

## Minutes of Distribution Code Review Panel Meeting - 12<sup>th</sup> July 2019

### Present:

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Paul Harrington (PH)      | Chair                                      |
| Stephen O' Sullivan (SOS) | Secretary                                  |
| Tony Hearne (TH)          | DSO  |
| Claire Quane (CQ)         | DSO  |
| Ivan Codd (IC)            | ESB Networks (Presenting)                  |
| Neassa McCabe (NMCC)      | ESB Networks (Presenting)                  |
| Bernard Leonard (BL)      | ESB Networks                               |
| Barry Bambury (BB)        | ESB Networks                               |
| Miriam Ryan (MR)          | TSO  |
| David Lindsay (DL)        | CRU  |
| David McMullin (DMcM)     | Embedded Generators (Wind)                 |
| John Curley (JC)          | Synchronous Generators Ireland (Alternate) |
| Mark Phelan (MP)          | PES/Independent Suppliers (Alternate)      |

### Apologies:

|                 |                                |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Robert O'Rourke | CRU                            |
| Conor Minogue   | Major Customers                |
| Jim Wynne       | PES/Independent Suppliers      |
| Ger Beatty      | Synchronous Generators Ireland |
| Peter Kavanagh  | Embedded Generators (Solar)    |
| Michael O'Hara  | ETCI                           |

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### **1. Review of Previous Minutes:**

- Previous minutes approved. These will be posted on the website.

### **2. Derogations Update:**

- SOS stated that the DSO has 55 permanent derogations to be assessed, and 14 temporary derogations to be assessed. SOS also noted that there are 24 temporary derogations due to expire within 2019.
- MR gave the TSO update and said if there are any urgent applications for customers to contact the System Operators.

#### **Action:**

SOS to send list of derogations to CRU (DL).

### **3. Planning Standard Update:**

- IC gave the panel an update presentation on the Planning Standards review which is currently being undertaken by ESBN, where initial recommendations, security of supply, flexibility and next steps were discussed.

#### **Action:**

SOS to circulate presentation to Panel members.

### **4. Load Indices Proposal and Public Consultation:**

- NMCC presented to the Panel on load indices where it was explained that ESB Networks are introducing load indices in order to demonstrate the network risks, effectiveness of our investments and to manage and track changes in the peak loading of stations.
- ESB Networks will be opening a public consultation in the near future introducing this load indices approach and methodology and would welcome any feedback on this proposal.

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### **Action:**

SOS to circulate presentation to Panel members.

### **5. Update on Class Derogation against Modification #36:**

- SOS gave an update on the Class Derogation against Mod #36.
- DMcM stated that IWEA had circulated the Class Derogation to its members and he confirmed that IWEA is satisfied with the Class Derogation.
- The Panel was informed that there would be some additions (i.e. a small number of extensions) to the list of generators within the Class Derogation.
- These additions will need to be assessed by the System Operators, but it is expected that the result of the assessment will be positive.
- The Panel voted and agreed to recommend in principle the Class Derogation against Mod #36 to the CRU. This approval is conditional on the System Operators being satisfied with the revised MW total.
- Once the System Operators have completed their assessment the revised Class Derogation will be circulated to the Panel, and if the System Operators are satisfied with the total MW within the list, it will be submitted to the CRU for approval.

### **Action:**

The System Operators will reassess the updated list of generators. If this increased level is deemed to be acceptable by the SOs then the Class Derogation will be re-circulated and submitted to the CRU for approval.

### **6. New Distribution Code Version 6:**

- TH presented to the Panel on a draft new Distribution Code Version 6.
- This version 6 will incorporate all (non-RfG) Modifications that have been approved since the publication of Version 5.
- TH gave a description of each Mod that will be included within Version 6, these Mods are also available on the ESB Networks website (apart from Mod #36 which will be posted on the website once it has been approved by the CRU).

