

GC0183: Generator and Interconnector Availability During a Severe Space Weather Event

Workgroup 4, 10 September 2025

Online Meeting via Teams

WELCOME

Agenda

Topics to be discussed	Lead
Introductions	Chair
Workgroup Responsibilities and Membership	Chair
Timeline and Objectives	Chair
Alternative Request Proposal and Discussion	Eleclink/Chair
Alternative Vote	All
Review and Agree Original Legal Text (and Alternative if required)	HN
Review Draft Workgroup Report	Chair
Agree Terms of Reference met	All
Workgroup Vote	All
Action Log Review	All
Any Other Business	Chair
Next Steps	Chair

Workgroup Responsibilities and Membership

Claire Goult – NESO Code Administrator



Expectations of a Workgroup Member

Contribute to the discussion

Be respectful of each other's opinions

Language and Conduct to be consistent with the values of equality and diversity

Do not share commercially sensitive information

Be prepared – Review Papers and Reports ahead of meetings

Complete actions in a timely manner

Keep to agreed scope

Email communications to/cc'ing the .box email

Your Roles

Help refine/develop the solution(s)

Bring forward alternatives as early as possible

Vote on whether or not to proceed with requests for Alternatives

Vote on whether the solution(s) better facilitate the Code Objectives

Workgroup Membership

Role	Name	Alternate	Company
Proposer	Helen Newman		NESO
Workgroup Member	Garth Graham	Andrew Urquhart	SSE Generation
Workgroup Member	Patrick Murphy	Kevin Anaafi-Brown	Eleclink Limited
Workgroup Member	Allan Holton	Graeme Vincent	SP Energy Networks
Workgroup Member	Ross McFarlane		Northern Powergrid
Workgroup Member	Tim Ellingham	Andrew Allan	RWE
Workgroup Member	Charles Dolan		EDF Energy - Hinkley Point C
Workgroup Member	Kevin Cowan	Ali Gill John Reilly	EDF (Existing Nuclear Generation)
Observer	Andrew Larkins		Sygensys
Observer	Calum Beckwith	James Porter	VPI
Observer	Maria Lopez		NESO
NESO SME	Graham Lear	Antony Johnson	NESO
NESO SME	John Zammit-Haber		NESO
Authority Representative	Alice Siri		Ofgem

Timeline and Objectives

Claire Goult– NESO Code Administrator

Timeline

Objectives

Review Alternative and
Vote

Review Legal Text

Agree ToR met
Workgroup Vote

Workgroups		
GC0183 Workgroup 1	05 August 2025	Agree ToR/Timeline
GC0183 Workgroup 2	11 August 2025	Refine Solution/Legal Text
GC0183 Workgroup 3	18 August 2025	Finalise WG Consultation
GC0183 Workgroup Consultation	19 August –29 August 2025	7 Business Days
GC0183 Workgroup 4	04 September 2025	Review Responses
GC0183 Workgroup 5	10 September 2025	Finalise Workgroup Report/ Agree ToR/ Vote
GC0183 Workgroup Report to Panel	15 September 2025	2 Business Days
Special Panel	18 September 2025	To agree GC0183 has met its Terms of Reference
Post Workgroups		
GC0183 Code Administrator Consultation	19 September – 20 October 2025	1 month due to likely impact regulated sections
GC0183 Draft FMR to Panel	27 October 2025	2 Business Days
Panel undertake DFMR Recommendation Vote	30 October 2025	Grid Code Review Panel
GC0183 FMR to Ofgem	30 October 2025	Same day as Panel
GC0183 Implementation Date	10 Business Days post Authority Decision	

Alternative Request and Discussion

Eleclink/Chair



Alternative Proposer: Patrick Murphy, Eleclink

The proposed Workgroup alternative is seeking to amend the legal text of clauses BC1.9.1(b) and BC1.9.2(b) proposed under the Original proposal, by allowing Market Parties to deviate from the best estimate position their declared in their Space Weather Output Useable Declaration in the event it is prevented from so doing as a result of an unavoidable event that emerges (i.e., plant breakdown, safety grounds).

This proposal facilitates the Objectives to the same level but is more in keeping with the intent of the Original proposal, which only sought to make it mandatory for the provision of information to the NESO.

