

# Approved Minutes of the Joint Grid Code Review Panel (JGCRP)

## SONI Offices, Belfast

### 19 November 2019

#### Member Attendance:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Company</u>
Arthur Moynihan	Y	Ireland GCRP Chair	EirGrid
Miriam Ryan	Y	TSO Member	EirGrid
Anne Trotter	Y	TSO Member	EirGrid
Michael McCormack	N	Grid Connected Thermal Generators	Bord na Móna
Position open		Grid Connected Thermal Generators	
Oliver Caherty alternate for Rory Griffin	Y	Grid Connected CCGT Generators	Bord Gais Energy
Colin D'Arcy	N	Grid Connected CCGT Generators	Tynagh Energy
Mark Coleman	Y	Grid Connected Non-Synchronous Renewable Generators	SSER
Peter King	Y	Grid Connected Non-Synchronous Renewable Generators	Ionic Consulting
William Carr	Y	Grid Connected Pumped Storage	ESB GWM
Position Open		Grid Connected Synchronous Renewable Generators	
Pat O'Donnell	N	Grid Connected Fast Peaking Plants	SSE
Jim Wynne	Y	ESB PES	Electric Ireland
Position Open		Independent Electricity Supplier	
Cormac Fitzpatrick	Y	Transmission Asset Owner	ESB Networks TAO
Dylan Ashe alternate for Robert O'Rourke	Y	Regulator	CRU
Karl O'Keeffe	N	Irl - Interconnector Owner	East-West Interconnector
Tim Steele	Y	Market Operator	SEMO
Tony Hearne	N	Distribution System Operator	ESB Networks
Paddy Finn	N	Grid Connected Demand Side Units	Electricity Exchange
Lisa McMullan	N	Grid Connected Demand Side Units	Grid Beyond
Kenneth Matthews	N	Grid Connected Demand Customers	Amazon
Sam Matthews	Y	Northern Ireland Chair – Chair of the JGCRP	SONI
Alan Kennedy	Y	TSO Representative	SONI
Marie-Therese Campbell	Y	TSO Representative	SONI
Alastair Cooke	Y	TSO Representative	SONI
Jim Cooke	N	Generators	Coolkearagh ESB
Sam Gibson alternate	Y	NI – Interconnector Owner	Moyle Interconnector

for Stephen Hemphill			
Cathal Martin	N	Generators	SSER
Tony McElroy	N	Generators	Energia
Jody O'Boyle	Y	Regulator	Utility Regulator
Ronan McKeown	N	TNO	NIE (TC)
Ian Bailie	Y	DNO	NIE (DO)
Mervyn Adams	N	Renewable Energy	ESB
Denis McBride	N	Generators	AES
Sam Alexander	N	Demand Side Units	Powerhouse DSU
William Steele	N	Generators	Power NI
Joe Coyle	N	Generators	Coolkeeragh ESB
Claver Chitambo	Y		RES-Group

**Other Attendees:**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Role</u></b>	<b><u>Company</u></b>
Éanna Farrell	Y	JGCRP Presenter	EirGrid
Jason Kennedy	Y	TSO Observer	SONI
Daniel McSwiggan	Y	TSO Presenter	SONI
Matthew Whiteside	Y	TSO Secretary	SONI
Arlene Chawke	Y	TSO Secretary	EirGrid
Claver Chitambo	Y		RES-Group
Kenny McPartland	Y	Observer	Utility Regulator

## **1. Introduction to JGCRP Meeting & Approval of Minutes**

- a) Sam Matthews (Chair) welcomed all members, observers and presenters to the meeting.
- b) A round table of introductions took place.
- c) The secretary received no comments to the previous meeting Minutes and the Minutes had been deemed approved.
- d) Sam Matthews (Chair) reviewed the actions from the previous meeting:
  - Action 5(f) – a query raised by Brian Mongan regarding EDIL Declarations  
Anne Trotter (EirGrid) closed out this query directly with Denis McBride (AES).
  - Action 9(g) – a query regarding the Hybrid Sites Working Group  
Hybrid Sites is now a key strand of the FlexTech Initiative.

