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SQSS Code Review Panel

27 May 2026

Date: 27/05/2026

Location: Microsoft Teams

Start: 10:00

End: 12:00

Participants

Attendee	Initials	Company
Teri Puddefoot	TP	Panel Chair
Kayte Stanton-Hughes	KSH	Panel Technical Secretary
Alan Creighton	AC	Panel Member, Network Operator Representative
Antony Johnson	AJ	Panel Member, NESO Representative (Alternate)
Blane Jones	BJ	Authority Representative
Bless Kuri	BK	Panel Member, SP Transmission (Alternate)
Calum Watkins	CW	Authority Representative
Cornel Brozio	CB	Panel Member, SP Transmission Representative
Dovile Kvedyte-Corrigan	DKC	Authority Representative (Alternate)
Garth Graham	GG	Panel Member, Generator Representative
Graeme Vincent	GV	Panel Member, SP Transmission Representative
Le Fu	LF	Panel Member, NGET Representative
Martin Brown	MB	Panel Member, OFTO Representative
Paul Drew	PD	Authority Representative
Roddy Wilson	RW	Panel Member, SHET Transmission Operator Representative
Roger Carter	RC	Panel Member, OFTO Representative
Observers / Presenters	Initials	Company
Andrew Henderson	AH	NESO, Analysis and Insights Manager (Observer)

Public

Dozie Nnabuife	DN	NESO, Project Lead (Presenter)
Keren Kelly	KK	NESO, Code Governance Manager (Presenter)
Maria Lopez	ML	NESO, Codes Interface Lead (Observer)
Ryan Baldwin	RB	NESO, Code Governance (Observer)
Shaun Pereira	SP	NESO (Observer)
Steve Baker	SB	NESO, Technical Code Change Lead (Observer)
Stuart McLarnon	SMC	NESO, Technical Framework Analyst (Observer)

Apologies

Attendee	Initials	Company
Bieshoy Awad	BA	Panel Member, NESO Representative (Alternate)
Claire Newton	CN	Panel Member, NESO Representative
Mark Perry	MP	Panel Member, NGET Representative

1. Introductions and Apologies

The Chair welcomed Panel members and thanked them for attending the meeting. Apologies were received from Bieshoy Awad, Claire Newton, and Mark Perry.

2. Minutes from previous meeting

The meeting minutes from the SQSS Panel held on 24 March 2026 and Special Panel on 28 April 2026 were approved, subject to minor comments from the Panel being incorporated, a final copy will be circulated prior to publishing on the website.

3. Review of actions log

The SQSS Panel reviewed the open actions:

Action 40.8: (Ongoing) AJ advised GC0117 was ongoing and the CBA had been started in April 2026. AJ will continue to give updates as the work progresses.

Action 42: (Close) SMC to address – Propose to close.

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Action 47: (Ongoing) GC0117 – Consequential SQSS mod – This cannot be addressed until the GC0117 Send back has been completed. Proposed to retain as ongoing.

Action 48: (Close) GSR036 – To be discussed and reviewed later at Panel Meeting. Propose to close action.

Action 49: (Close) With SMC – It was noted that GSR037 is out for consultation – propose to close action.

Action 52: (Close) Passed to SMC as part of GSR037 – Propose to close.

Action 53: (Open) Ofgem do not have a view on specific action – propose to keep action open.

Action 54: (Closed) FRCR Questionnaire circulated by Code Governance.

Action 55: (Open) AJ gave view on the FRCR questionnaire which was circulated by Code Governance. AJ advised NESO were currently assessing the responses and intended on giving an update at the next Panel Meeting in July.

New Actions

Action 56: (Open) SQSS Legal Text (J5.2.5) Clarification from Ofgem (via Code Admin) on applicability of J5.2.5 obligations to different licensees, whether obligations apply to all Panel members and the required timescales for submitting licence change requests.

Action 57: (Open) TP to circulate a Prioritisation Framework Rollout spreadsheet to Panel members to review all SQSS live modifications.

4. Authority Decisions

There were no Authority decisions.

5. New modifications

GSR036: System Access Reform; review of the voltage limits

The Panel discussed GSR036, which proposes changing the 275kV upper voltage limit from 9% back to 10% to restore the pre-2007 SQSS position. The rationale presented was that this would provide greater operational flexibility for network management and reduce the need for repeated derogation requests.

