



**GRID CODE
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

Record of Inter-System Safety Precautions (RISSP)

The purpose of this document is to consult on the above Grid Code Modification Proposals with authorised electricity operators liable to be materially affected by the proposed changes and forms the basis of the subsequent Report to the Authority

Consultation Ref	B/10
Issue	1.0
Date of Issue	2 February 2010
Responses required by	30 March 2010
Prepared by	National Grid

DOCUMENT LOCATION

National Grid website:

<http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/gridcode/consultationpapers/>

DISTRIBUTION

Name	Organisation
AEO's	Various
GCRP Members/Alternates	Various
Interested Parties	Various
National Grid Website	

A. INTRODUCTION

1. Paragraph 2 of Condition C14 of the Transmission Licence granted to the National Grid Electricity Transmission plc ("National Grid") provides that National Grid shall, in consultation with authorised electricity operators liable to be materially affected thereby, periodically review the Grid Code and its implementation. That paragraph also requires National Grid, following such review, to send to the Authority:-
 - (a) a report on the outcome of such review;
 - (b) any proposed revisions to the Grid Code as National Grid (having regard to the outcome of such review) reasonably thinks fit for the achievement of the objectives set out in sub-paragraph (b) of Condition C14 of the Transmission Licence; and
 - (c) any written representations or objections from authorised electricity operators (including any proposals by such operators for revisions to the Grid Code not accepted by National Grid in the course of the review) arising during the consultation process and subsequently maintained.
2. This review is concerned with proposed changes that National Grid believes would add further clarity to the Grid Code in connection with the Record of Inter-System Safety Precautions (RISSP) which provides a written record of safety precautions that are to be utilised in accordance with the applicable provisions of OC8.
3. The proposed changes to the Grid Code were discussed with the Grid Code Review Panel (GCRP) during 2009 (principally at the February and September 2009 Panel meetings). Panel Members agreed that National Grid should issue a Consultation Paper regarding the proposed changes.
4. Comments upon the proposed changes within this Consultation should be sent to National Grid by 30 March 2010 as detailed in section C. Following a suggestion by a GCRP Member, an eight week Consultation period has been given to allow for the implications of the change on IT systems to be fully considered. The comments will be reviewed and responded to in parallel with the Report to the Authority.
5. Following this Consultation, National Grid will prepare a Report to the Authority detailing National Grid's recommended changes to the Grid Code and all comments/responses received from Authorised Electricity Operators through this consultation. Once sent to the Authority the final Report will be made available on National Grid's website.
6. Where Authorised Electricity Operators' responses have been marked as confidential they will not be published within the version of the Report to the Authority placed on the National Grid website.
7. The revisions to the Grid Code proposed by National Grid and sent to the Authority, require approval by that body and will, if approved, come into force on such date (or dates) of which you will be notified by National Grid, in accordance with the Authority's approval.

B. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS AND THEIR EFFECTS**8. Background**

- 8.1 OC8 of the Grid Code specifies the standard procedures to be used for the co-ordination, establishment and maintenance of necessary safety precautions when work is to be carried out on or near the GB Transmission System or a User System and when there is a need for safety precautions on HV apparatus on the other System for this work to be carried out safely. The RISSP (Record of Inter-system Safety Precautions) provides a written record of safety precautions that are to be utilised in accordance with the applicable provisions of OC8.
- 8.2 Grid Code clauses OC8A.4.3.5 and OC8B.4.3.5 state that the RISSP form (utilised when National Grid is the 'Requesting Safety Co-ordinator') will have an identifying number written or printed on it, comprising a prefix which identifies the location at which it was issued and a unique serial number consisting of a specified number of digits and the suffix 'R'.
- 8.3 The current wording only permits a four digit number to be assigned to the RISSP form. This is out of alignment with current operational practices in NGET's Transmission Area. It would therefore be beneficial for the Grid Code to specify a larger number of characters than at present so that current practice and the Grid Code are aligned. The Relevant Scottish Transmission Licensees have also advised that a similar change is applicable for their Transmission Areas since they would also find it beneficial to have a larger number of characters as part of the serial number.

9. Proposed Grid Code Changes

- 9.1 This paper therefore proposes changes to OC8.A.4.3.5 and OC8.B.4.3.5 to permit the allocation of an increased number of characters to be assigned to the RISSP form. E&W Users, Relevant E&W Transmission Licensees, Scottish Users and Relevant Scottish Transmission Licensees are invited to comment on the applicability of up to 8 characters for the RISSP serial number and whether this is consistent with their operational practices and IT system constraints. In particular comments are invited on the following specific questions:

i) is the proposed number of up to eight characters acceptable to you in the context that it presents a sufficient number of characters to meet reasonable future requirements yet places a workable cap on the IT data field requirements?

ii) if eight is not an acceptable limit for the number of characters what number would be acceptable?

iii) can you please confirm that "characters" may include any alpha numeric and non-alpha numeric characters such as "2", "b" and "-".

- 9.2 The proposed changes are detailed in Appendix A.

10. Impact on National Electricity Transmission System (NETS)

10.1 The proposed changes will not have any adverse impact on the NETS.

11. Impact on Grid Code Users

11.1 The proposals will provide additional clarity to Users and ensure consistency in interpretation of the requirements.

12. Assessment Against Grid Code Objectives

12.1 The proposed changes will better facilitate Grid Code Objective:

i) to permit the development, maintenance and operation of an efficient, co-ordinated and economical system for the transmission of electricity

by improving the clarity of the requirements for a Record of Inter-System Safety Precautions.

13 Impact on Industry Documents

Impact on Core Industry Documents

13.1 None.

Impact on other Industry Documents

13.2 None.

C. RESPONSES

11. This section will contain a summary of responses received during the Consultation and will be completed as part of the Report to the Authority.

12. Views are invited upon the proposals outlined in this report, which should be received by 30 March 2010. Views on the following areas would be especially welcomed:

- Impact of the proposals on Grid Code Users.
- Any improvements or changes to the proposals that in a respondent's view would better facilitate the objectives of the Grid Code.

12. Your formal responses may be:-

Posted to: Tom Ireland
Electricity Codes
Regulatory Frameworks
National Grid Electricity Transmission plc
National Grid House
Warwick Technology Park
Gallows Hill
Warwick, CV34 6DA

Emailed to: Thomas.ireland@uk.ngrid.com

Appendix A – Proposed Grid Code Changes

OPERATING CODE NO.8

SAFETY CO-ORDINATION

- OC8A.4.3.5 RISSP-R will have an identifying number written or printed on it, comprising a prefix which identifies the location at which it is issued, and a unique (for each **E&W User** or the **Relevant E&W Transmission Licensee**, as the case may be) serial number which uses up to eight characters (including letters and numbers) ~~consisting of four digits~~ and the suffix "R".
- OC8B.4.3.5 RISSP-R will have an identifying number written or printed on it, comprising a prefix which identifies the location at which it is issued, and a unique (for each **Scottish User** or **Relevant Scottish Transmission Licensee**, as the case may be) serial number which uses up to eight characters (including letters and numbers) ~~consisting of four digits~~ and the suffix "R".