

**+NORTHERN IRELAND DISTRIBUTION CODE REVIEW PANEL MEETING**

**TUESDAY 1 JULY 2014**

**NIE OFFICE, FORTWILLIAM HOUSE, BELFAST**

<b><i>Members/Alternates<sup>1</sup></i></b>	<b><i>Non-members</i></b>
In attendance: -	
Gerard Magee (GM)            NIE (Chair)	Lisa O'Neill (LO)            NIE
Chris Huntley (CH)        NIE (Alt/Sec)	Fiona Hannon (FH)        SSE Airtricity
Denis Kelly (DK)            NIE	
Gorman Hagan (GH)        NIE (Alt)	
Joe Duddy (JD)            Large Gen	
Billy Graham (BG)        Small Gen (Alt)	
Colin Walker (CW)        UR (Alt)	

**1. Welcome and apologies**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The meeting was informed that an apology for absence had been received from William Steele, Philip Rainey (Billy Graham acting as alternate), Sam Alexander (Gorman Hagan acting as alternate), Michael Atkinson (Chris Huntley acting as alternate) and Albert Shaw (Colin Walker acting as alternate).

**2. Review of minutes and actions from meeting of 18 February 2014**

It was noted that no objections had been received in respect of the minutes of the meeting of 18 February 2014 previously issued and these were confirmed as an accurate reflection of the meeting.

The Chairman provided a review of the current status of actions arising from the February meeting, as follows.

- Action 1 related to Supplier membership of the Panel, and the Chairman proposed dealing with this under Item 4 of the agenda of this meeting.
- Actions 2 to 5 were confirmed as having been completed and now closed.
- Action 6 related to consulting on governance arrangements for the Setting Schedule for Power Stations <5MW. The Chairman advised that NIE had

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<sup>1</sup> Full panel membership is outlined in the Appendix to these minutes.

reviewed its proposal tabled at the February meeting, and rather than have separate governance arrangements, the proposed revision to the Distribution Code now makes clear that this Setting Schedule will form part of the Distribution Code and will be governed accordingly.

- Action 7 sought for NIE to agree with SONI a coordinated approach to governance of their respective WF Setting Schedules. Gorman Hagan advised that a document was being developed outlining the proposed arrangements for governance of the WFPS Settings Schedule, and that this document will be circulated in due course.
- Action 8 was for SONI to provide a further update on the progress of the Grid Code Working Group that is considering European Network Codes. The Chairman advised that SONI were unable to attend this meeting but had advised that the position had not changed materially from that outlined at the February meeting. SONI has agreed to provide a further update at the next DCRP meeting.
- Action 9 was for NIE to set out priority areas for consideration of future Distribution Code changes. The Chairman proposed dealing with this under Item 5 of the Agenda of this meeting.

### **3. Proposed Code Changes – current status**

#### Distribution Code

The Chairman confirmed that a report had been submitted by NIE to the Authority on 20 June reporting on the outcome of the consultation issued in October 2013 and seeking approval for the proposed changes to the Distribution Code.

Colin Walker confirmed that he would be reviewing the report on behalf of the Authority and that he expected to revert to NIE by mid July.

Denis Kelly advised that the revised Distribution Code was now published on the NIE website.

#### Setting Schedule

The Chairman confirmed that the second consultation on the proposed 'Setting Schedule for Power Stations less than 5MW exporting on to the NIE System' was issued on 23 June and would remain open until 7 August. Details are provided on the NIE website.

### **4. Panel Membership Review**

The Chairman referred to the DCRP Constitution and the requirement for appointments to the Panel to be reviewed regularly. As this was now due, NIE proposed to seek appointments/re-appointment of Members and Alternates ahead of the next DCRP meeting in the autumn.

The Panel was advised that the process requires NIE to nominate persons or groups of persons entitled to appoint a Member and Alternate, for approval by the

Authority. In circumstances where such appointments are not made, the Chairman would request the Authority to make the appointment.

The Chairman advised that the composition of the Panel is set out in the Distribution Code as follows:

- DNO – Chairman and 4 Members
- Generators - 3 Members
- Demand Customers with large energy use - 1 Member
- Electricity Suppliers – 3 Members
- Authority - 1 Member

Currently, the three Generator Members represent large generators, small generators and non-renewable generators respectively.

The Chairman sought views from the Panel as to which representative bodies could be deemed to represent each of these constituencies.

Billy Graham (BG) and Joe Duddy (JD) agreed to discuss with NIRIG whether it could be considered by NIE to be representative of small scale and large scale renewable generators respectively.

Discussion took place on the adequacy of representation from non-renewable generators with no representative attending any of the last three DCRP meetings. There was also some discussion about whether DSUs should be represented on the Panel.

Fiona Hannon (FH) confirmed that there was already a forum for Electricity Supplier.

The Chairman advised that NIE would give further consideration to nomination of the appropriate persons or groups and may consult where appropriate. He also confirmed that NIE would be reviewing its appointments to the Panel.

## **5. Forward Work Plan**

Denis Kelly (DK) gave a short presentation to the Panel outlining the Distribution Code Forward Work Plan including specific areas of focus and timescales. This highlighted:

- that the main area of focus over the next two years would be on changes driven by European Network Codes and review of G59 requirements;
- a DCRP Working Group to examine the impact of European Network Codes would be established in the autumn (following review of DCRP membership); and
- NIE has established a working group to review G59 which is expected to report by the end of the year.

It was agreed that the presentation would be circulated along with the Minutes of the meeting.

## 6. AOB

Joe Duddy (JD) requested that presentations to the DCRP be circulated a week in advance of future meetings to allow Members to prepare in advance of the meeting. The Chairman advised that this was not always practical, but that NIE would endeavour to provide material in advance where practical and could reasonably provide value in facilitating discussion.

## 7. Date of next meeting

NIE advised that the next meeting is likely to be arranged for October 2014 (date to be confirmed) with a view to meeting three times during the next 12 months.

## SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Date to be completed</b>
1	Provide update on document outlining approach proposed in respect of governance of WFPS Settings Schedule.	NIE (GH)	By next meeting
2	Provide further update on the progress of the European Codes WG.	SONI (CO'D)	For next meeting
3	Confirm whether NIRIG could be considered representative of small scale and large scale renewable generators.	BG and JD respectively	July 2014
4	NIE to nominate the appropriate persons or groups of persons to appoint members to the Panel for approval by the Authority.	NIE (GM) and UR (CW) respectively	August 2014
5	Panel appointments to be confirmed.	Member representatives	Sept 2014

## **APPENDIX**

### **D-Code Panel Members - July 2014**

As referred to in General Conditions 6.3.

<b>Panel Member</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Chairman (DNO)	Gerard Magee	NIE
DNO (4 members)	Sam Alexander	NIE (Operations)
	Michael Atkinson	NIE (Generation Connections)
	Ian Bailie	NIE (Network Planning)
	Denis Kelly	NIE (Metering)
Generators (3 members)	Robert Breadon	Non-renewable generators (FG Wilson)
	Philip Rainey	Small generators (Simple Power)
	Joe Duddy	Large generators (RES)
Demand Customer with large energy use	Angus Biggerstaff	Demand customers with large energy use (WYG)
Electricity Suppliers (3 members)	Kevin Hannafin	Energia
	William Steele	PowerNI
	Vacant	
Authority	Albert Shaw	Utility Regulator