC0078 working group which had recently been circulated to both the Grid and Distribution Code Panels. No comments had been received to date and the panel members supported, accepted and approved the TOR.

Phase 1 - >5MW Settings Changes – DNO progress to date

MK provided an update to the panel members on the current progress of the DNO implementation of the >5MW RoCoF Settings. The report prepared by DS presented the overall DNO progress to date as at the end of February 2015. Following discussions by the panel members it was agreed that some minor changes will be made to the DNO reporting template going forward.

Action: DS

Phase 2 - <5MW Work Package Update

MK provided an update on the progress of the above workgroup who are investigating RoCoF protection changes to distributed generation protection settings at sites below 5MW. There are two aspects to this work. The first aspect is to research and understand what is connected in GB and to characterise it. Consultants are currently undertaking this research. The second aspect is to understand the characteristics of the generation connected by undertaking research on representative samples of that small generation connected to understand its behaviour in relation to frequency response. This work is in ongoing and a report on the work should be available by early summer.

A stakeholder event hosted by ENA, National Grid and Ecofys is scheduled for 20 March at the Thistle City Barbican Hotel, 120 Central Street, London for those stakeholders who have an interest in the Rate of Change of Frequency (RoCoF) Protection Settings on generation <5MW. Full details of the progress of the workgroup and the stakeholder event can be found [here](#).

9. Joint Panel ERG5 WG – Progress update

GS provided the panel members with a latest progress update report into the work to revise Engineering Recommendation G5. A revised working draft of the ER was circulated in January and comments were received from members of the working group. The working group are reviewing those comments then will package them up into a report for submission the DCRP & GCRP. Work is ongoing and a further update will be provided at the June 2015 panel meeting. A question was asked regarding the progress of the G5 Code of Practice which is being developed by a separate working group. It was agreed that DS will discuss progress of the CoP with the working group chair and report back to the Panel.

Action: DS/GS

10. ENA Documents for revision– Progress update

Referencing paper DCRP_15_01_05 DS provided the panel members with a short update relating to the progress of the revision of D Code technical documents. Full updates are contained in the above paper. The panel members noted progress.

DS updated the panel members on Paper DCRP_15_01_06 DS which essentially was a request to commence a revision to ER P24 - AC Traction Supplies to British Rail (1984). There were some questions asked as to whether this document is a D Code document as it is a bilateral agreement between Network Operators and Network Rail only. It was suggested that the working group should review the scope of the ER to include this issue. DS will discuss with the consultants.

Action: DS

The panel members unanimously agreed to the proposal to revise ER P24.

11. New Code Summary Documents available for CUSC, Grid Code and STC

National Grid have produced summary documents for the Grid Code, the Connection Use of System Code (CUSC) and the System Operator Transmission Owner Code (STC) which they hope will enable stakeholders to obtain an overview of these codes, the key components of them and an outline of the change process for each code, along with some other relevant information. The CUSC and STC summary documents were already in existence but they have been re-written in an easier to read format with up to date information and contact details. The Grid Code summary document is a new document.

These summaries will be live documents and will be updated from time to time, or at such time when a change has been implemented which impacts the information in these documents. KM proposed that it would be helpful if the DCRP produced a similar summary document for the D Code. MK suggested that this was a good idea, and that it would be timely to use this opportunity to replace the current Guide to the Distribution Code. The panel members agreed to this proposal. DS will action this and report progress at the next Panel meeting.

Action: DS

12. DCRP Membership

Referencing paper DCRP_15_01_07 DS provided a brief update on the status of Panel membership to December 2014. It was noted that the following posts had expired:

1x Non BM Generator – Reappointed at meeting

1 x BM Generator – DS to contact the member

1x User – DS to contact the member

Following discussions it was agreed that DS would contact those members not at the meeting whose membership tenure had lapsed.

Action: DS

KM offered to try to identify a new Supplier nomination and would get back to DS. GE also offered to help identify a new User nomination.

Action: KM/GE

With regards to the improving visibility of the Panel JN suggested including a short footnote to future public consultations papers informing the Industry stakeholders of the DCRP and that if they had an interest in joining the Panel then they should contact the Code Administrator. DS will include the footnote in future DCRP public consultations.

Action: DS

14. Any Other Business

Ofgem Consultation – Competition in Connections.

MK updated the panel members on the progress of the Competition in Connections Code of Practice which currently being developed by the DNOs. There is also a need to consider the future governance of the CoP ie should the CoP fall under the governance of the Distribution Code. The panel agreed to watch progress on this and a future extra ordinary panel meeting may be called to discuss this governance issue.

15. DCRP Administrative Review

The panel members expressed that it was content with the manner in the operation of the Panel and the manner in which Panel business was discharged.

16. Date of next meeting

Next meeting is scheduled Thursday 4 June via Teleconference