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Code Administrator Meeting

Summary

Workgroup Meeting 5: GC0176 – Introduction of Demand Control Rotation Protocol within Operating Code 6 of the Grid Code

Date: 01 July 2025

Contact Details

Chair: Lizzie Timmins, elizabeth.timmins@neso.energy

Proposer: Frank Kasibante, frank.kasibantel@neso.energy

Key areas of discussion

The Chair confirmed that the purpose of Workgroup 5 was to review the outstanding Actions, draft Legal Text, Workgroup Consultation document, Terms of Reference, and Timeline.

Action review

Action 8: The Chair shared an update in the Workgroup Papers confirming that OC6.5.5 requires further discussion with the Workgroup following ETG and the NESO SME is still awaiting an update on OC6.2.2. The Action will remain open while discussions are ongoing.

Actions 10, 11, 12, 13, and 15: The Chair shared updates to these Actions in the Workgroup Papers. Actions were closed.

Action 14: The NESO SME attended an ETG Meeting and provided an update on timings for OC6.9.4, they confirmed that attendees were content with the update. The Action was closed.

Proposer's update

The NESO SME provided an overview of updates made to the Legal Text and supporting documents since Workgroup 4:

- **OC6.5.5 and OC6.5.6** – redrafted following ETG feedback.
- **OC6.9** – amended following Workgroup feedback.
- **OC7** – amended following Workgroup feedback.
- **Glossary of Terms** – new definition for NETS Notice and amended definitions, as discussed in Workgroup 4.

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- **DCRP timeline created for Legal Text** – amended following contributions from Workgroup member.
- **Supporting documents** – drafts of new Notices created and updated DCRP summary.

A Workgroup member suggested that the DCRP timeline may need to be updated following discussions on the NETS Notice for DCRP implementation. They also noted that there may be confusion regarding when the activation schedules and NETS implementation notice are published.

The NESO SME confirmed that more work is required on the following:

- **Full DCRP (industry version)** – drafts of new Notices created and updated DCRP summary.
- **DDRC schedule** – Action required for D Code.
- **Post modification requirements** – DCRP to be included in the Systems Defence Plan.

Draft Legal Text

Glossary and Definitions

The NESO SME and Chair talked the Workgroup through the amendments made to the Glossary and Definitions document. The substantive amendments discussed by the Workgroup were:

- **Emergency Response Team**
The Proposer suggested a change to the Emergency Response Team definition which would future-proof the definition by not specifying the current department name (Department for Energy Security and Net Zero). Their suggestion was to refer to it as the ‘...relevant government department for energy’. The Workgroup was content with this change.
- **NETS Notice DCRP Implementation**
A Workgroup member questioned the timing and clarity of the Activation Schedules and Implementation Notices used in the current definitions. The NESO SME explained that the DCRP Implementation Notice and the first set of Activation Schedules would likely be issued at the same time, with subsequent Activation Schedules issued one hour before each period.

Workgroup members suggested that the Legal Text should clearly differentiate between draft and final Activation Schedules and having draft Activation Schedules earlier would be valuable for operational purposes. One Workgroup member emphasised the

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importance of early Notices for operational readiness but cautioned against overcomplicating the process.

The Workgroup concluded that the final Activation Schedule is the actual switching instruction, and the draft Schedules provide early guidance. The NESO SME agreed to refine the wording, with input from Workgroup members, in readiness for Workgroup 6.

OC6

The NESO SME and Chair talked the Workgroup through the amendments made OC6. The substantive amendments discussed by the Workgroup were:

- **OC6.5.5**

The Workgroup discussed whether the DCRP will replace the need for the existing provisions in OC 6.5.5. The NESO SME explained that DCRP is intended to supersede the previous tool for Demand reduction above 20%, which required issuing a high-risk Demand Reduction Notice. Workgroup members expressed the need for clarity in the Code regarding the expectations for DNOs when Demand reductions exceed 20%. They suggested the code should reflect that DNOs would do their best to provide additional Demand reduction, without being overly prescriptive. The Workgroup agreed that the Legal Text should reflect that DCRP will be used for Demand reductions above 20%, and any additional Demand control will be based on what the DNOs can reasonably provide.

- **OC 6.5.6**

The Workgroup discussed whether OC6.5.6, which allows for the rotation of Demand control blocks, is still needed. The NESO SME and other Workgroup members noted the practical implications of rotating Demand control blocks and whether this should be managed through DCRP. A Workgroup member suggested that the existing provision in OC6.5.6 might be outdated and could be removed, as DCRP now provides a structured approach to Demand control. The Workgroup agreed to refine the wording and determine whether to keep or amend OC6.5.6. in readiness for Workgroup 6.

OC7

The Chair noted that the majority of amendments to OC7 were reformatting of tables to improve readability and accuracy and the addition of new Notices for DCRP. The most substantive amendment was made to the DCRP Notices, where OC7.4.8.14, OC7.4.8.15, and OC7.4.8.16 were added following the format used in OC6 and with references to the specific OC6 paragraphs to avoid repetition of definitions.