BC1.9.1(b)

where a **Space Weather Possible Notification** is issued by **The Company** in accordance with OC7.4.9, comply with their submitted **Space Weather Output Usable Declaration**, *unless prevented from so doing as a result of an unavoidable event in relation to that **BM Unit** (or a **Generating Unit**) which requires a variation in output or input of that **BM Unit** (or a **Generating Unit**).*

Examples (on a non-exhaustive basis) of such an unavoidable event are:

Plant breakdowns; events requiring a variation on safety grounds (relating to personnel or plant).

BC1.9.2(b)

comply without undue delay with their **Space Weather Output Usable Declaration** as submitted in accordance with BC1.9.2(a), *unless prevented from so doing in accordance with BC1.9.1(b).*

Possible solution to the Alternative

BC2.5.1

*For the avoidance of doubt, this gives rise to an obligation on each **BM Participant** (applying **Good Industry Practice**) to ensure that each of its **BM Units** (and **Generating Units**), follows the Physical Notifications prevailing at Gate Closure as amended by such variations and/or instructions unless in relation to any such obligation it is prevented from so doing as a result of an unavoidable event (existing or anticipated) in relation to that **BM Unit** (or a **Generating Unit**) which requires a variation in output or input of that **BM Unit** (or a **Generating Unit**).*

Examples (on a non-exhaustive basis) of such an unavoidable event are:

*plant breakdowns; events requiring a variation of input or output on safety grounds (relating to personnel or plant); events requiring a variation of input or output to maintain compliance with the relevant Statutory Water Management obligations; and uncontrollable variations in output of **Active Power***

Possible solution – Alternative Proposer Response

It was not clear to me whether section BC2 (*Post Gate Closure Process*) would apply in all instances encompassed by space weather. For example, it was my understanding (maybe incorrectly) that following the issuance of a severe space weather notification by the NESO, this notification could be in effect for up to 36 hours. As a result, I would have thought that it is possible that a Market Party could be within the *Pre Gate Closure Process window*, where traditionally we could vary our position, but are unable to do so and as a result: (1) the wording of BC1.9.1(b) and BC1.9.2(b) would compel the Market Party to maintain the position set out in its space weather notification; and (2) clause BC2.5.1 would not be in effect as we are still in the *Pre Gate Closure Process*.

OC2 – Legal Text solution to the Alternative

OC2.5.1(b) where a **Space Weather Imminent Notification** is issued by **The Company** in accordance with OC7.4.9, comply with their submitted **Space Weather Output Usable Declaration**, unless an **Event** makes it impossible to do so.

OC2.5.2(b) as soon as practicable comply with their **Space Weather Output Usable Declaration** as submitted in accordance with OC2.5.2(a), unless an **Event** makes it impossible to do so.

Alternative Proposer Response

As long as units, such as interconnectors are encompassed within the (potential) wording, I would be comfortable with us supporting the Original proposal and without the need to raise a Workgroup Alternative request.

In the event the legal wording of the Original proposal was updated to include the (possible) wording that the Grid Code SME identified, I would be supportive of proposal. I believe that this would provide sufficient leeway to deviate from our best estimate position in the event something unexpected happened to our assets during a space weather event.

Alternative Vote

All

Stage 1 – Alternative Vote

Vote on Workgroup Alternative Requests to become Workgroup Alternative Grid Code Modifications.

The Alternative vote is carried out to identify the level of Workgroup support there is for any potential alternative options that have been brought forward by either any member of the Workgroup OR an Industry Participant as part of the Workgroup Consultation.

