
Metering Dispensation D/521 – Coldham Solar

Imbalance Settlement Group (ISG)

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Summary

Scottish Power Renewables has applied for a lifetime Metering Dispensation (D/521), from Code of Practice (CoP) 2. The application relates to the location of the Metering Equipment associated with proposed new Solar PV at the existing Coldham Wind Farm (WF). Coldham WF is metered to CoP2 standards at the Defined Metering Point (DMP) and the Coldham Solar PV will be metered to CoP2 standards, 30m below the DMP. The Registrant considers the electrical losses as negligible and does not propose to compensate for them. The Registrant of the Coldham WF Metering System will put in place a difference metering arrangement to determine the Metered Volumes for Coldham WF separately from the Metered Volumes for the Coldham Solar PV. We invite the ISG to approve Metering Dispensation D/521 on a lifetime basis.

1. BSC requirements

- 1.1 Section L¹ of the Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) requires all Metering Equipment to either:
- comply with the requirements set out in the relevant Code of Practice (CoP) at the time the Metering System is first registered for Settlement under the BSC (L3.2.2); or
 - be the subject of, and comply with, a Metering Dispensation (L3.4).
- 1.2 Section L allows the Registrant of a Metering System to apply for a Metering Dispensation if, for financial or practical reasons, Metering Equipment will not or does not comply with some or all the requirements of a CoP.
- 1.3 The process for applying for a Metering Dispensation is set out in [BSCP32](#)².

¹ 'Metering'

² 'Metering Dispensations'

2. Background to Metering Dispensation D/521

- 2.1 Scottish Power Renewables (SPR) plans to connect a new 8MW Solar PV Power Plant to the existing 16MW Coldham Windfarm (WF). The Coldham PV will be connected below the shared Defined Metering Point (DMP). The DMP is the point of connection to the Distribution System.
- 2.2 The export capacity at the DMP will not be increased above the existing 16 MW and the energy export from the wind farm will have priority over the solar PV.
- 2.3 SPR is the Registrant for both the Coldham WF and the proposed new Solar PV Power Plant. SPR will put in place a difference metering arrangement, via a Complex Site Rule, to determine the Metered Volumes for the Coldham PV separately from the Metered Volumes for the Coldham WF.
- 2.4 SPR requires a Metering Dispensation for the Actual Metering Point (AMP) for the Coldham PV Metering System as it will not be located at the shared DMP. The Metering Equipment associated with the Coldham PV Metering System is compliant to CoP2 in all but location.

3. Metering Dispensation application D/521

- 3.1 SPR has applied for a lifetime Metering Dispensation (D/521), against CoP2.
- 3.2 The Metering Dispensation application is for the location of the Metering Equipment associated with a proposed new Solar PV Power Plant.
- 3.3 The Registrant has stated that the Metering Dispensation is required on a lifetime basis as it considers there is no practical solution that will allow the Metering Equipment associated with the Coldham Solar PV to be installed at the DMP throughout the lifetime of the new Power Plant.
- 3.4 The Metering Equipment associated with the Coldham WF is metered to CoP2 standards and is located at the DMP. The Metering Equipment for the proposed new Solar PV windfarm will be to CoP2 standards and located 30m below the DMP.
- 3.5 The switchgear located at the DMP does not have room to accommodate the new Metering Equipment associated with the Coldham Solar PV.
- 3.6 The Metering Equipment associated with the WF and located at the DMP will record for the metered volumes for both the WF and the Solar PV. The Metering Equipment associated with the Solar PV (located at the AMP) will record the metered volumes for the Solar PV only. Therefore the Registrant proposes to implement a differencing solution via a Complex Site rule to subtract the metered volumes associated with the PV from the Coldham WF Metering System.
- 3.7 SPR is the Registrant for both the Coldham WF and the proposed new Coldham Solar PV Power Plant.
- 3.8 SPR considers the electrical losses, as negligible and does not propose to compensate for them. As SPR is the Registrant for both Metering Systems, the proposed solution will have no impact on any other Registrants.
- 3.9 The Registrant has stated that to install compliant Metering Equipment associated with the Coldham Solar PV would cost circa £1.5 million and would require a new connection including DNO and User connection apparatus with a tee connection into existing 33kV network.
- 3.10 The proposed solution will cost circa £20k and includes the installation of new CoP2 Metering Equipment associated with the Coldham Solar PV Power Plant.
- 3.11 As the losses are negligible (and will have no impact on the Overall Accuracy of the Metering Systems) the Registrant does not believe that the proposed solution will have any adverse impact on Settlement.

4. MDRG comments

- 4.1 We circulated the Metering Dispensation application to the Metering Dispensation Review Group (MDRG) for comments.
- 4.2 Two out of four MDRG members responded. Both MDRG members support the application on the following bases:
 - the distance between AMP & DMP is short and they are at the same voltage
 - the arrangement is a simple one and the losses are negligible.

5. Distributor comments

5.1 We circulated the Metering Dispensation application and its attachments to the Licensed Distribution System Operator (UKPN) for comment.

5.2 At the time of writing we have not had a response from UKPN.

6. Elexon's view

6.1 Elexon supports this application as overall accuracy of the Coldham Solar PV Power Plant Metering System will be maintained within CoP2 limits, as referred to the DMP.

7. Recommendation

7.1 We invite the ISG to:

- a) **APPROVE** Metering Dispensation D/521, for the Coldham Solar PV Power Plant Metering System, on a lifetime basis.

Attachments

Attachment A – Metering Dispensation application D/521 – Coldham Solar PV

Attachment B – Metering Dispensation D/521 – Coldham Solar PV Metering Diagram

Attachment C – Metering Dispensation D/521 – Incomer AC

Attachment D – Metering Dispensation D/521 – PV Fdr AC Layout

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