
DISTRIBUTION CODE REVIEW PANEL

Tuesday 5 September 2017

NIE Networks, Fortwilliam House, Belfast

MINUTES OF MEETING

a. Attendees

<u>Members</u>	<u>Non members</u>
Rodney Ballentine (RB), NIE Networks (Chair)	Carl Hashim (CH), NIE Networks (Secretary)
David McDonald (DMcD), NIE Networks	Stephen Hammond (SH), NIE Networks
David Hill (DH), NIE Networks	Neil MacDougall (NMcD), NIE Networks
Ian Bailie, NIE Networks	Raymond Skillen (RS), SONI
Ciaran MacCann (CMaC), alternate for Jody O'Boyle (JOB), Utility Regulator	Jonny Pollock (JP), NIE Networks
Cathal Martin (CM), SSE, alternate for Joe Duddy (JD), RES (<i>via conf call</i>)	Christopher Surgeoner (CS), NIE Networks
Fiona Hannon, SSE Airtricity (<i>via conf call</i>)	
Mervyn Adams (MA), ESBI	

b. Apologies

Apologies received from:

- Denis Kelly, NIE Networks
- Joe Duddy, RES (alternate in attendance)
- William Steele, Power NI

Attendance unconfirmed from:

- Sam Alexander, Powerhouse Generation
- Kevin Hannafin, Energia

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for non attendance were noted. The Chair noted that attendance constituted a quorum.

2. Update on Panel membership

The Secretary noted there were no updates. The CBI is yet to nominate a member to the Panel to represent large usage demand customers.

3. Review of minutes of 6 June 2017, including actions

Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed, and an update provided on actions from the meeting. The Panel agreed the minutes.

Whilst reviewing the minutes, the Panel also discussed the process for amending and publishing revisions to the D Code. CH advised that he would develop a governance / framework document, and circulate a draft to the Panel in advance of the next Panel meeting.

Action:

- i. **To develop and circulate a draft governance / framework document for amending and publishing revisions to the D Code. (CH)**

4. RoCoF workstream update

JP presented an update to the Panel. (The presentation was circulated to the Panel after the meeting.)

Clarification comment for inclusion in the minutes, from SONI

SNSP is a metric that describes the relationship between the amount of wind and imports from interconnectors (which are non-synchronous to the power system) to the amount of demand and exports from interconnectors. This is a key operational metric that allows us [SONI] to track the progression of the DS3 programme. Increasing SNSP necessitates a range of operational policy changes for all connected parties in relation to frequency and voltage.

For frequency, the key change is the ability to withstand higher levels of Rate of Change of Frequency (RoCoF), which can happen at times of lower inertia. When the RoCoF implementation project concludes and SONI transitions to the higher RoCoF standard, this will enable further operational changes to be made such as reducing the number of large generators that are required to be connected at all times and hence reducing the minimum inertia level. This is already a binding constraint at times of low demand / high renewables and will continue to require curtailment of wind generation at times.

Being able to operate the system to the new RoCoF standard is essential to facilitating any further increases to SNSP above 65%. Failure to implement settings changes on sufficient generation, both at transmission level and embedded in the distribution network, will mean that SNSP cannot be increased above 65%.

Action:

- ii. **[Numerous actions. See 'Next Steps' slide in presentation.]**

5. Nodal controller update

JP presented the issue to the Panel. (The presentation was circulated to the Panel after the meeting.)

RS asked for further data from NIE Networks in respect of reactive power at unity or less than unity. NIE Networks will provide the data to SONI.

Action:

- iii. **NIE Networks to send requested data to SONI. (NIE Networks)**

6. Update on EU network codes

DH presented an update to the Panel. (The presentation was circulated to the Panel after the meeting.)

The Panel then debated the merits of the G98 and G99 documents being a joint document with GB, or whether NI should have its own versions of the documents.

The GB DCRP is due to consider the issue at its next meeting. It was agreed that the Panel should wait and see if the idea of combined documents is entertained by the GB DCRP, before the Panel considers it further.

Action:

- iv. **Await decision by GB DCRP on the issue of combined documents, and then discuss at the next Panel meeting. (All)**

7. SSG SCADA update

SH advised that letters to non-compliant SSGs had been issued, but that only three responses had been received. SH will follow up with those that have not yet responded.

SH gave an update on LVRT issue raised at the Panel meeting of 14 Feb 2017. Information has been passed to SONI regarding the number of sites and generation capacity of Type A Power Stations with LVRT requirement. RS to follow this up with SONI.

Action:

- v. **To follow up with SSGs on SCADA compliance issue. (SH)**
- vi. **SONI to review data and comment on LVRT issue. (SONI)**

8. Update on Phase 2 capacity

DMcD presented the issue to the Panel. (The presentation was circulated to the Panel after the meeting.)

9. AOB

No AOB matters were raised.

10. Date of next meeting

The first or second Tuesday in December 2017 was proposed for the next meeting.

Action:

- vii. **Secretary to send invite for next meeting. (CH)**

Summary of actions

- i. **To develop and circulate a draft governance / framework document for amending and publishing revisions to the D Code. (CH)**
- ii. **Numerous actions re RoCoF workstream. See 'Next Steps' slide in RoCoF presentation.**
- iii. **NIE Networks to send requested data on reactive power to SONI. (NIE Networks)**
- iv. **Await decision by GB DCRP on the issue of combined G98/99 documents, and then discuss at the next Panel meeting. (All)**
- v. **To follow up with SSGs on SCADA compliance issue. (SH)**
- vi. **SONI to review data and comment on LVRT issue. (SONI)**
- vii. **Secretary to send invite for next meeting. (CH)**