

Rassau Grid Services Stability Pathfinder Project registration in CMRS

BSC Panel

Date of meeting	10 June 2021	Paper number	315/11
Owner/author	Katie Wilkinson	Purpose of paper	For Decision
Classification	Public	Document version	V1.0

Summary **Smartest Energy Ltd, on behalf of Rassau Grid Services Limited, has applied to allow the Metering System associated with the Rassau Grid Services Stability Pathfinder Project to be registered in CMRS. Elexon invites the Panel to approve this request.**

1. BSC Requirements

1.1 [BSC Section K2.1](#) details whether Metering Systems should be registered in the Central Meter Registration System (CMRS) or the Supplier Meter Registration System (SMRS) as follows:

- Where the Plant or Apparatus is directly connected to the Transmission System, the associated Metering System must be registered in CMRS (K2.1.1a);
- Where a Generating Plant is a Licensable Generating Plant, the associated Metering System must be registered in CMRS (K2.1.1b);
- An Interconnector must have its Metering registered in CMRS (K2.1.1c);
- A Systems Connection Point must have its Metering System registered in CMRS (K2.1.3);
- Where a Generating Plant is a Licence Exempt Generating Plant, the associated Metering System may be registered in either SMRS or CMRS (noting that either both Import and Export can be registered in CMRS or Export can be registered in CMRS and Import in SMRS) (K2.1.2); and
- All other Metering Systems must be registered in SMRS unless the Panel determines that there are special circumstances meaning that a Metering System should be registered in CMRS (K2.1.4, K2.1.1d).

1.2 This means that a Metering Systems measuring Imports at Plant and Apparatus connected to a Distribution System would need to have its Metering Registered in SMRS unless the Panel determines that there are special circumstances to allow it to be registered in CMRS.

2. Rassau Grid Services

2.1 Rassau Grid Services Limited ("RGSL") was awarded a contract in the National Grid Electricity System Operator's (NGESO's) Stability Pathfinder phase 1. The project to build the site is currently under construction with an expected operational start date of late September / early October 2021. The site has a 132kV demand connection to Western Power Distribution's (WPD's) South Wales (UK) network. The facility comprises a 100MVA synchronous condenser and 1100GJ flywheel.

2.2 RGSL anticipate the facility being synchronized to the network and providing inertia 24/7, 365 days a year and providing reactive power services predominantly overnight. The site will have a baseload active energy consumption of approximately 1.5MW. It will not produce any Active Export energy. RGSL have said that the facility will play a key role in supporting inertia on the system and alleviating the need to synchronise conventional thermal plant to support network stability thus reducing costs to consumers, increasing renewable generation penetration and reducing carbon emissions.

- 2.3 RGSL state that the site will need to be a single BM Unit with its Metering Registered in CMRS as NGESO will be instructing the facility to synchronise and provide reactive power. RGSL and NGESO agreed that the simplest option to register a BM Unit was to register the Metering System in CMRS.

3. Registration in CMRS

- 3.1 RGSL has applied to Ofgem for a Generation Licence as they believe the facility falls within the definition of storage. It is currently to be decided whether Ofgem will grant the requested Generation Licence. Following discussion between RGSL and Ofgem, the licence application was accepted as 'duly made' on 26 May 2021. Ofgem have 65 working days from the date of being 'duly made' to process the application.
- 3.2 If the site is granted a Generation Licence then it can be registered in CMRS in accordance with BSC Section K2.1.1b.
- 3.3 If the site is not granted a Generation licence, then as it does not export Active Export Energy, its Metering Systems would need to be registered in SMRS in accordance with BSC Section K2.1.4 unless the Panel determines that there are special circumstances meaning that a Metering System should be registered in CMRS.
- 3.4 Given the uncertainty on the outcome of the Generation Licence and the timescales for registering meters and a BM Unit, RGSL want to ensure that they can register their meters in CMRS in accordance with their NGESO contract if their application for a Generation Licence is unsuccessful.
- 3.5 Smartest Energy Ltd (Party ID: SMARTTEST) are applying to the Panel on behalf of RGSL¹ to request the Panel agrees that the Metering System associated with Rassau Grid Services Stability Pathfinder Project can be registered in CMRS pending the outcome of Ofgem's licensing decision. This will allow RGSL and Smartest Energy Ltd to progress with the BM Unit registration and meet their contractual service start date.

4. Responsibilities for decisions under K2.1.1d

- 4.1 To the best of Elexon's knowledge, no Party has applied for an agreement that an Import Metering System can be registered in CMRS in accordance with BSC Section K2.1.1d since 2003 and the Panel considered that paper.
- 4.2 Panel paper 10_007 (January 2001) set up the Imbalance Settlement Group (ISG) and Supplier Volume Allocation Group (SVG) and looked at their responsibilities (as detailed in Attachment A). This paper indicated that the ISG and SVG would provide support to the Panel on BSC Section K (Committee dependant on area) but did not explicitly delegate the approval of decisions under BSC Section K2.1.1d. Therefore considerations under BSC Section K2.1.1d currently remain the responsibility of the Panel.

5. National Grid Electricity System Operator's View

- 5.1 Unlike other decisions that the Panel or its sub-committees can make under the BSC, Elexon is not required to consult NGESO, however we thought that it would be best practice to give NGESO the opportunity to comment on this application.
- 5.2 NGESO commented:
- 'NGESO have been working on several new pioneering approaches to solving network issues for a number of years and this has led to a number of 'pathfinder projects'. The pathfinder projects have already successfully connected several of these innovative and unique projects to the transmission system to help support voltage and stability of the network. Rassau's project is unique however as it will be the first pathfinder project to provide transmission services from a connection to the distribution network. Given the requirements of the service, we support Rassau's application to register meters in CMRS. NGESO do not expect a large number of distribution connected pathfinder projects but should this change in future we are open to raising a BSC modification to streamline this process.'*

6. Elexon's view

- 6.1 As NGESO need the Metering System related to this BM Unit to be registered in CMRS, this constitutes special circumstances under BSC Section K2.1.1d meaning that the Metering System should be registered in CMRS.

¹ RGSL are not a BSC Party, therefore Smartest Energy Ltd (Party ID: SMARTTEST) are making this application on behalf of RGSL and will register the BM Unit whether or not a Generation Licence is granted.

Please note that if Ofgem do decide to grant a Generation Licence to this project, then it would need to be registered in CMRS under BSC Section K2.1.1b.

7. Delegation of future Decisions to the ISG

- 7.1 Section B3.2.1 (b) of the BSC allows the Panel to delegate any of the Panel's powers, functions and responsibilities to a Panel Committee.
- 7.2 The Panel is invited to delegate the approval of any future decisions under BSC Section K2.1.1d to the ISG².
- 7.3 The ISG has been delegated other similar decisions from the Panel such as approval of Non-Standard BM Units and Trading units and Elexon feels that this is similar in nature. We also feel that this requirement sits better with the ISG than the SVG as it relates to CMRS.

8. Recommendations

- 8.1 We invite you to:
 - a) **AGREE** that Rassau Grid Services Stability Pathfinder Project should have its Metering Systems Registered in CMRS; and
 - b) **AGREE** to delegate approval of future decisions under BSC Section K2.1.1d to the ISG.

Attachments

Attachment A – Panel Paper 10/007

For more information, please contact:

Katie Wilkinson, Senior Product Analyst

Katie.wilkinson@elexon.co.uk

020 7380 4376

² The ISG is responsible for overseeing the operation of the Imbalance Settlement processes and systems in the Central Volume Allocation (CVA) Market.