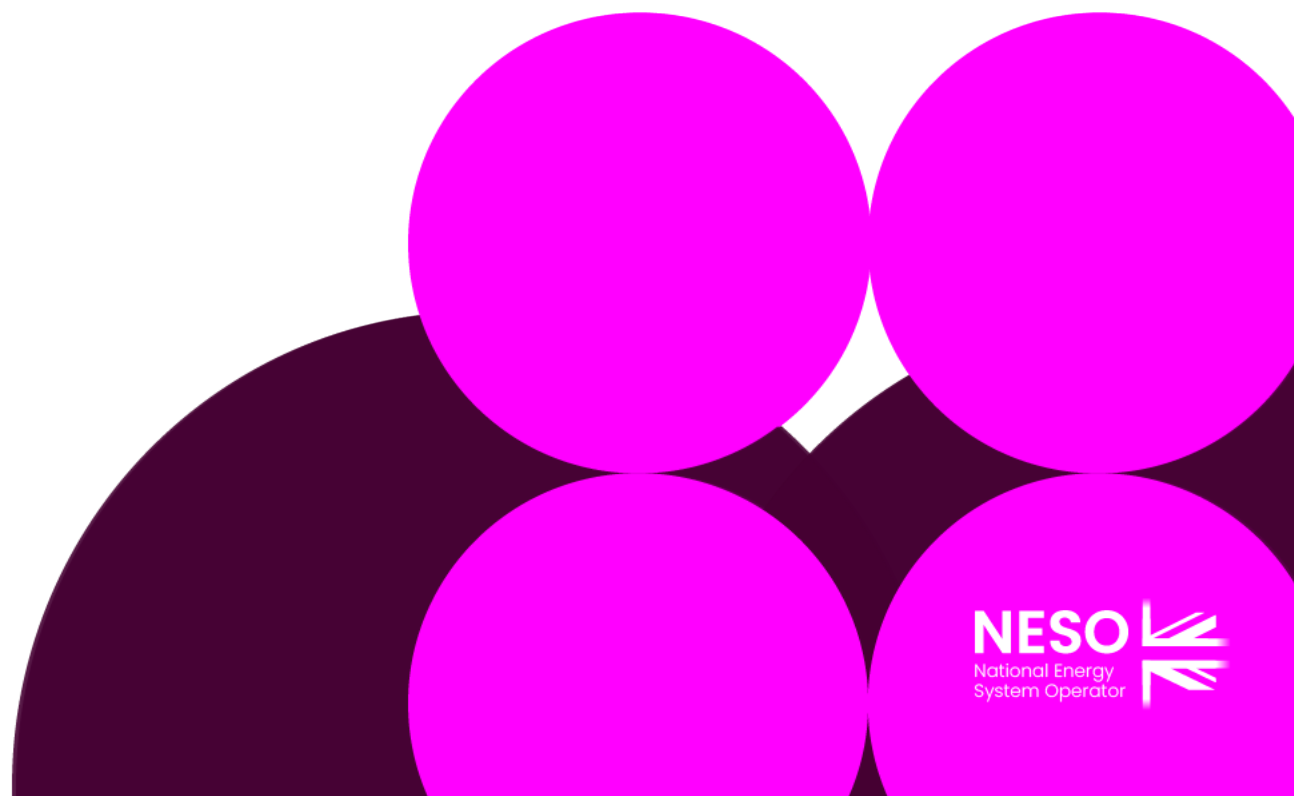
Should the **majority of the Workgroup OR the Chair** believe that the potential alternative solution would better facilitate the Grid Code objectives than the Original proposal then the potential alternative will be fully developed by the Workgroup with legal text to form a Workgroup Alternative Grid Code modification (WAGCM) and submitted to the Panel and Authority alongside the Original solution for the Panel Recommendation vote and the Authority decision.