## **2. A high-level introduction – the application of Connection Network Codes to existing users following a modernisation or replacement of equipment.**

- a) Miriam Ryan (TSO Member) presented slides on the application of Connection Network Codes to existing users following a modernisation or replacement of equipment.
- b) The TSOs will circulate a paper with the Minutes of this meeting and participants are encouraged to review and submit any comments to the TSOs before 20 December.

- c) Oliver Caherty (CCGT Generators) said that the approach taken by the TSO appears reasonable but he would like to review the paper before providing any definitive comments.
- d) Following a query from Jody Boyle (Utility Regulator) Miriam Ryan (TSO Member) confirmed that most of the European TSOs have taken a characteristic application approach.
- e) Arthur Moynihan (Chair –EirGrid) noted that the date of entry into force of the codes is now passed and the assessment of any modernisation/refurbishment of plant will be assessed against this paper. The assessment is needed to establish what characteristics will come under the Network Codes.
- f) Miriam Ryan (EirGrid) also noted that the TSOs are trying to avoid a scenario where a fault replacement will drive an application of the requirements of the Network Codes. These types of scenarios are dealt with in the paper.
- g) Arthur Moynihan (Chair –EirGrid) further pointed out that Users undergoing part-modernisation of their plant may find themselves in a scenario where Network Codes requirements are only applicable to the refurbished part of their plant and the current Grid Code will continue to apply to the existing elements of their plant. This pro-rata approach may create further complexity for users.
- h) Mark Coleman (Non-Synchronous Renewable Generators) favours the pro-rata approach, for instance a number of windfarms are currently being updated with new a controller/software that allows the windfarm to provide the most up to date RfG frequency response. Such an update is of benefit to the TSO and to owner of the plant through system services. He pointed out that despite the software update the windfarm will not have the capability to comply with the Reactive Power RfG requirements and in such instance a pro-rata approach works. If a blanket application approach applied then the update may never take place.
- i) Following a query from Marie-Therese Campbell (TSO Member) on keeping a record of plant that are deemed partially modernised and partially existing, Miriam Ryan (TSO member) noted that it will be the responsibility of the TSO to keep a record for the purposes of performance monitoring.
- j) Arthur Moynihan (TSO Chair) pointed out that the Regulator will have a role in deciding the plant characteristics that will need to comply with the Network Code following modernisation/replacement.
- k) As per the Network Codes the plant in question will inform the TSO of the modernisation/replacement work that will be carried out. The TSO will carry out an assessment and will evaluate what plant of the part will fall under Network Codes. The TSO will issue the assessment to the Regulator and the Regulator will make a final decision.
- l) Miriam Ryan (TSO Member) further pointed out that it is essential that the participants review and provide comment on the paper because it will describe the criteria that the TSOs will use for their assessments.
- m) **ACTION:** TSO to circulate a paper with the meeting Minutes and participants will have until 20 December to provide their comments. Please provide comments to [girdcode@eirgrid.com](mailto:girdcode@eirgrid.com) or [gridcode@soni.ltd.uk](mailto:gridcode@soni.ltd.uk).

### **3. Regulatory Updates**

- a) Dylan Ashe (Regulator - Ireland) provided the CRU update. The Regulators have published a decision paper approving the SAOA and LFC BOA. As part of that decision paper the Regulators have outlined a number of wider issues that need to be addressed by the TSOs. Participants are encouraged to review the decision paper and issues.
- b) Jody O'Boyle (Regulator – Northern Ireland) provided the Utility Regulator update. As per above the Utility Regulator has published the SAOA/LFC BOA decision paper and have outlined a number of issues.
- c) Following a consultation SONI has issued an updated version of the Northern Ireland Grid Code that includes the incorporation of the RfG Network Code. The Utility Regulator is currently assessing the updated code with the intention of approving it by the end of 2019.
- d) Jody O'Boyle (Regulator – Northern Ireland) further recommended that SONI provide more regularly updated versions of the Grid Code as future modifications are approved. This will provide users with a better understanding of the current requirements.
- e) Daniel McSwiggan (TSO Observer) noted that the SONI website has been updated to give more information when Grid Code modifications are approved and this will provide more clarity for users.

### **4. AOB**

- a) It is proposed to have the next meeting mid to late March 2020.