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*Bringing choice and value
to customers*

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8 October 2004

Dear Ben

STANDARD CONDITION C14 : TRANSMISSION LICENCE, LICENSEE'S GRID CODE

Decisions in relation to consultation F/03 "Proposed Changes to Operating Code OC2 – Outage Planning" and to consultation E/04 "Further Proposed Changes to Grid Code OC2"

The Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the "Authority")¹ has carefully considered the changes that NGC² has proposed to its Grid Code as set out in the reports to the Authority arising from consultation F/03³ ("Proposed Changes to Operating Code OC2 – Outage Planning") and consultation E/04⁴ ("Further Proposed Changes to Grid Code OC2") that have been submitted to it for approval.

The Authority has decided to approve the proposed changes to the Licensee's Grid Code (the "Grid Code") set out in the reports to the Authority arising out of consultations F/03 and E/04 subject to the amendments set out in Appendices 1 and 2 that reflect the changes made to the Grid Code for BETTA that were implemented on 1 September 2004 and the changes to the Grid Code that have been approved for implementation on 11 October 2004⁵.

¹ The terms "Ofgem" and "the Authority" are used interchangeably in this letter. Ofgem is the office of the Authority.

² National Grid Company plc

³ Report from NGC – Consultation Reference F/03, Issue 1.1, Date of Issue 9 January 2004 (http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/indinfo/grid_code/pdfs/Authrep_f03.pdf).

⁴ Report from NGC – Consultation Reference E/04, Issue 1, Date of Issue 14 June 2004 (http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/indinfo/grid_code/pdfs/Authrep_e04.pdf).

⁵ Decision in relation to report from NGC on Consultation Reference G/04 (http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/indinfo/grid_code/pdfs/039_Grid_Code_G04_Decision_Sept2004.pdf).

This document explains the background to the proposals and sets out the Authority's reasons for its decisions to approve these changes to the Grid Code. This letter constitutes notice by the Authority under Section 49A of the Electricity Act 1989 in relation to the directions contained or referred to in this letter.

Background to the proposed changes to NGC's Grid Code

Consultation F/03 ("Proposed Changes to Operating Code OC2 – Outage Planning")

NGC has reviewed the Grid Code and identified changes to Operating Code 2 ("OC2") that it considers that if these changes were implemented they would improve the clarity of the existing provisions. NGC further notes that its proposed changes to the Grid Code are intended to update the process set out in OC2 to more fully reflect current practice in relation to information exchange relevant to outage co-ordination. NGC has also proposed changes to Schedules 3 and 6 of the Data Registration Code ("DRC") to reflect these proposed changes to OC2.

NGC has proposed changes to the section of OC2 relating to the 'Planning of Genset Outages'⁶ to clarify that:-

- The timescales relating to the obligations for the provision of information about planned generator outages are calendar years.
- Generators are required to provide genset outage programme information and estimated Output Usable forecast information to a weekly resolution in the Operational Planning Phase and to a daily resolution in the Programming Phase.
- NGC will provide information about potential generators outages and Output Usable forecasts to each Network Operator if NGC and the Network Operator reasonably consider that the generator outage may affect the integrity of that Network Operator's User System.
- NGC takes account of import capacity available from External Interconnections when calculating available total winter peak generating capacity.

NGC has also proposed changes to this section that:-

- Replace the reference to the obsolete term 'Despatch Units' with 'Gensets'.
- Amend OC2.4.1.2.3(c) to reflect the BSC⁷ obligations on NGC⁸ to provide data from the 2nd week ahead to the 52nd week ahead.
- Deletes the unnecessary description that 'in writing' includes the use of electronic data communication facilities⁹.
- It considers improve the drafting of existing obligations including changes that are intended to clarify the relevant timescales.

⁶ OC2.4.1.2

⁷ Balancing and Settlement Code

⁸ Section Q6.5 of the BSC

⁹ GC.6.1.2 of the Grid Code sets out that 'in writing' includes electronic communications.

NGC has proposed changes to the section of OC2 relating to the 'Planning of NGC Transmission Outages'¹⁰ to clarify that:-

- NGC divides the Operational Planning Phase at Year 2 when planning transmission system outages.
- Limited information only is available about the transmission system outage plan for Years 2 to 5 ahead which does not necessarily include proposed start and end dates for planned outages.
- NGC will inform Generators and Network Operators about transmission system outages for Year 1 ahead which NGC reasonably considers may operationally affect that Generator or Network Operator.
- NGC will provide the outage plan and updates to the outage plan in writing.

NGC has also proposed changes to this section that it considers improve the clarity of the drafting of existing obligations.

NGC reported that it received 5 responses to consultation F/03 from authorised electricity operators and that:-

- 3 respondents were generally supportive of the proposed changes or had no comments to make. 1 of these respondents suggested further clarification points that NGC incorporated when finalising the detailed drafting of its proposed changes to OC2.
- 1 respondent noted concerns about the proposed changes but subsequently accepted them.
- 1 respondent was opposed to the proposed changes.

One respondent expressed concern that NGC had not taken the opportunity as part of this review to minimise the administrative burden on Users or to consider amending the obligations relating to Output Usable forecast with a data requirement based on Maximum Export Limit. This respondent subsequently accepted the proposed changes on the basis of NGC's commitment to initiate a more detailed review of OC2 in the future.

The respondent who opposed the proposed changes raised the following concerns that NGC was unable to resolve:-

- The change to the timescale relating to financial year for transmission system outage planning will disrupt the co-ordination between transmission system and generator outage planning. In particular the respondent noted that a calendar year basis for outage planning is more logical as major outages of generators and on the transmission system are avoided during winter months. This respondent also commented that a financial year based outage planning system is inconsistent with the current Scottish Grid Code and Distribution Code requirements.
- The Network Operator should receive Generator outage plan information if the Network Operator considers that it affects the integrity of its User System irrespective of NGC's opinion on the materiality of the information.
- The definition of 'week' is applicable to other parts of the Grid Code and therefore it should not be limited to OC2.