“Y” = Yes

“N” = No

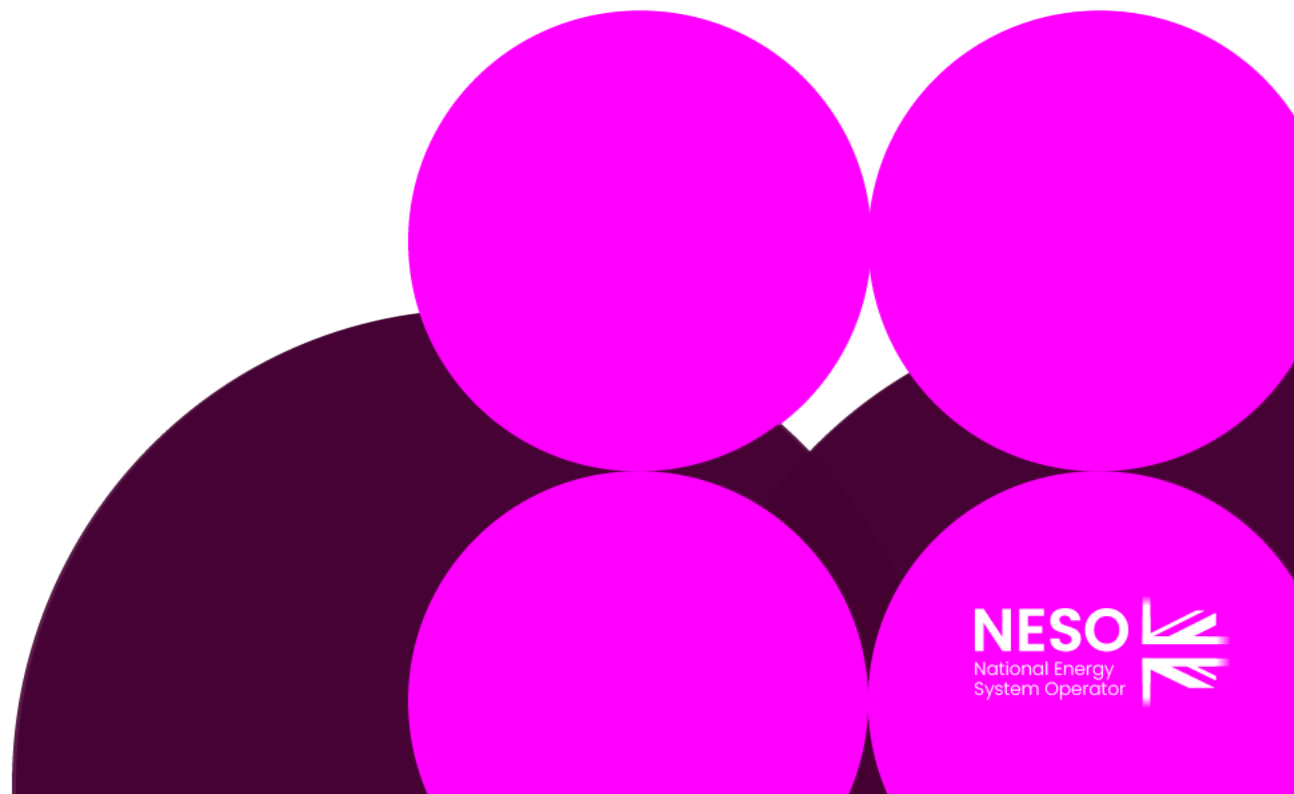
Agree Legal Text

All



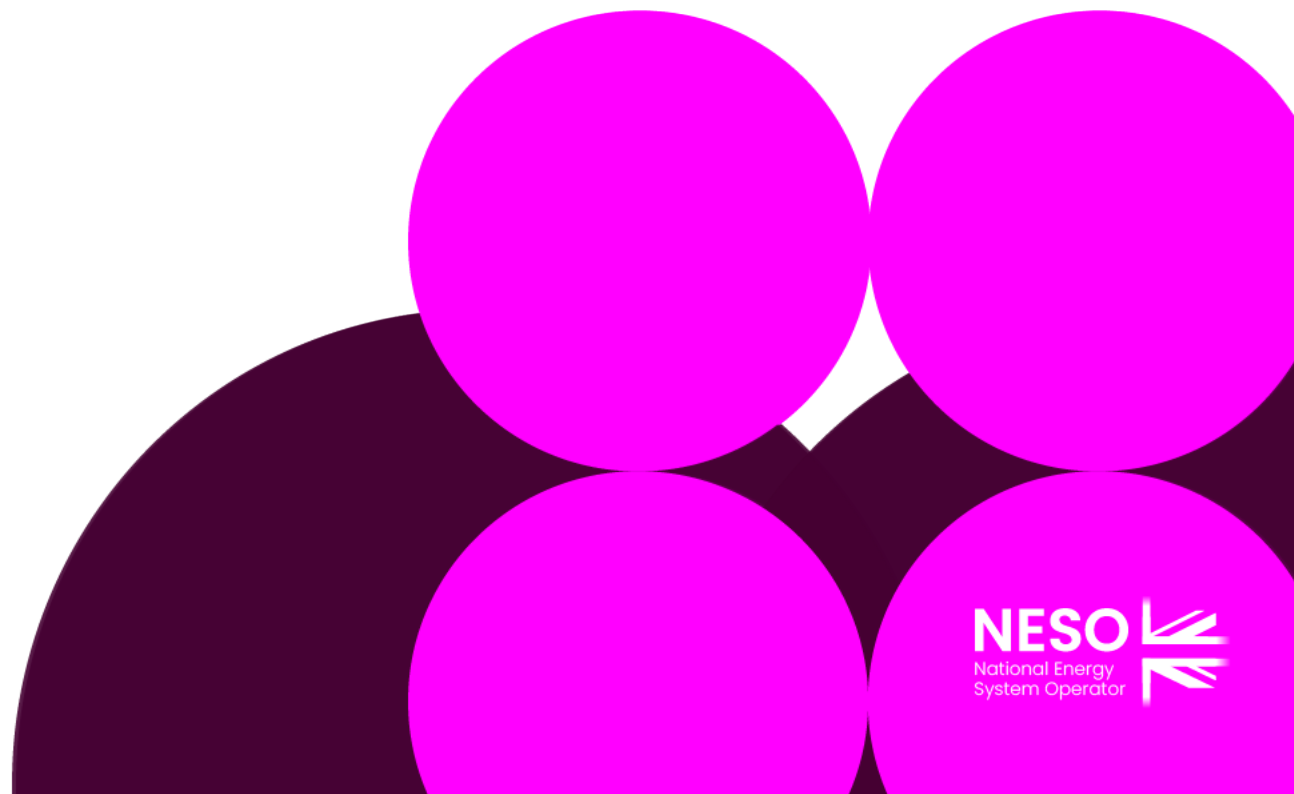
Review Draft Workgroup Report

All



Agree Terms of Reference Met

All



Terms of Reference

Workgroup Terms of Reference

a. Implementation and costs;

b. Review draft legal text should it have been provided. If legal text is not submitted within the Grid Code Modification Proposal the Workgroup should be instructed to assist in the developing of the legal text;

