

## Minutes of Distribution Code Review Panel Meeting – 7<sup>th</sup> December 2004

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|--------------------------|--------------------|--|
| <b><u>Present:</u></b>   | Gay Kirwan         | Chairman   |
|                          | Brid Griffin       | Secretary  |
|                          | Keelin O'Brien     | CER representative                               |
|                          | Paddy O'Kane       | Embedded Generators representative               |
|                          | Donal Phelan       | DSO Representative                               |
|                          | Ronan O'Hogartaigh | DSO Representative                               |
|                          | Martin Strong      | TSO representative (alternate)                   |
|                          | Neil Bingham       | Independent Suppliers representative (alternate) |
|                          | Tony Hearne        | DSO  |
| <b><u>Apologies:</u></b> | Paddy Wallace      | Major Customers representative                   |
|                          | Deaglan O'Donaill  | PES Representative (Alternate)                   |
|                          | Jerry O'Dwyer      | ETCI representative                              |

1. The Panel approved the minutes from the previous meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> August 2004.
2. The Panel approved Modification 04.
3. Modification 05

Tony Hearne gave a presentation which outlined the background to this modification and the proposed changes. Following some discussion regarding the use of leading and lagging when referring to the power factor range, it was agreed that the proposed text was clearer.

The panel also agreed to the inclusion of *"as measured at the connection point"* and the *"Wind Farm Power Station"* in the DCC10.4.3.

Paddy O'Kane was satisfied that the proposed wording clarified the query from SWS.

Martin Strong re-iterated TSO's belief that voltage control will become a necessity at distribution stations and that lessening the power factor range requirement will make this more difficult in the future.

The Panel approved the revised Modification 05 incorporating the revised DCC10.4.3 text as outlined above.

4. Modification 06

Tony Hearne gave a presentation which outlined the background to this modification and the proposed changes which are intended to clarify the technical requirements when connecting directly to the 38kV Busbar (Connection Type D) and 110kV Busbar (Connection Type C), regardless of the particular system operator. There was some discussion regarding the proposed change to Connection Type C. Donal Phelan highlighted the need for the Distribution Code to provide for generators connected to the Distribution System at 110kV. Martin Strong re-iterated that Connection Type C was not intended to include direct connections to the 110kV Busbar.

It was agreed to:

- i. Revise Connection Type C description - Insert *"38kV/20kV/10kV"*, delete *"transmission"* and retain Connection Type C drawing as per Figure 5 of the Distribution Code currently approved.
- ii. Insert a new Connection Type A (into DCC10.1.4 and DCC10.4) in accordance with the requirements in the Grid Code, to facilitate connections to the Distribution System at 110kV.

## Minutes of Distribution Code Review Panel Meeting – 7<sup>th</sup> December 2004

- iii. Align Table 5 with these revisions.

Paddy O'Kane highlighted that Modifications 05 and 06 now resulted in Connection Type C and Connection Type D having the same requirements<sup>1</sup> and proposed they are combined. Following a brief discussion it was agreed to retain the separate Connection Types to accommodate future requirements that may arise. The possibility of including a reference to the Connection Type in the generator's connection offer will be examined. However any provision must flag that it reflects the situation at a particular moment in time as the Connection Type can change.

Paddy O'Kane emphasised the importance of communicating these revisions to the generators as soon as possible. On the basis of this concern, the panel agreed to action the modifications in the coming days thereby enabling the timely provision to CER for approval.

**Action:** DSO to update Modification 06 for circulation via email for approval by the Panel.

**Action:** For avoidance of doubt, the revised DCC10, incorporating Modifications 05 and 06 will be circulated to the Panel.

### 5. Contiguous Sites

Martin Strong gave an overview of TSO's Guidelines, drafted to guide DSO and CER in decisions arising under DCC10.1.2(b). Keelin O'Brien acknowledged the difficulty in policing these requirements. Paddy O'Kane indicated that the severe consequences (e.g. immediate disconnection) of such actions act as a deterrent to generators in partaking in such a manner.

**Action:** DSO is to examine possibility of updating the Generator Application Form to ensure MEC and Maps provided accurately reflect the generator's Planning Permission application.

### 6. A.O.B

- i. Typographical Error:

Martin Strong noted that DCC10.1.2 referred to "5MW or more" while Table 5 referred to "less than or equal to 5MW". It was agreed to align Table 5 with DCC10.1.2.

**Action:** DSO to include this change in Modification 06, when incorporating Connection Type A into Table 5.

- ii. Retrospective application of Distribution Code:

Paddy O'Kane referred to DSO's recent letters informing generators<sup>2</sup> of the retrospective application of the revised Distribution Code. Such a requirement is in accordance with CER direction of 5<sup>th</sup> October 2004. Rather than utilise the existing Derogation process for each connection, it was agreed that the relevant

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<sup>1</sup> Apart from different Signal List #1 and #2

<sup>2</sup> Letters were issued as a matter of courtesy to those generators currently connected to the Distribution System and those with signed connection agreements awaiting connection.

## **Minutes of Distribution Code Review Panel Meeting – 7<sup>th</sup> December 2004**

parties meet to discuss a suitable process to address this issue. In the interim Paddy O'Kane is to review current connections and their turbine types.

**Action:** Paddy O'Kane to contact Emma McAleese, DSO, to arrange meeting between IWEA and DSO.

7. Next Meeting Date: Tuesday 1st March 2005

**Brid Griffin,  
Secretary.**

9<sup>th</sup> December, 2004.