

UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE REVIEW OF METERING DISPENSATIONS AND NON-STANDARD BM UNITS

MEETING NAME BSC Panel Meeting

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Purpose of paper Information

Classification Public

Summary This paper provides the Panel with an update on the actions that ELEXON has taken to implement the recommendations from the review of Metering Dispensations and non-standard BM Units.

1. Background

- 1.1 During the second half of 2016 and the start of 2017, ELEXON conducted a review of Metering Dispensations and non-standard Balancing Mechanism (BM) Units. This was requested by the Panel and conducted as a Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) Review in accordance with [BSC Section C 'BSCCo and its Subsidiaries'](#), paragraph 3.8.
- 1.2 At its meeting on 9 March 2017 ([Panel 264/08](#)), ELEXON presented a number of recommendations arising from the review. The Panel endorsed these recommendations.
- 1.3 At its meeting on 14 December 2017 ([Panel 273/06](#)), ELEXON presented an update on the actions that ELEXON had taken to implement the review of Metering Dispensations and non-standard BM Units. At that meeting, ELEXON reported that actions had been taken to resolve 11 out of the 15 recommendations. Further, updates were provided at the Panel Meetings on 12 April 2018 ([Panel 277/07](#)), 12 July 2018 ([Panel 280/10](#)), 11 October 2018 ([Panel 283/06](#)) and 10 January 2019 ([Panel 286/06](#)).
- 1.4 This paper provides the Panel with an update on the progress made towards implementing the outstanding two recommendations.

2. Recommendation 7 (Partially completed):

- We recommend that all 'differencing arrangement' Grid Supply Points (GSPs) and related sites (Power Stations or Distribution Systems Connection Points (DSCPs)) are subject to a detailed review to determine:
 - the location of the Metering Systems involved and any material changes to the site(s) that affect the Metering Dispensation or differencing;
 - whether appropriate compensation is applied for electrical losses from the Actual Metering Point (AMP) to the Defined Metering Point (DMP) (where necessary or appropriate); and
 - whether any significant work is due to take place at that GSP such that Metering Equipment can be installed at the appropriate DMP(s) and the difference metering arrangement removed/modified so as to remove/reduce a potential ongoing risk to Settlement.
- We will also promote awareness with the Licensed Distribution System Operators (LDSOs) (Registrants) and the Transmission System owners of the differencing arrangements in order to reduce the risks of detrimental effects by new connections on the differencing arrangements.

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- 2.1 We initially identified 36 GSP sites with differencing arrangements. One GSP is no longer registered in Settlement, however the Registrant needs to withdraw the associated Metering Dispensation. Three GSPs now no longer have a differencing arrangement in place as the circuits differenced off the GSP metering have been de-registered in Settlement and the Metering Dispensations have been withdrawn. We sent a questionnaire form to the Registrants of circuits associated with the remaining 32 GSP sites asking for information about the GSP and requesting electrical single line diagrams. All diagrams have now been received.
- 2.2 Aggregation Rules and Meter Technical Details (MTDs) for all the sites have been provided by the Central Data Collection Agent (CDCA).
- 2.3 We have reviewed 28 GSP sites and their associated Aggregation Rules and MTDs. We have found no material issues. We have however found that one Metering Dispensation is not in place for differencing for a GSP¹, eight Metering Dispensations for GSPs need to be updated and seven withdrawn² to take into account circuits that have been added or removed. Two Metering Dispensations³ reviewed are still fully valid. Of the GSP sites that still require difference metering (10⁴), none have any significant work planned for them that would allow for the difference metering arrangements to be removed.
- 2.4 In late January 2019 we received the electrical single line diagrams for the four remaining GSP sites. An initial check of the diagrams revealed that two GSP sites no longer use difference metering, however we would like to obtain more recent diagrams from National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) or National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) to confirm the circuits that were differenced off are gone. For one GSP site the diagram suggests that metering for a DSCP is on the 33kV side of three remotely located grid transformers (LDSO owned), whereas we understand the metering was moved in 2015/16 to the 132kV side. We have asked the Registrant to confirm the metering location and will ask if the move has impacted the Line Loss Factors (LLFs) applicable to the DSCP metering. For one GSP site there are some inconsistencies in the circuit names versus those in the associated GSP Aggregation Rules which we would like to check against a more recent diagram.
- 2.5 Since some of the circuits/assets being referred to by the LDSO's diagrams belong to NGET, or connect to NGET assets, we requested diagrams from NGESO to confirm disconnected circuits have gone and the correct circuit names. We did not receive a response to this initial request. As a result, at the beginning of February 2019, we submitted an application to create an account to access NGET's online diagram database (Live Link). We have yet to receive confirmation that an account has been created, despite the Service Level being that this should be actioned within 11 Working Days. We have chased NGET. We will continue to chase NGET for access to their diagrams database and aim to complete the review in quarter 2 of 2019.

3. Recommendation 9 (Partially completed):

- ELEXON will review its records of Metering Dispensations with a view to:
 - completing and re-publishing records where there is missing information that is not confidential, e.g. Metering System Identifiers (MSIDs);

¹ The circuits differenced off the GSP are disconnected but the associated Metering System and BM Unit for these circuits have not been deregistered yet. Future connections could be made at these connections meaning differencing may be required at a later date.

² The circuits differenced off the GSPs have now been removed or in one case the GSP is no longer in Settlements.

³ One for a DSCP and one for a GSP.

⁴ Excludes the GSP that has no Metering Dispensation for differencing (that will soon no longer need differencing but may in the future if new connections are made).

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- determining, with the support of Registrants, whether (elements or all of) previously confidential Metering Dispensations can now be made public (complete); and
 - determining, with the support of Registrants and targeted site visits by the Technical Assurance Agent (TAA) where necessary, whether historical, lifetime Metering Dispensations are now redundant, e.g. because the BSC requirements have evolved or the configuration and provision of Metering Equipment at a site has over time been upgraded and now complies with the BSC.
- 3.1 In January 2019, we reported that there were two out of 220 approved Metering Dispensations where we do not have the MSIDs. These are complex sites and the Registrants of the sites have provided multiple MSIDs to which the Metering Dispensations could relate.
- 3.2 We have instructed the TAA to carry out a targeted Inspection Visit at these sites to determine if the Metering Dispensations are still valid and which MSIDs to which they relate. The TAA has carried out one of the inspection visits and determined that the Metering Dispensation is no longer required. The other inspection visit will be scheduled in the 2019-20 Audit year.
- 3.3 Once we have identified the final missing MSID and confirmed whether that Metering Dispensation is still required, we will publish basic information for confidential Metering Dispensations where the Registrant has given us permission to do so.
- 3.4 There are 220 approved Metering Dispensations requiring a site visit to review the Metering Equipment. It is planned that the TAA will conduct these reviews as sites come up in the TAA Audit Schedule. ELEXON has received an impact assessment from the TAA detailing the costs and timescales of updating their system to report on approved Metering Dispensations. We will work on a cost benefit analysis for presentation to and decision by the Performance Assurance Board (PAB).

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 We invite you to:
- a) **NOTE** the progress made towards the implementation of the recommendations from the review of Metering Dispensations and non-standard BM Units.

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