

Energy Emergencies Executive – Black Start Review Recommendation 1.1 - Black Start Governance

Terms of Reference for a Grid Code Review Panel Working Group

Introduction

1. During 2005, the Energy Emergencies Executive Committee (E3C) commissioned a review and exercise of GB Black Start¹ capabilities in order to evaluate the robustness and preparedness of the industry.
2. The Black Start Review was undertaken during the period of summer 2005 to spring 2006, culminating in Exercise Phoenix which occurred in spring 2006.
3. The findings of the E3C Black Start Review report identified a number of areas where possible improvements could be made to the Black Start process. Recommendation 1.1 of the report proposed improvements in the governance of the Black Start process.

Background

4. The Grid Code Operating Code, Distribution Code and STC establishes the objective, scope and strategic approach to the Black Start process and outlines which industry participants the provisions apply too.
5. The E3C Black Start Review report proposes that the Grid Code is reviewed (along with the consequential implications for associated industry documentation i.e. Distribution Code, STC) with a view to firming up the specifications of the Black Start process including for example:
 - a) Process of LJRP design, review and agreement with signatories;
 - b) Deployment of operational staff to discharge LJRP's;
 - c) Explanation to and training of prospective operational role players;
 - d) The introduction of a regular and formalised operational liaison programme involving LJRP participants at the working level; and
 - e) An enduring approach to exercise and practice of procedure

The findings of the report propose that changes of this nature will improve the robustness of the existing provisions and provide greater industry clarity regarding the relevant processes and procedures.

Terms of Reference

6. It was agreed at the Grid Code Review Panel (GCRP) meeting on 15 February that a GCRP working group be formed to take forward Phoenix recommendation 1.1.
7. The terms of reference for the working group are:
 - a) Review the existing governance framework (underpinned by the Grid Code Operating Code, Distribution Code and STC provisions) for specifying pan industry the requirements, obligations, process and procedures for Black Start participants;
 - b) Consider options to improve the governance framework to ensure that the cross industry black start awareness and capability (which was seen to improve as a result of Exercise Phoenix) is maintained and not eroded over time.
 - c) The following improvement areas will be considered:
 - i. Processes/procedures to ensure that LJRP's are subject to regular review, update, training and desktop exercises;

¹ The procedure necessary for recovery from a Total or Partial Shutdown

- ii. The introduction of additional governance measures to cover the process that would be followed for the re-synchronisation of de-synchronised power islands and progressive restoration of demand in the post LJRP phase.
- d) Consider the cost/resource and remuneration implications of delivering and maintaining such improvements;
- e) The approach of the working group will be to consider the appropriate role of all industry participants in achieving national black start objectives. The review work is therefore not confined to only those parties that presently participate in LJRPs.
- f) Deliver to September 2007 GCRP meeting a report of findings together with recommendations for governance improvement changes to the Grid Code and impact on related industry documents (recognising that the detailed drafting of such changes would follow provided that GCRP members are in agreement).
- g) For the avoidance of doubt it is not within the remit of this GCRP working group to address the phoenix recommendations 2 (telecommunications) and 4 (investment). The GCRP working group will however note the outcome of any parallel work on these topics as relayed from time to time through the E3C Electricity Task Group.

Working Group Members

8. Members GCRP Working group will be as follows:

Chair

Jonny Hosford National Grid, Operational Resilience Manager

Secretary

Lilian Macleod National Grid

Representing Generators

Claire Maxim	E.ON
Campbell McDonald	SSE Generation
John Morris	British Energy
John Norbury	RWE
Malcolm Taylor	AEP

Representing System Operator / Transmission Owner

Nilton Green National Grid

Representing Transmission Owner

David Osborne	SSE
David McMenemy	Scottish Power

Representing Distribution Network Owners

Steve Cox	United Utilities
Phil Nicholson/ Wayne Oxborough	Central Networks
Steve Saunders	EdF Energy

Authority Observer

Steve Argent Ofgem