c. Consider whether any further Industry experts or stakeholders should be invited to participate within the Workgroup to ensure that all potentially affected stakeholders have the opportunity to be represented in the Workgroup. Demonstrate what has been done to cover this clearly in the report; and

d. Consider implications to sections linked to the Regulated Sections of the Grid Code

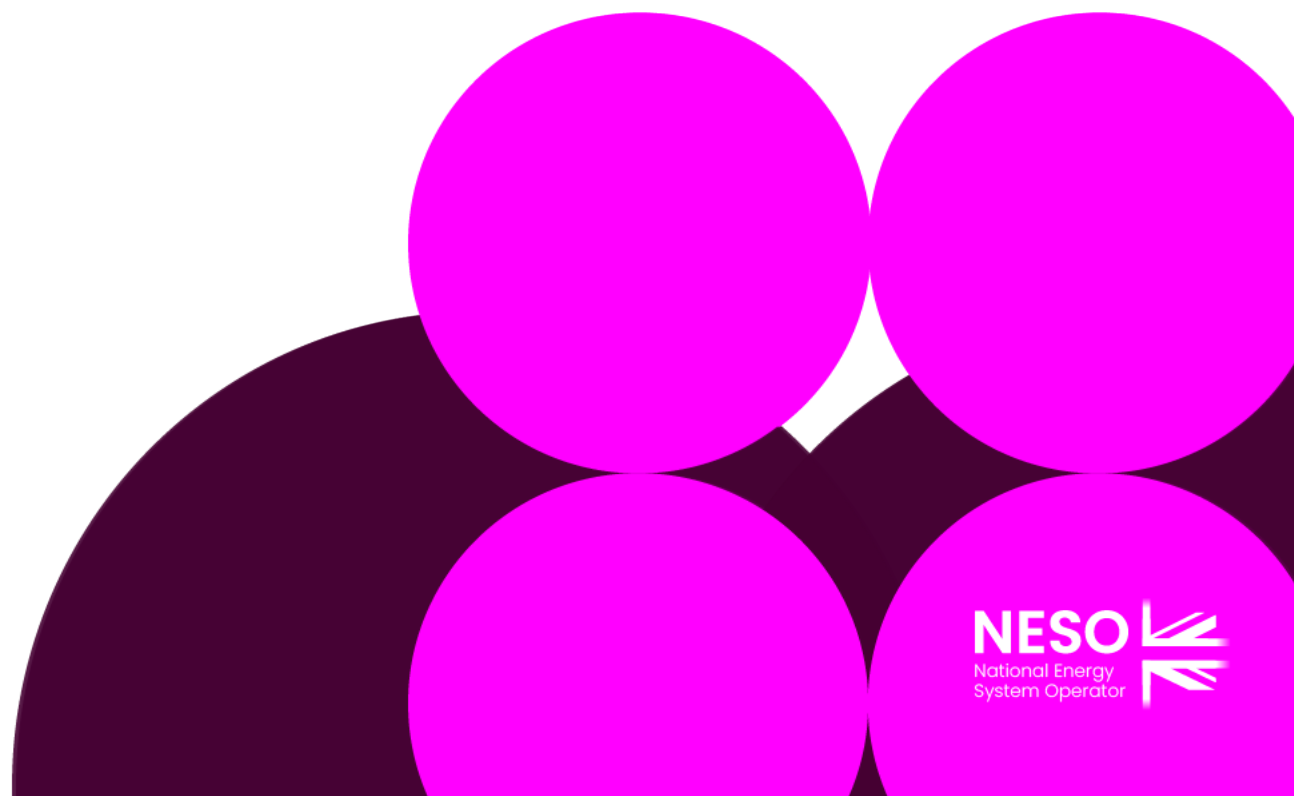
e. Consider the scope of work identified and whether this is achievable within the timeframe outlined in the Ofgem Urgency decision letter.

