Meeting Minutes

SQSS Code Review Special Panel Minutes

Date: 06/03/2025		Location:	Microsoft Teams
Start:	15:00	End:	16:00

Participants

Attendee	Initials	Company
Teri Puddefoot	TP	Panel Chair
Karen Stanton-Hughes	KSH	Panel Technical Secretary (Code Administrator)
Antony Johnson	AJ	Panel Member (NESO Rep)
Bieshoy Awad	BA	Panel Member (NESO Rep)
Cornel Brozio	CB	Panel Member (ST Transmission Rep)
Calum Watkins	CW	Alternative Authority Representative
Alan Creighton	AC	Panel Member (DNO)
Divya Mahalingam	DM	NGET Representative
Garth Graham	GG	Panel Member (Generation Representative)
Bless Kuri	BK	Panel Member (Transmission Rep)
Le Fu	LF	Panel Member (NGET Rep)
Martin Brown	MB	Panel Member (OFTO Rep)
Mike Lee	ML	Panel Member OFTO Rep)
Nadir Hafeez	NH	Authority Representative
Stuart McLarnon	SM	(NESO Rep)
Roddy Wilson	RW	Panel Member (Onshore Transmission Operator Rep)

Observers/Presenters

Attendee	Initials	Company
Andrew Larkins	AL	Sygensys Ltd - Observer
Adam Casey	CA	Accenture – Presenter
Hamdi.Shishtawi	HS	Accenture - Presenter

Apologies

Attendee	Initials	Company
Graeme Vincent	GV	Panel Member (Transmission Rep)
Scott Bull	SB	Authority Representative

1. Minutes from previous meeting

The meeting minutes from the SQSS Panel held on 28 January will be presented for approval at the Panel Meeting on 06 May.

2. Review of Action Log

No actions were reviewed.

3. Authority Decisions

The Chair advised:

- Ofgem email regarding the objective changes that happened on 01 October 2025 concerning numbering, which is a), b), c), and not i), ii), iii).

DFMR – GSR033 Code Maintenance Modification

The legal text, some initial changes regarding the Code Administrator Consultation (CAC), and changes to the boilerplate tech have all been actioned. Post CAC changes were sent over for review and typographical issues were addressed. A few issues exist that can be resolved through a further modification.

The Chair discussed the solutions and changes to the licence modification coming into effect on 07 February, to allow NESO to essentially fulfil its obligations under the new licence agreement. The key change is to bring the governance framework within the SQSS. A further update for the boilerplate tech has been made as of 01 October, incorporating initial changes to the SQSS in light of some of the issues and keeping as much scope as possible, given the tight timelines. A draft of the modification will be prepared promptly, with a reasonable timeline. There have been a lot of changes over the last couple of years to meet a deadline, and would like to echo the fact that a separate workgroup is required to look over the licence changes and operational changes over the last two years.

CAC responses received: 2 non-confidential.

One respondent agreed with the implementation approach and one respondent didn't agree, but noted that whilst supporting the transition approach, a number of issues needed clarification.

GSR033 should ideally only introduce changes associated with implementing the directed governance framework, however other changes were made to the text and pre-existing issues, including the new definition of licensee, which had been highlighted.

It was the preference of one respondent that all the issues in the SQSS be resolved, but mindful of tight timelines. However, with the possibility of a further modification being raised to address these, as previously discussed.

No additional legal text issues were raised.

Asks of Panel:
Vote on if the Panel recommends the implementation, due to the timelines, this will proceed to Ofgem by 31 March.

Voting:
The voting was taken by Panel members and recorded by the Chair. Voting statements to be sent by email. The vote was unanimous for the Original Proposal.

Next steps:
The voting will be issued out for confirmation of votes and statements requested by close of play. To be submitted to Ofgem on 10 March.

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4 New Modifications.
No new modifications have been raised.

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5. Inflight Modifications

No inflight modifications have been raised.

6. Any Other Business

Frequency Risk Control Report (FRCR) Discussion

The Chair addressed the presence of NESO representatives attending the meeting. The Chair suggested that if NESO representatives step out, the panel meeting would not be quorate, but it would continue as a general meeting. Panel members enquired if there would be any decisions required from NESO. The discussion was expected to only contain Q&A, and it was considered whether Accenture would feel comfortable with NESO being included in the discussions. The Chair clarified if Accenture would be happy for the NESO members to be present at the meeting. Accenture were happy to continue with the NESO representative present.

ACCENTURE:

The Accenture team introduced themselves and gave a brief outline of how they have been supporting NESO, including the FRCR project.

The FRCR Project, led by the Accenture team, focused on frequency risk control for the year 2025. The rationale behind this project is to extend frequency risk control approval, following the successful production of reports for 2023 and 2024, which were initiated after the approval of the SQSS. The initial version of the project assessed various factors, including the magnitude and duration of frequency deviations, forecast impacts, and securing system costs, confirming which risks would not be mitigated effectively.
The scope of the work was emphasised, with the Accenture team completing their tasks within a tight timeframe of 15 business days. Their role involved examining the methodology, testing data, and identifying gaps in the existing processes. They collaborated with both the NESO FRCR team and the internal assurance team to ensure the methodology and data modelling were followed correctly. Panel recognised that the review was focussed on the process of implementing the FRCR methodology rather than on a review of the methodology itself.

The testing process included around 50 to 60 tests, with a focus on governance, data preparation, and modelling. The team highlighted some outdated methodologies that may need revisions for future iterations of the FRCR.

The Accenture team conducted interviews with relevant stakeholders, including the FRCR team and technical experts, to validate the methodology and gather evidence for the tests conducted. They utilised a checklist to streamline their inquiries and ensure comprehensive coverage of the project.

The assessment revealed that, while documentation was generally available, inconsistencies existed in the archiving process. Recommendations included improving governance around the FRCR process and updating documentation that had not been revised since 2023. Specific areas of concern included the Loss of Mains volume review and process integrity in data modelling, suggesting the need for better backup and standard operating procedures.

The project concluded that the FRCR team adhered to the outlined methodologies and processes, with evidence of their responsiveness to documentation requests. The complexity of data modelling was acknowledged, and the importance of regular reviews was emphasised to bolster confidence in future iterations of the FRCR. A phase two of the project is anticipated, focusing on reviewing feedback from industry consultations and further refining the process.

Overall, the document serves as a comprehensive review of the FRCR Project, highlighting the process of implementing the methodologies employed, stakeholder engagement, and areas for improvement as the project moves forward towards 2025.

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7. Close

The chair thanked the Panel for their time and contribution and bought the meeting to a close.

The next SQSS Panel meeting will be held on 25 March 2025 at 10:00 to 15:00 via Microsoft Teams.
New Modification Proposals to be submitted by 04 March 2025.
SQSS Code Review Panel Papers Day is 11 March 2005.