

STC Modification Panel Minutes: 30 November 2022

STC Modification Panel Minutes: Meeting Number 206

Date: 30 November 2022 **Location:** Microsoft Teams

Start: 10:00am **End:** 12:00

Participants

| Attendee | Initials | Company |
|-----------------------------|----------|---|
| Sally Musaka | SM | Chair, Code Administrator, National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) |
| Rashpal Gata-Aura | RGA | Tech Sec, Code Administrator, National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) |
| Jamie Webb | JW | National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) |
| Nicola Bruce | TB | National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) |
| Neil Sandison | NS | Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc. (SHET) |
| Michelle MacDonald Sandison | MMacDS | Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc. (SHET) |
| Richard Woodward | RWO | National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) |
| Ian Bottomer | IB | National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) |
| Milorad Dobrijevic | MD | Scottish Power Transmission plc. (SPT) |
| Mike Lee | ML | Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO) |
| Joel Matthews | JM | Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO) |
| Nadir Hafeez | NH | Authority Representative |
| Apologies | Initials | Company |
| Neil Bennett | NB | |

1. Introductions and Apologies for Absence

6102. Apologies were received from Neil Bennett.

2. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

6103. The Panel approved the minutes from the meeting held on 26 October 2022 . (**Post Panel note:** The minutes are now available on the National Grid ESO [website](#).)

3. Review of Actions

6104. The Panel reviewed the open actions from the meeting held on 26 October 2022 which can be found on the [Actions Log](#) within the Panel Papers.

6105. The Panel discussed **Action 5723** and agreed for this action to remain open and RW to provide an update at December 2022 Panel.

4. Authority Decisions

6106. NH advised the Panel that the decisions on **CM078** and **CM080** had now been postponed to 31 January 2023.

5. STC/STCP Modification Proposals for Panel Decision

6107. The Chair advised the Panel that no new modification had been received for November 2022.

6. Draft STC/STCP Modifications

6108. The Chair advised the Panel that no draft modifications had been submitted to November 2022 Panel.

7. Inflight Modification Progress

6109. The Chair advised the Panel that two Draft Final Modification Reports had been submitted to November 2022 Panel to carry out the recommendation votes.

6110. The Chair provided a brief summary on **CM084 - Clarify STCP modification approach for cross-code changes**.

The Chair advised the Panel that Code Administrator Consultation opened on the 28 October 2022, closed on the 18 November 2022, and received two non-confidential responses. Both respondents believe this modification better facilitates applicable objectives E and also support the implementation of this modification.

One of the respondents agrees that there needs to be a timely assessment of the impacts on the STCPs caused by cross code changes and this modification will help facilitate this in a timelier manner.

Some issues with the legal text were identified.

- *The ask of the Panel was to agree that the identified change to the legal text was typographical and to carry out the Recommendation Vote.*
- *Agree the change is not needed and then carry out the Recommendation Vote.*
- *Agreed to run a 2nd **Code Administrator Consultation** (this will be restricted to the amended legal text, can be run for just 5 Working Days if Panel agrees) that would be in December 2022. Then the recommendation vote will be conducted at the January 2023 Panel.*

6111. RW raised some concerns around the materiality of the changes to the legal text.
6112. JW clarified that the ESO's legal team had suggested the changes to the legal text for cross code referencing and clarification, but these changes would not have impact on the modification. The Panel agreed that the legal text changes were minor and proceeded to vote.
6113. The Panel held their recommendation vote and unanimously determined that the Proposer's solution should be implemented.
6114. The Chair advised the Panel that Final Modification Report would be issued on 2 December 2022 (for 5 working days) for them to check that their votes had been correctly recorded. The Final Modification Report will be sent to Ofgem on 12 December 2022.
6115. The Chair continued to summarise **CM085 - To clarify OFTO reactive power requirements at <20% output**.
6116. The Chair advised the Panel that Code Administrator Consultation opened on the 05 October 2022, closed on the 25 October 2022, and received four non-confidential responses. Two respondents believe the original proposal was positive on objectives A, B and D, as well as support the implementation of this modification, one of the respondents identified a minor legal text amendment.
- Two other respondents were not in support of the implementation of this modification, with one of the respondents raising some concerns around this modification on the following: the choice of the Self-Governance route is inappropriate due to the implications on the OFTO regime, potential charging impacts, and the introduction of discrimination between Parties. Regarding the amended legal text, accepting it could be seen to set a precedent that allows changes to the technical requirements for an OFTO to be changed unilaterally, outside of the agreed processes within the STC.
- Minor legal text issues were identified.
6117. The Chair highlighted that the ESO and OFTO had discussed the amended words '*and, if applicable, as instructed by The Company*' in section K Annex 1 clause 2.4.1 to match the planned addition to Annex 2 clause 1.3.2.1
6118. The Chair advised the Panel that this was a minor version control error that had come to light during the discussions and amendments carried out with the OFTO representatives.
6119. Although OFTO's view was that accepting this amendment could be seen to set a precedent that allows changes to the technical requirements for an OFTO to be changed unilaterally, outside of the agreed processes within the STC.
- *The ask of the Panel was that the change to the legal text was typographical and the Panel agreed to carry out the Recommendation Vote.*
 - *Agree the change is not needed and then carry out the Recommendation vote.*
 - *Agreed to run a 2nd Code Administrator Consultation (this will be restricted to the amended legal text, can be run for just 5 Working Days if Panel agrees) that would*

be in December 2022. Then the recommendation vote will be conducted at the January 2023 Panel.