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Workgroup Consultation

The Chair took the Workgroup through the comments and changes made to the Workgroup Consultation. The key discussion points were:

- **Timeline for implementation**
A Workgroup member suggested the timeline for use of DCRP should be referred to as 'short-term' to align with the Protocol and to maintain consistency documents.
- **Defect clarification**
The Proposer and a Workgroup member discussed the need to clearly articulate the defect being addressed by the modification, ensuring it is understandable to those reading the consultation. The Workgroup agreed to refine the wording in 'What is the issue?' to better explain the introduction and use of DCRP within the Grid code.
- **Cross code impacts**
A Workgroup member suggested using the term 'interaction' rather than 'impact' to describe the relationship between this modification and other Codes.

DCRP Summary

The NESO SME confirmed that they're still working through comments on the DCRP Summary but offered the Workgroup an opportunity to raise any additional questions or issues. A Workgroup member noted that the flow chart in the Summary includes a step where DNOs confirm their ability to deliver Load Blocks, which may not be explicitly stated in the Code. The NESO SME agreed and confirmed that the flow chart will be updated based on Workgroup discussions.

NETS Notices

The NESO SME noted that comments made by Workgroup members to the NETS Notice documents had not been addressed but offered the Workgroup an opportunity to raise any additional questions or issues. The key discussion points were:

- **Terminology**
The NESO SME clarified that the term 'DCRP Actuation' refers to the start of the DCRP process and any invited Workgroup feedback on the nuances in wording that should be addressed.
- **Inclusion in the Grid Code**

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The Workgroup discussed whether the Notices should be included in the Grid Code. The NESO SME expressed a preference for keeping the Notices in the Protocol to avoid the additional work required for updates if they were included in the Grid Code. A Workgroup member emphasised the importance of ensuring the Notices align with the Grid Code to ensure consistency and clarity.

- **Publication of Notices**

The Workgroup discussed the implications of publishing the Notices, with a Workgroup member and the NESO SME stressing the need to keep the Notices confidential to prevent misuse, suggesting that the specific format and wording of the Notices should not be made public.

A Workgroup member suggested that the term ‘publish’ should be used consistently and accurately, to reflect the intended level of detail and security. They noted that the term ‘publish’ should be clarified to indicate whether it means publishing the entire Notice or just a summary.

Timeline

The Chair noted that the current timeline will need to change to accommodate an additional Workgroup before the Workgroup Consultation, which would in turn delay the Workgroup Report to October and potentially push the Draft Final Modification Report to December or January. The Chair committed to updating the timeline after the Workgroup meeting, which would be sent to Workgroup members and presented to the Panel later in the month.

Terms of Reference (ToR)

The Chair noted that the ToR had been reviewed extensively in previous Workgroup meetings and the consensus was that they were on track, which remained the case during Workgroup 5.

Next Steps

The Chair confirmed that they will update the timeline and share it with the Workgroup; the NESO SME will make further changes to the Legal Text and update the Workgroup Consultation following this meeting; and the Chair will contact Ofgem to seek their advice on the Network Operators' obligations and derogations points.

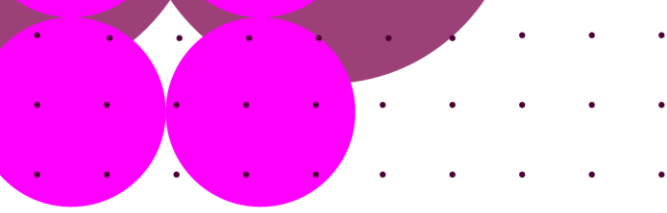
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Actions

| Action Number | Workgroup Raised | Owner | Action | Due by | Status |
|---------------|------------------|-------|---|--------|--------|
| 08 | WG3 | JZH | Provide ETG with updates in OC6.5.5 and investigate whether OC6.2.2 is still required. | WG6 | Open |
| 10 | WG3 | All | Workgroup members to think of Specific Workgroup Consultation questions prior to next Workgroup meeting. | WG5 | Closed |
| 11 | WG4 | LT | Chair to contact Ofgem Representative regarding the outcome of discussions on Action 7. | WG5 | Closed |
| 12 | WG4 | RS | NESO SME to update the Legal Text following WG4 discussions, including a timeline diagram in OC6. | WG5 | Closed |
| 13 | WG4 | LT | Updated Workgroup Consultation document to be shared for review. | WG5 | Closed |
| 14 | 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 | Closed |
| 15 | WG4 | LT | Chair to provide Workgroup with update on revisions to the timeline. | WG5 | Closed |

Attendees

| Name | Initial | Company | Role |
|-------------------|---------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 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 |
| Andrew Urquhart | AU | SSE Generation | Alternate |
| Graeme Vincent | GV | SP Energy Networks | Alternate |
| Jeevan Dhaliwal | JD | ENA | Observer (DCode Administrator) |
| John Knott | JK | SP Energy Networks | Workgroup member |
| Paul Murray | PM | SSEN | Workgroup member |
| Richard Wilson | RW | UKPN | Workgroup member |



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