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# Code Administrator Meeting

## Summary

### Workgroup Meeting 4: GC0176 – Introduction of Demand Control Rotation Protocol within Operating Code 6 of the Grid Code

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**Date:** 20 May 2025

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#### Contact Details

Chair: Lizzie Timmins, [elizabeth.timmins@neso.energy](mailto:elizabeth.timmins@neso.energy)

Proposer: Frank Kasibante, [frank.kasibantel@neso.energy](mailto:frank.kasibantel@neso.energy)

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### Key areas of discussion

The Chair confirmed that the purpose of Workgroup 4 was to review the outstanding Actions, draft Legal Text, Workgroup Consultation document, Terms of Reference, and Timeline.

### Action review

**Action 7:** A Workgroup member confirmed that they had circulated an Ofgem letter to DNO colleagues, to inform their view on whether a derogation is required for licence requirements if DCRP is used. They noted that there are practical challenges to informing a large volume of customers via text or email, especially during large events like storms. They noted that network operators might face difficulties in ensuring timely delivery of these messages due to network constraints. They concluded that from a Network Operator perspective, the derogation point should remain unchanged from the Ofgem letter but noting there may be some practical challenges. The Chair will speak to the Ofgem Representative after the Workgroup meeting to discuss the points raised. The Action was closed.

**Action 8:** The NESO SME confirmed that they provided an update on OC6.5.5 at the recent ETG and their unanimous view was that the additional 20% demand disconnection should be removed. Instead, if more than 20% disconnection is needed, DCRP would be triggered. They also noted that for the OC6.2.2 point, they spoke to Scottish DNOs who are considering their response, so more work is needed on this point. The Chair confirmed that Action 8 will remain open while discussions are ongoing.

**Action 9:** The Chair noted that Legal Text was shared with the Workgroup as part of the Papers for Workgroup 4, so proposed to close Action 9. The Workgroup agreed, so Action 9 was closed.

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**Action 10:** The Chair noted that no Specific Workgroup Consultation questions had been proposed by the Workgroup, so proposed to leave this Action open. The Workgroup agreed, so Action 10 remains open.

## Proposer's update

The NESO SME provided an overview of the changes to the Legal Text made since Workgroup 3:

- **OC6.5** – amended references and removal of ‘percentages’ in place of Load blocks;
- **OC 6.9** – amendments following Workgroup feedback;
- **OC 7.4.8.4** – inclusion of DCRP warnings in the list;
- **OC 7.4.8.14-16** – amendments for the new notices;
- **Appendix 1** – added new notices to the Table;
- **Glossary of Terms** – amendments to definitions following feedback during Workgroup 3.

The NESO SME noted the amendments that still require drafting, confirming that they hope to provide an update during Workgroup 5.

## Draft Legal Text

### Glossary and Definitions

The NESO SME and Chair talked the Workgroup through the amendments made to the Glossary and Definitions document:

- **Activation Schedules:** The definition was amended to clarify the use of singular and plural forms. This change was made to ensure that the term accurately reflects the context in which it is used, whether referring to a single schedule or multiple schedules.
- **Demand Control Rotation Period:** Changes included specifying the timescales and adding ‘...unless otherwise agreed by the company and relevant Network Operators’. This addition allows for flexibility in the timing requirements, acknowledging that there may be situations where different arrangements are necessary.
- **Fast Load Block:** The definition was updated to include the term ‘load block’ and ensure clarity. This change was made to provide a more precise understanding of what constitutes a fast load block, emphasizing its role in demand disconnection.
- **Load blocks:** Similar amendments were made to the definition of ‘Load Block’ to ensure consistency and clarity in the definition, specifically to describe the blocks used for

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demand disconnection, ensuring that the definition aligns with operational practices.

- **Notices:** The Workgroup discussed a series of amendments made to Notices, including:
  - **Naming and Order:** The names of the notices were updated to DCRP 'Activation', 'Implementation', and 'Stand Down' notices. They were also organised alphabetically and in the order they would be implemented.
  - **Relevant Network Operators:** The Workgroup noted that the notices should specify 'Relevant Network Operators' to ensure clarity on who the notices apply to, to account for scenarios where not all Network Operators might be involved.
  - **Timing and Implementation:** The Workgroup agreed that the 'Implementation' notice should be issued with at least one hour's notice before Demand Control is required, to ensure Network Operators have sufficient time to prepare.
  - **Activation Schedules:** The Workgroup discussed whether multiple Activation Schedules might be issued and how they should be handled, agreeing that the initial Implementation notice would cover the entire period until a Stand Down notice is issued. Subsequent Activation Schedules would be issued as needed.

## OC7 amendments

The NESO SME explained the main updates made to OC7, including:

- **Types of Notices:** The Workgroup agreed the need to include a section for the types of National Electricity Transmission System notices, potentially under OC7.4.8.4, to avoid renumbering.
- **Duplication of Text:** The Workgroup agreed to avoid paraphrasing the notices' purposes and instead refer directly to the relevant OC6 sections, to prevent confusion and ensure consistency.
- **Table Formatting:** The Workgroup agreed that the Appendix 1 tables should be reformatted from portrait to landscape for improved readability.
- **Timeline Diagram:** A Workgroup member suggested including a timeline diagram to clarify the sequence of notices and actions. The Workgroup discussed whether this should be in OC6 or OC7, agreeing that it should be created as a standalone document first and then deciding on its placement later.
- **Time Scales Alignment:** It was noted that the time scales in OC7 should align with those in OC6 to avoid discrepancies.

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- **Market Participants:** It was suggested to publish notices for market participants rather than issuing them directly, to simplify the process.