During the discussion, Panel members raised a number of technical and drafting points. One key clarification was that the proposal is separate from ENA's consultation on voltage limits, as that work relates to distribution networks rather

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than transmission, and the Panel agreed this distinction should be made clear in the consultation documents. The Panel also noted the need for document consistency, including correcting references to relevant Grid Code sections that may be impacted by the proposal and ensuring the legal text is updated to the latest SQSS version.

The Panel agreed that the modification should proceed to Code Administrator Consultation, subject to a final review of the updated legal text and inclusion of the agreed clarification on ENA interaction. The consultation was expected to be issued on 3 June.

6. In flight modification updates

TP talked the Panel through the progression of the in-flight modifications for GSR035, GSR037 and GSR039. The in-flight modifications can be found on the NESO website via the following link: [SQSS Modifications](#).

Timeline Updates

GSR035: System Access Reform: Review of the operational requirements on the Onshore Systems – Options 1 & 2

The Panel discussed the proposed consultation period for GSR035, focusing on whether the Workgroup Consultation could be shortened. Panel Members raised concerns that reducing the period could create unnecessary risk and limit stakeholders' opportunity to comment adequately.

The Panel discussion concluded that the 15-day consultation period should be maintained. The Panel also agreed that the Workgroup Chair should provide a revised timeline for approval, which could be agreed by email ahead of the July Panel, if needed.

GSR037: Formatting and Housekeeping

As part of the in-flight modifications update, the Panel discussed GSR037. The main question was whether this editorial and formatting modification should follow the usual Authority decision route or instead be progressed through self-governance.

During the discussion, Panel members questioned whether the current timeline remained appropriate, particularly given earlier delays and the fact that the code administrator consultation was due to close on 16 June. It was agreed that

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the nature of the proposed changes needed to be reviewed more closely before confirming the correct governance route.

The Panel did not make a final determination during the meeting and agreed that the governance approach and timeline would be reviewed and clarified after the meeting, with an update to be provided at the July Panel.

Modification Withdrawal

GSR038 Modification withdrawal: Single Transformer Offshore AC Substations

The Panel noted that GSR038 would be formally withdrawn. Discussions confirmed that the withdrawal window had closed and no new proposers had come forward to take the modification forward. GSR038 will be withdrawn formally.

7. Workgroup Reports

No Workgroup Reports were presented to the Panel.

8. Draft Final Modification Reports

No Draft Final Modification Reports presented to the Panel.

9. Update on other Industry Codes

Links to other Industry Codes recent Panel meetings were included in the Panel Papers.

10. Code Administrator Update

There were no Code Administrator Updates.

11. Any Other Business (AOB)

SDS Prioritisation Framework

KK presented to Panel how NESO's new harmonised prioritisation framework would apply to SQSS modifications, with alignment to the SDS identified as one of the three core prioritisation criteria alongside importance and complexity. The discussion focused on how this framework should be used to prioritise current and future modifications, and Panel members were asked to review the approach ahead of a fuller discussion at the next meeting.

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Panel Members raised a few implementation questions, including how long the initial prioritisation exercise would take, how legal text changes would interact with the framework, and whether an urgent route already exists within the SQSS. In addition, the panel discussed new legal text around licensee-led change requests, with members seeking clarification on which Panel members this would apply to and requesting a Q&A response for the July Panel meeting.

The Panel discussed the SDS as a central criterion in NESO's new modification prioritisation framework, and the Panel agreed that further clarification and supporting material would be needed before applying the framework to SQSS modifications.

KK discussed with Panel the industry resourcing pressures arising from the current volume of urgent modifications and Workgroups. Panel members expressed concern that the current volume and pace of modification activity may be unsustainable from a resourcing perspective, creating pressures for both NESO and wider industry participants.

Further feedback was invited to identify specific pinch points and concerns. The Panel discussed the linked resourcing pressures to meeting scheduling and whether meetings would be quorate, with Panel members considering whether changes to the timing of the next Panel meeting in July might help accommodate competing industry commitments and to allow sufficient time for prioritisation discussions.

Next Steps

The next SQSS Panel meeting will be held on **28 July 2026, 10am – 12PM** via **Microsoft Teams**.

New Modification Proposals to be submitted by **07 July 2026**.

SQSS Code Review Panel Papers Day is **14 July 2026**.