DISTRIBUTION CODE REVIEW PANEL

Tuesday 6 June 2017

NIE Networks, Fortwilliam House, Belfast

MINUTES OF MEETING

a. Attendees

Members	Non members
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
Jonny Pollock (JP), alternate for Ian Bailie (IB), NIE Networks	
Ciaran MacCann (CMaC), alternate for Jody O'Boyle (JOB), Utility Regulator	
Sam Alexander (SA), Powerhouse Generation	
William Steele (WS), Power NI	
Cathal Martin (CM), SSE, alternate for Joe Duddy (JD), RES (*via conf call*)	
Lisa Fahy (LF), SSE, alternate for Fiona Hannon, SSE Airtricity (*via conf call*)	

b. Apologies

Apologies received from:
- Denis Kelly, NIE Networks
- Ian Bailie, NIE Networks (alternate in attendance)
- Joe Duddy, RES (alternate in attendance)
- Fiona Hannon, SSE Airtricity (alternate in attendance)
- Raymond Skillen, SONI

Attendance unconfirmed from:
- Mervyn Adams, ESBI [*later arrived for meeting but meeting had finished*]
- 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.

3. Review of minutes of 14 February 2017, including actions

    Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed, and an update provided on actions from the meeting.

    The Panel agreed the minutes.

4. RoCoF workstream update

    JP presented an update to the Panel (presentation circulated on 6 June 2017).

    A question was raised regarding when the RoCoF changes would become effective. DH said he understood the TSO plans to start moving to the new RoCoF standard in early 2018.

    A discussion was held on ensuring RoCoF changes were adequately communicated to relevant stakeholders. CM said he would raise the matter at the next NIRIG meeting, to ensure LSGs are kept informed.

    Immediate next step is for NIE Networks to publish a consultation paper with proposed modifications to the D-Code. NIE Networks will circulate this paper to the Panel first for comment, before publication.

    Action:
    i.   **To circulate draft of proposed modifications to the D-Code. (JP)**
    ii. **RoCoF changes to be raised at next NIRIG meeting. (CM)**

5. Setting Schedule workstream update

    SH presented an update to the Panel (presentation circulated on 6 June 2017). Next step is for NIE Networks to submit an approval request to the UR to modify the Setting Schedule.

    During the presentation SH advised that the intention was to seek approval to modify the Setting Schedule but clarified that once approved, the changes would only be made at the same time as the modifications to the D-Code for the changes in RoCoF. The rationale being that NIE Networks does not want to make multiple modifications to the D-Code in quick succession.

    The Panel then debated the merits of this approach, with CM and CH both noting that it might better if the published D-Code was always the most up-to-date. An alternative option was suggested of updating the D-Code at six monthly intervals e.g. in January, and July. The Panel agreed to keep this matter under review, and to debate it again if/when a series of D-Code modifications are forthcoming.

    Action:
    iii. **To send approval request to modify the D-Code to the UR. (SH)**
    iv.   **To consider appropriate timing if/when multiple modification are to occur in quick succession. (All)**

6. Update on guidance on telemetry requirements for zero export connections

SH presented an updated draft guidance note on the above to the Panel (paper circulated on 6 June 2017). SH requested that the Panel review the document and provide comments. NIE Networks is aiming to publish this at the end of June.

   Action:
   v.   Panel to provide comments on guidance note. (All)
   vi.   Guidance note to be published at the end of June. (SH)

7. Update on EU network codes

DH gave an update on the three (out of nine) forthcoming network codes that will have the greatest impact on matters relevant for the Panel, these being –

   - Requirements for Generators (RfG) code;
   - Demand Connections Code (DCC); and
   - Transmission System Operation Guidelines (TSOG).

Work is progressing with NIE Networks involved in the both the GB DNO and Ireland TSO/DNO working groups which will set national parameters and provide understandings and clarifications.

NIE Networks has also contracted with Ricardo to carry out the mapping and drafting required to modify a range of existing Distribution Code documents and engineering recommendations. This work is due to complete by the end of 2017 with consultations required in early 2018 to gain approval for the necessary changes.

8. AOB

No AOB matters were raised.

9. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 5 September was proposed for the next meeting.

   Action:
   vii.   Secretary to send invite for next meeting. (Secretary)

Summary of actions

   i.   To circulate draft of proposed modifications to the D-Code. (JP)
   ii.   RoCoF changes to be raised at next NIRIG meeting. (CM)
   iii. To send approval request to modify the D-Code to the UR. (SH)
   iv.   To consider appropriate timing if/when multiple modification are to occur in quick succession. (All)
   v.   Panel to provide comments on telemetry guidance note. (All)
   vi.   Telemetry guidance note to be published at the end of June. (SH)
   vii. Secretary to send invite for next meeting. (Secretary)