These include:

- Modification # 36 (assuming CRU approval of Mod #36 and the Class Derogation against Mod #36 – see item 5 above),
- Modification # 41 - DCRP Class Derogation,

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- Modification # 42 - Clarity of Power Factor requirements for windfarms at low power levels,
- Modification # 44 - Declared Supply Voltage parameter
- Modification # 45 - Met Signal Requirements.
- DMcM noted the following regarding the draft Version 6 which had been circulated to the Panel:
  - table 6 was absent
  - the definition of Wind Farm Power Station (WFPS) had been removed from the Definitions section.
- The Panel voted and agreed to recommend the Distribution Code Version 6 to the CRU for approval, on the understanding that the requested corrections are made and that the Class Derogation against Mod #36 is approved by CRU.

### **Actions:**

- TH will rectify the omissions noted by DMcM
- SOS will circulate the revised Version 6 to the Panel and send to the CRU for approval.
- Once approved SOS will inform the Panel members and arrange to publish Version 6 on the ESNB website.

### **7. Update on Mod #43:**

- TH informed the Panel that ESB Networks has engaged with CRU and updated Mod #43 to better align with the format in the Grid Code.
- The revised Mod #43 uses the same symbols as the Grid Code to denote RfG and non-RfG content. It also includes symbols for incorporating the Demand Connection Code (DCC) when that content is introduced.
- DL noted that the Grid Code uses text boxes and shading within the Grid Code, whereas the DSO proposal has used lines to delineate RfG content.

**Post Meeting Note:** TH has confirmed that the draft version 7 for circulation will include the use of text boxes as above.

- Mod #43 also includes an updated definition of Registered Capacity.
- Industrial processes and SPGMs were discussed. In particular, it was noted that further considerations and discussions will be needed on the implementation of new controllability requirements for Type C SPGMs on a go forward basis.

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- TH proposed a future meeting between ESB Networks, and Synchronous Generators Ireland. One of the first items for discussion and clarification is, the extent to which the RfG clause relating to industrial processes and running hours will apply.

### **Action:**

SOS will circulate the updated Mod #43 to the Panel, along with the associated proposed Distribution Code Version 7, for consideration, discussion and a vote at the next DCRP meeting.

### **8. Substantial Modification Definition:**

- A definition of a substantial modification was discussed.
- TH noted that RfG applies to 'non-existing' sites or sites which undergo a 'substantial modification'. However the RfG code does not define the term substantial modification. This is left to the member states.
- TH asked the members if anyone had views on substantial modifications.
- DMcM responded that he will revert to IWEA and will return an opinion to ESB Networks in writing once there is a consensus within IWEA.
- The DSO and TSO have been discussing this topic, and both are currently thinking of a graduated approach to substantial modification. This would require generators to liaise with the DSO if they believe that potential changes they are thinking of making would affect Distribution Code clauses. The DSO will then assess such cases on a case by case basis. However, it was also noted that some kind of up front guidance and possibly some illustrative examples would also be required.

### **Actions:**

- Members to submit any proposals, concerns, or suggestions regarding the definition of substantial modification to ESB Networks via [distcodepanel@esb.ie](mailto:distcodepanel@esb.ie) within four weeks of these minutes issueing (i.e. by August 19<sup>th</sup>).
- System Operators will compile a skeleton document in the meantime.

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### **9. Irish Energy Storage Association Application:**

- PH discussed the application for membership received from the Irish Energy Storage Association (IESA).
- Clarification was sought by the Panel on the range of storage technologies covered by the IESA. Is it just batteries, and if so who would represent other technologies?
- The Panel decided to defer a vote until this clarification is received.

#### **Action:**

SOS to obtain the requested clarification from the IESA, circulate same to the Panel members, and request that the Panel members then vote on the application via email.

### **10. AOB:**

- DL update the Panel that the CRU has initiated the PR5 project, and requested that if industry wish to engage with CRU, then please make contact ASAP, as the CRU are open to bilateral meetings.
- **Next Meeting:** TBC – provisionally end of September.