

Minutes of Distribution Code Review Panel Meeting – 20th January 2015

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| <u>Present:</u> | Derek Hynes (DH) | Chairman |
| | Paul Harrington (PH) | Secretary |
| | Nigel Morris (NM) | CER Representative |
| | Tony Hearne (TH) | DSO Representative |
| | James Brennan (JB) | DSO Representative |
| | Ciarán Donnelly (CD) | Embedded Generators Representative |
| | David Cashman (DC) | TSO Representative |
| | Sean Doolin (SD) | PES Representative / Independent Suppliers Representative |
| | Catherine Joyce-O’Caollai (CJ) | Major Customers Representative |
| | Cormac McCarthy (CM) | EirGrid |
| | Paul O’Halloran (POH) | ESB Networks |
| | Eoghan Judge (EJ) | ESB Networks |

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| <u>Apologies:</u> | Michael O’Hara | ETCI Representative |
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1. Review of Previous Minutes

- The minutes of the last DCRP meeting (30th September 2014) were accepted by all.

2. Membership of the Distribution Code Review Panel

- a) DSO update
 - James Brennan (ESB Networks) is replacing Derek Hynes as DCRP Chair.
 - Derek Hynes and Tony Hearne are the two other DSO Representatives.
 - Keith Moore (ESB Networks) is replacing Paul Harrington as DCRP Secretary.
- b) Independent Suppliers Representative
 - The Electricity Association of Ireland is the nominating body for the Independent Suppliers’ Representative to the DCRP.
 - The EAI have proposed that Seán Doolin fulfil a dual mandate on the DCRP, i.e. representing both PES and Independent Suppliers.
 - CER satisfied with this arrangement, on the understanding that the representative will account appropriately to both bodies.
- c) Misc.
 - There have been informal approaches to DH from other Distribution System Users
 - e.g. DSU’s, ESBIE - regarding future membership of the DCRP.

Conclusion/Actions:

- o SD will represent both PES and Independent Suppliers and will have two votes. As the membership of the PES and Independent Suppliers is not being amalgamated, there is no need to modify the Constitution and Rules of the DCRP.
- o DCRP Secretary to advise the User groups that have made membership inquiries of the formal application process for membership of the DCRP.

3. V4.0 of the Distribution Code

- Proposed V4.0 of the Distribution Code was circulated to the DCRP members by PH on 12th January.

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- Changes from V3.0 are:
 - Inclusion of Modification #26 (Rate of Change of Frequency Requirements for Users) – approved by CER on 09/04/2014;
 - Inclusion of Modification # 25 (Registered Capacity) – approved by CER on 13/08/2014;
 - Corrections of typos and formatting;
 - Updated table numbers (associated with the deletion of a table, per Modification #26).
- No further comments on the proposed V4.0 received at the meeting.

Conclusion/Actions:

- Proposed V4.0 of the Distribution Code recommended by the DCRP for approval.
 - PH will send V4.0 to CER.
4. Update on the implementation of approved modifications #22, #23 and #24
- PH provided an update:
 - 199 applications received since March 2014.
 - 93 assessments submitted to CER to date.
 - 59 approved by CER.
5. CER update on Distribution Code Modification Proposal #28 (Distribution Code Modification Implementation Process)
- NM provided an update:
 - CER's analysis of this modification proposal is on-going.
 - CER hope to have a decision on this for the next meeting of the DCRP.
6. Proposed Distribution Code Modifications
- a) #30: Windfarms less than 5 MW – fault ride through**
- Modification Proposal form, as completed by CM, was circulated to the DCRP members by PH on 12th January.

Discussion:

- CM:
 - EirGrid believe that fault ride-through capabilities should be extended to sub-5 MW WFPS's.
 - This requirement is expected to be included in the forthcoming European Network Codes.
 - EirGrid are studying the implications of retrospection/non-retrospection for smaller IPPs and IPPs connected pre-2012.
- CD:
 - No issues with this proposal moving forward, but concerned that forced retrospective compliance could involve a relatively large cost for small IPPs.
 - CD requested a commitment that any derogation applications submitted by post 2012-connected IPPs would be approved.

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- DH:
 - TSO & DSO cannot grant assurances regarding the success of future derogation requests.

Conclusion/Actions:

- No consensus reached on the issues raised.
- DCRP Chair did not wish to put the issue to a vote – consensus is the preferred approach for any changes to the Distribution Code.
- JB (as new DCRP Chair) to convene a subgroup of the DCRP to discuss the issues raised by this modification proposal and to agree a solution.
- NM welcomed the pragmatic approach by the parties to finding a workable solution with the best outcome for the Distribution System and Users overall. CER supported the formation of the working group to develop a solution offline.

b) #31: WFPS Fault Ride Through

c) #32: WFPS Voltage Regulation

d) #33: WFPS Voltage Step Change

- Modification Proposal forms, as completed by POH, were circulated to the DCRP members by PH on 17th December 2014.
- POH presented on the proposals:
 - #31 WFPS Fault Ride Through:
The intent of the modification is to ensure that the applicability of the existing Fault Ride Through Requirements for WFPS's is clear.
 - #32 WFPS Voltage Regulation:
This modification aims to clarify the Voltage Regulation requirements for WFPS's outlined in DCC11.5.2.3.
 - #33 WFPS Voltage Step Change:
This modification aims to clarify the Voltage Regulation requirements for WFPS's outlined in DCC11.4.1.3.

Conclusion/Actions:

- These three modifications do not impose any new requirements on Users. They are clarifications of existing requirements.
- These three modifications are recommended by the DCRP for approval.
- PH to send copies to CER.

7. Separation of earthing systems - ESB Networks update

- This issue was raised by Michael O'Hara at the September 2014 meeting of the DCRP.
- ESB Networks has already convened an internal group to review earthing systems. EJ was invited to update the DCRP on behalf of this ESB Networks review group.
- EJ concluded that there are no safety issues currently identified.

Conclusion/Actions:

- The issue does not require further attention from the DCRP.
- ETCI may engage with ESB Networks further on this matter.

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8. Any Other Business / Items for discussion at next meeting

a) Addressing different generation technology types in the Distribution Code

- Currently the Distribution Code refers to wind generation, but is silent on other technology types, e.g. solar, fuel cells.
- It should be explored whether the naming of separate renewable generation technology is required, or if the existing WFPS clauses can be modified to include all non-synchronous renewable generation.

Conclusion/Actions:

- o TH to explore this issue and will submit a modification proposal to the DCRP Secretary.

b) Design Minimum Operating Level (DMOL)

- CD:
 - DMOL is a defined term in the Distribution Code and is also referenced in DCC11.3.2.3.7
 - How do WFPS derogate against this if they are unable to comply?

Conclusion/Actions:

- o CD to submit a modification proposal to the DCRP Secretary, to align the text of the Distribution Code with its intent, in respect to DMOL.

9. Next Meeting Dates:

- The following dates were proposed for the 2015 meetings of the DCRP:
 - Meeting 1: Tuesday 24th March
 - Meeting 2: Tuesday 9th June
 - Meeting 3: Tuesday 8th September
 - Meeting 4: Tuesday 1st December

**Paul Harrington,
Secretary.**

3rd February 2015.