f. Consider interactions with other Industry related processes dealing with the issue of space weather and consider ways in which information should be incorporated. Where relevant suggest ways in which these might be taken forward.

g. Consider interaction with other obligations on stakeholders e.g. obligations relating to reporting of events under OC7.

Workgroup Vote

All



Please note: To participate in any votes, Workgroup members need to have attended at least 50% of meetings.

Stage 1 – Alternative Vote

If Workgroup Alternative Requests have been made, vote on whether they should become Workgroup Alternative Grid Code Modifications (WAGCMs).

Stage 2 – Workgroup Vote

2a) Assess the Original and WAGCMs (if there are any) against the Grid Code objectives compared to the baseline (the current Grid Code).

2b) Vote on which of the options is best.

Term	Meaning
Baseline	The current Grid Code (if voting for the Baseline, you believe no modification should be made)
Original	The solution which was firstly proposed by the Proposer of the modification
WAGCM	Workgroup Alternative Grid Code Modification (an Alternative Solution which has been developed by the Workgroup)

For reference the Applicable Grid Code Objectives are:

- i. To permit the development, maintenance and operation of an efficient, coordinated and economical system for the transmission of electricity*
- ii. Facilitating effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity (and without limiting the foregoing, to facilitate the national electricity transmission system being made available to persons authorised to supply or generate electricity on terms which neither prevent nor restrict competition in the supply or generation of electricity);*
- iii. Subject to sub-paragraphs (i) and (ii), to promote the security and efficiency of the electricity generation, transmission and distribution systems in the national electricity transmission system operator area taken as a whole;*
- iv. To efficiently discharge the obligations imposed upon the licensee by this license* and to comply with the Electricity Regulation and any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency; and*
- v. To promote efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Grid Code arrangements*