## OC6 Amendments

The NESO SME explained the main updates made to OC6 and discussed a series of further amendments proposed by the Workgroup, which they agreed to incorporate into updated Legal Text:

- **OC6.5.4**  
**Removal of Percentages:** The Workgroup discussed removing references to percentages to avoid confusion and to ensure consistency.  
**Voltage Reduction:** A Workgroup member noted that the current week 24 schedules only make declarations for the succeeding financial year, not onwards, suggesting the removal of the word ‘...onwards...’ for clarity.
- **OC6.5.5**  
**High Risk of Demand Reduction:** The NESO SME proposed rewording OC6.5.5 to reflect the use of DCRP instead of the previous requirements, including removing references to the High Risk of Demand Reduction and ensuring the text aligns with the new DCRP framework.  
**Additional blocks:** The NESO SME emphasised the need to retain the use of additional blocks beyond the Fast blocks, which should be implemented within an additional 5 minutes for each Block.
- **OC6.5.6**  
**Fundamental Changes:** The NESO SME mentioned that OC6.5.6 would also need to be comprehensively addressed to ensure it reflects the updated framework and operational procedures. This includes removing outdated references and ensuring consistency with the new DCRP structure. The Workgroup acknowledged the importance of making these changes to maintain clarity and operational effectiveness.
- **OC6.9.4**  
**Timings:** The NESO SME requested that Network Operators to confirm their comfort with the timings specified in OC6.9.4, ensuring they can meet the requirements. The NESO SME will also take this point to ETG for further clarification.
- **OC6.9.5**  
**Subsequent Activation Schedules:** The Workgroup discussed the addition of Subsequent Activation Schedules in OC6.9.5 to ensure clarity on the process.

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- **OC6.9.7**

**Parts A and B:** The NESO SME confirmed that OC6.9.7 has been split into parts A and B to make it easier to read and understand.

## Workgroup Consultation

The Chair asked the Workgroup to consider Specific Workgroup Consultation questions and to provide them ahead of the next Workgroup meeting. The Workgroup discussed the following topics and agreed to include them as Specific Consultation questions:

- **IDNOs:** The Workgroup agreed to include a question about whether transmission-connected IDNOs should be included in the DCRP arrangements, clearly stating that distribution-connected IDNOs are implicitly covered.
- **OC6.2.2:** The Workgroup agreed to ask whether OC6.2.2 should be removed and if there are any unintended consequences of its removal, seeking feedback on the necessity of the carve-out for Scottish networks.
- **Ofgem approval:** The NESO SME suggested including a question about the need for Ofgem approval for DNO exemptions, seeking feedback on whether it is appropriate for Ofgem to approve these exemptions to ensure DNOs are held whole.

## Timeline

Workgroup members expressed concern that the timeline was too ambitious based on the volume of legal text feedback received. They also noted the importance of ensuring the Workgroup have sufficient time to thoroughly review the text and provide feedback. The Chair and Proposer agreed to meet after the Workgroup to discuss the timeline, updating the Workgroup by email on the outcome of that discussion.

## Terms of Reference (ToR)

The Chair noted that they had previously asked whether there is any interaction with LFDD blocks, the NESO SME confirmed that there was not. The Workgroup discussed the overlap between LFDD and DCRP blocks, especially with high demand disconnection, the consideration needed for protected customers under both LFDD and DCRP, and the technical challenges of integrating LFDD and DCRP blocks. The Workgroup acknowledged that the LFDD issue is complex and will require further work, but it is beyond the scope of this Modification.

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## Next Steps

The Chair summarised the actions from the meeting and confirmed that they would inform the Workgroup of any changes made to the timing of the next and/or subsequent Workgroup meetings.

## Actions

Action Number	Workgroup Raised	Owner	Action	Due by	Status
07	WG3	All	Network Operators to provide a list of the licence requirements that are likely to need a derogation if DCRP is used, and the reasons why.	WG4	Closed
08	WG3	JZH	Provide ETG with updates in OC6.5.5 and investigate whether OC6.2.2 is still required.	WG4	Open
09	WG3	RS	Provide OC7 legal text on correct Baseline document without Fax option in tables.	WG4	Closed
10	WG3	All	Workgroup members to think of Specific Workgroup Consultation questions prior to next Workgroup meeting.	WG5	Open
11	WG4	LT	Chair to contact Ofgem Representative regarding the outcome of discussions on Action 7.	WG5	Open
12	WG4	RS	NESO SME to update the Legal Text following WG4 discussions, including a timeline diagram in OC6.	WG5	Open
12	WG4	LT	Updated Workgroup Consultation document to be shared for review.	WG5	Open
13	WG4	All	Network Operators to confirm they're content with timings in OC6.9.4 and NESO SME to take this point to next ETG.	WG5	Open
14	WG4	LT	Chair to provide Workgroup with update on revisions to the timeline.	WG5	Open

## Attendees

Name	Initial	Company	Role
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Lizzie Timmins	LT	NESO Code Administrator	Chair
Matthew Larreta	ML	NESO Code Administrator	Technical Secretary
Frank Kasibante	FK	NESO	Proposer
John Zammit-Haber	JZH	NESO	NESO SME
Rebecca Scott	RS	NESO	NESO SME
Alan Creighton	AC	Northern Powergrid	Alternate
Andrew McLeod	AM	Northern Powergrid	Workgroup member
David Child	DC	UK Power Networks	Alternate
Garth Graham	GG	SSE Generation	Workgroup member
Graeme Vincent	GV	SP Energy Networks	Alternate
Jeevan Dhaliwal	JD	Energy Networks Association	Observer (DCode Administrator)
Paul Murray	PM	Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks	Workgroup member
Thomas West	TW	National Grid Distribution	Alternate