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# Headline Report May 2026

The Headline Report is produced after every Panel and aims to provide an overview of the key decisions made. Minutes for this meeting will be published separately.

## Approval of Panel Minutes

The meeting minutes from the Panel on 24 March 2026, and Special Panel 28 April 2026 were approved subject to minor comments incorporated prior to the Panel.

## New Modifications

The following new Modification Proposals were presented to the Panel:

### **GSR036: System Access Reform: Review of the voltage limits**

This modification aims to review the voltage limits applicable to operational timescales and the potential for provision of some flexibility around them.

GSR036 proposes restoring the 275kV upper voltage limit from 9% to 10%, returning to the pre-2007 position. The change would increase operational flexibility and reduce the need for repeated derogation requests.

The Panel considered alignment with related industry activity, including the ENA consultation on voltage limits. It was clarified that the ENA work concerns distribution networks, while GSR036 applies to the transmission network, and this distinction should be clear in consultation documents.

Subject to final review of the updated legal text, the panel agreed that GSR036 should proceed to Code Administrator Consultation.

GSR036 documentation can be found [here](#)

### **GSR037: Formatting and Housekeeping**

This modification aims to make the SQSS a more readable, user-friendly document.

GSR037 was discussed as an in-flight modification that is now largely editorial and formatting in nature. During the panel discussion, a Panel member questioned whether,

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given the limited scope of the remaining changes, it could be treated as a self-governed modification rather than requiring an Authority decision.

Any changes are to be reviewed after the meeting to confirm the appropriate governance route. A timeline update was also noted as necessary, particularly as the administrator consultation closes on 16 June and earlier delays had affected the programme.

GSR037 documentation can be found [here](#)

## **New / Pending Authority Decisions**

### **Decisions since the last Panel**

There were no decisions since the last Panel.

## **In flight Modifications**

### **GSR035: System Access Reform – Changes to Enable Beneficial Outages Without Compromising System Security**

GSR035 was discussed as part of the in-flight modifications update, focusing on the proposed consultation timetable. Panel members considered whether the work group consultation period could be shortened, but concerns were raised about the risks of reducing the time available for stakeholder input. The panel therefore agreed to retain the 15-day consultation period.

It was also agreed that a revised timeline for Panel approval, submitted via email, prior to the next Panel meeting.

### **GSR037: Formatting and Housekeeping**

This modification aims to make the SQSS a more readable, user-friendly document.

GSR037 was discussed as an in-flight modification that is now largely editorial and formatting in nature. During the panel discussion, Calum questioned whether, given the limited scope of the remaining changes, it could be treated as a self-governed modification rather than requiring an Authority decision.

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Panel agreed that the nature of the changes should be reviewed after the meeting to confirm the appropriate governance route. A timeline update was also noted as necessary, particularly as the administrator consultation closes on 16 June and earlier delays had affected the programme.

### **GSR038: Single Transformer Offshore AC Substations**

GSR038 was discussed as an in-flight modification that will now be formally withdrawn. The Panel noted that the withdrawal window had now closed and no new proposers had come forward, so there was no basis to continue the proposal.

The next [Modification Tracker](#) will be published on 07 June 2026.

### **Workgroup Reports**

No Workgroup reports were presented to the Panel.

### **Draft Final Modification Reports**

No Draft Final Modification Reports presented to the Panel.

### **Any Other Business**

#### **Strategic Direction Statement (SDS) Prioritisation**

The Panel discussed the new SDS prioritisation framework for code modifications. New proposals will be assessed against three equally weighted criteria: alignment with the SDS, importance, and complexity. Based on this, modifications will be classified as either standard or high priority, while the urgent modification process will remain unchanged.

Panel members supported the need for a clear and practical prioritisation approach and discussed whether a scoring system could improve consistency and transparency across codes. Panel members also cautioned against making the process overly complex during the SDS transition. The Panel noted that modifications outside SDS scope, such as housekeeping or unforeseen technical changes, should still be progressed where resources allow.

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### **Industry Resource Constraints**

Panel discussed the industry resource constraints following the recent influx of Urgent Modifications. It was highlighted that there has been an increase, in the number of workgroups in May 2026, which has seen around 24 workgroups across the four codes that NESO administer. Panel members noted the intense workload and compressed timescales associated with urgent modifications, where given these timescales, there is the risk of suboptimal industry engagement and decision-making. The Panel noted that resource constraints are being felt across industry during this period.

### **Key Activities ahead of next panel**

Panel to review the new SDS framework and prepare for a fuller discussion at the next Panel meeting.

Modification Proposal Deadline for July SQSS Panel: **07 July 2026**

Papers Day for July SQSS Panel: **14 July 2026**

### **Questions or feedback?**

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