** See Electricity System Operator Licence*

Action Log Review

Claire Goult – NESO Code Administrator

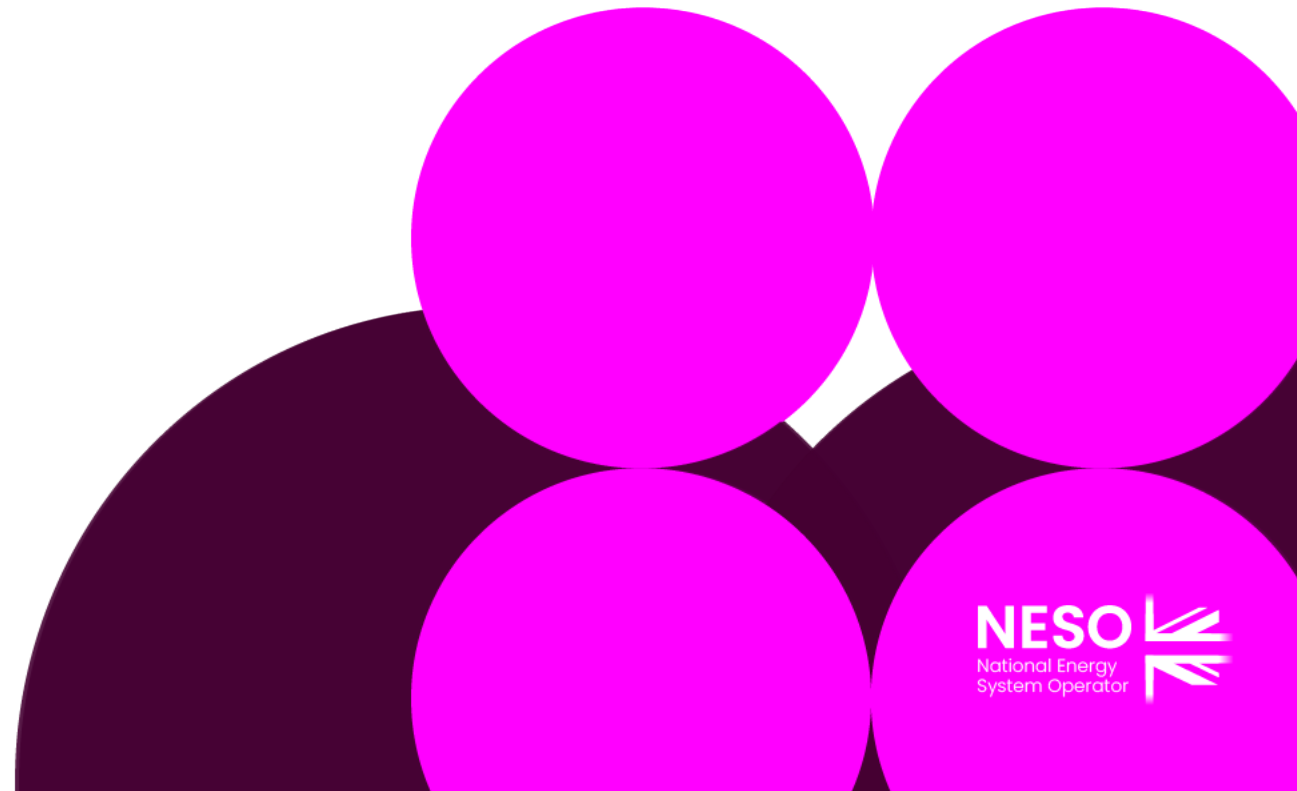


GC0183 Actions

Action Number	Workgroup Raised	Owner	Action	Due by	Status	Latest
1	WG1	GG/AJ/GL/HN	Offline discussion to be arranged to make amendments to the draft legal text following WG1 comments	WG2	Closed	
2	WG1	CG	Draft the Workgroup Consultation for members to review prior to WG2	7 August	Closed	Drafted and placed in the collaboration space
3	WG1	CG	Create a GC0183 Collaboration Space for Workgroup members to review the documents	7 August	Closed	
4	WG1	CG	Clarify the role of a Workgroup Observer	WG2	Closed	
5	WG2	CG	Send updated legal text (G&D, OC2, OC7) and Workgroup consultation for final review	TBC	Closed	
6	WG2	AJ/GL	NESO Legal Team to review draft legal text	TBC	Closed	Initial review has taken place, further review expected over the consultation period
7	WG2	HN	Create a flow diagram to demonstrate the time sequence of the notifications	TBC	Closed	
8	WG2	HN/JZH	Discuss KC comments on legal text sections OC2 2.5.1 b) and OC2 2.5.2 b)	TBC	Closed	
9	WG2	CG	Update ToR and take slide to GCRP	21/08/25	Closed	Approved at the Grid Code Review Panel on 21 August

Any Other Business

Claire Goult – NESO Code Administrator



Next Steps

Claire Goult – NESO Code Administrator