- 6120. Ahead of the recommendation vote, SHET and OFTO representatives expressed concerns around the amendment being unnecessary as the STC already provides a route to achieve this. It was indicated also that the self-governance route was inappropriate due to the implications on OFTO regime, potential charging impacts and the introduction of discrimination between parties. If **CM085** was to progress it was less likely to result in NGENSO receiving an enhanced service.
- 6121. NH advised the Panel that from Authority's point of view there seemed to be a compliance issue whereby it would seem that ESO were attempting to codify something that already exists, and where parties were not compliant, that would be a compliance issue between the ESO and the party.
- 6122. NH requested that if this compliance issue could be reflected in the Final Modification Report this would assist Ofgem towards making a decision.
- 6123. JW confirmed that whilst Panel members agreed that the service was already being provided, ESO had raised **CM085** modification to affirm this fact rather than questions being raised whether or not this service would be provided.
- 6124. JW advised the Panel that in his view this was not a compliance issue as Panel members had already confirmed this service was in existence and were now questioning the raising of the **CM085**.
- 6125. JW continued to advise the Panel that **CM085** had been raised to provide a guarantee to the parties that this service would be provided and that any doubt here would be removed.
- 6126. The Panel recommended by a majority (3 out of 5 Panel members) that the Original better facilitated the STC Objectives than the current STC arrangements.
- 6127. The Chair advised the Panel that Final Modification Report would be issued on 2 December 2022 (for 5 working days) for them to check that their votes had been correctly recorded. The Final Modification Report will be sent to Ofgem on 13 December 2022.

8. Code Administrator Update

- 6128. No Update.

9. Potential Future Modifications

Modification Tracker and Horizon Scan

- 6129. The Panel reviewed the STC Modification Tracker. The amendments to this tracker can be found within the [Panel papers](#).

Authority Update: Energy Code Reform/SCR

6130. NH advised the Panel that the Code Governance Reform will be published, and an update on call for input will be provided at the December 2022 Panel.

10. Reports from Sub- Committees

Joint Planning Committee – JPC

6131. NB advised the Panel that the JPC had been held mid November 2022 and the minutes from that meeting were not yet available.
6132. **ACTION** NB to circulate November 2022 JPC meeting minutes to Panel when available.
6133. NB advised the Panel that the update from the modelling sub-group was that agreement had been reached to move forward to replace the generic wind farm models that are in the system already. The project would be starting soon and this had been a significant step forward as there have been many discussions between the ESO and the TOs for the past 2 years.
6134. NB advised the Panel that there had also been some update from the Connections Team regarding the Connections Reform Play Back Sessions in London and Glasgow. The group had listened to the industry's feedback on the connection process and were now ready to share the Case for Change with industry.
6135. NB invited Panel members or their organisations if they were interested in attending to the planned seminars by signing up following the links below:-
- London Monday 12 December <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/474086995967>
 - Glasgow Tuesday 13 December <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/471013743787>
 - Register to be informed about our planned online event <https://forms.office.com/r/wY5J3KTHF6>

Network Access Policy Workgroup – NAP

6136. MD advised the Panel that the next NAP meeting was scheduled for December 2022.

11. Any other Business

6137. RW provided a brief update to Panel regarding "Potential future modification on Onshore TOs gaining permission to access DNO network Data".
6138. RW advised that NGET was seeking to obtain additional DNO network data to be able to better comply with license obligations to maintain security of supply for their customers. The data was currently submitted to the ESO as "User data", and despite being potentially accessible to NGET via SCADA, this cannot be shared due to NG ESO's concerns with data separation (i.e. they believe it to be SOFI - SO Functional Information).
6139. RW continued to advise the Panel that NGET were seeking to clarify whether this form of data protection was appropriate in this instance. NGET will liaise with ESO

colleagues before considering an STC modification to adjust data exchange provisions.

- 6140. NB commented and also recommended NGET engage in ongoing Network Operator data exchange work being conducted by the ENA's Open Networks initiative, which was acknowledged by RW and went on to suggest that NGET's required timing on resolving this issue may need to be quicker than Open Networks' timeline.
- 6141. RW will update the Panel with progress when appropriate.
- 6142. MD advised the Panel that he would be stepping down as STC Panel member with effect from January 2023 and will introduce **Martin Cammidge** his replacement at the December 2022 Panel.
- 6143. The Chair thanked MD for his services to the STC Panel and looked forward to welcoming his replacement.

Date of next meeting

- 6144. The next STC Panel meeting will be held on **Wednesday 25 January 2023**
- 6145. New Modification Proposal date **Tuesday 17 January 2023**
- 6146. Panel papers day **Tuesday 10 January 2023**