¹⁰ OC2.4.1.3 – this section is titled 'Planning of GB Transmission System Outages' following the implementation of Grid Code Issue 3.

NGC notified Ofgem that it had identified some further changes to OC2 following the closure of consultation F/03 that it considered enhanced the changes proposed in the report to the Authority arising from consultation F/03. NGC subsequently issued consultation E/04 and asked Ofgem to suspend its consideration of the report to the Authority F/03 (“Proposed Changes to Operating Code OC2 – Outage Planning”) until it had submitted its report to the Authority arising from consultation E/04 (“Further Proposed Changes to Grid Code OC2”).

Consultation E/04 (“Further Proposed Changes to Grid Code OC2”)

NGC has reviewed the Grid Code and identified further changes to OC2 that it considers enhance the changes proposed in its report to the Authority arising from consultation F.03 (“Proposed Changes to Operating Code OC2 – Outage Planning”). NGC proposed changes to OC2 in consultation E/04 to place an additional Grid Code obligation on Generators to provide NGC with an estimate of daily Output Usable forecasts for each Genset for the 2 to 49 day ahead period on a weekly basis. NGC notes that in practice Generators provide it with this information and that the proposed change is intended to formalise the current practice.

NGC reported that it received 5 responses to consultation E/04 from authorised electricity operators and that:-

- 4 respondents considered that the proposed changes were generally acceptable or had no comments to make. 1 of these respondents requested further clarification of the proposed requirement which NGC has considered in finalising the drafting of the proposed Grid Code changes.
- 1 respondent noted concerns about the proposed changes but subsequently accepted them.

The respondent who subsequently accepted that the proposed changes to the Grid Code reflected current practice noted the following concerns:-

- NGC has not taken the opportunity to rationalise the OC2 requirements to reduce the administrative burden on Users. This respondent considered that proposed changes to OC2 should be delayed pending a complete and transparent review of NGC’s requirements for generating unit outage planning data.
- The term ‘Output Usable’ is outdated.

This respondent did not sustain objections to NGC’s proposed changes on the basis of NGC’s assurance that all Generators currently comply with the proposed requirement and NGC’s commitment to a more detailed review of OC2 in the future.

GB Consultation

Ofgem notes that it has consulted on the impact these changes may have throughout Great Britain as part of the Ofgem/DTI consultation on the Grid Code under BETTA¹¹ and in its open letter to the chair of the GCRP and SGCRP. Two of the respondents to this consultation commented on the applicability of the changes set out in the report to the Authority arising from consultation F/03 (“Proposed Changes to Operating Code OC2 – Outage Planning”) and consultation E/04 (“Further Proposed Changes to Grid Code OC2”) on a GB wide basis. One of these respondents notes that the proposed changes in consultation F/03 may have an impact on Scottish Users and if so that process changes would be needed if these changes are implemented. The other respondent did not identify any GB wide implications associated with F/03 or E/04. Both noted their support for the proposed change to be incorporated in the GB Grid Code.

Ofgem has consulted on whether the proposed changes are applicable for the GB Grid Code¹². Ofgem received one response to this consultation. The respondent noted support for the proposed changes associated with F/03 and E/04 being incorporated in the GB Grid Code.

NGC’s recommendation

NGC recommends that the Authority approve the changes to the Grid Code set out in the reports to the Authority arising from consultation F/03 (“Proposed Changes to Operating Code OC2”) and consultation E/04 (“Further Proposed Changes to Grid Code OC2”).

¹¹ ‘The Grid Code under BETTA - Ofgem/DTI conclusions and second consultation on the text of a GB Grid Code and conclusions on change management between the STC and each of the GB CUSC, GB BSC and GB Grid Code’ published 7 May 2004
http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/temp/ofgem/cache/cmsattach/7028_9904a.pdf.

¹² ‘GB Consultation for NGC’s Grid Code Change Proposals E/04 (“Further proposed changes to Grid Code OC2”), F/03 (“Proposed Changes to Operating Code OC2 - Outage Planning”), A/04 (“Proposed Change to the 'Data Validation, Consistency and Defaulting Rules' under the Grid Code”), E/03 (“Proposed changes to Connection Conditions CC.6.3.3 in respect of frequencies below 49.5Hz”) and D/04 (“Grid Code Compliance Issues with Refurbishment Plant”), published 3 September 2004.
http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/temp/ofgem/cache/cmsattach/8575_21604_E04_F03_D04.pdf.

Ofgem's view

The proposed changes by NGC are set out in its report to the Authority as required by standard condition C14(2) of NGC's electricity transmission licence. Approval of these changes by the Authority is required by standard condition C14(3). Ofgem considers that, having had regard to the licensee's obligations set out in condition 14(1)(b)¹³ of the Transmission Licence ("the obligations") and Ofgem's wider¹⁴ statutory duties, that the proposed changes to the Grid Code should be approved by the Authority. Ofgem's reasons for reaching this decision are outlined below.

Ofgem believes that it is important that Grid Code obligations are clearly defined and considers that additional clarity will improve the consistency of the information that is exchanged between NGC, Generators and Network Operators in accordance with the relevant obligations under the Grid Code. Ofgem notes NGC's confirmation that the proposed Grid Code changes are intended to better describe information that is already exchanged between NGC, Generators and Network Operators and are not intended to introduce the need for changes to the processes by which information is currently exchanged.

Ofgem is aware that information exchanged under OC2 is used for the co-ordination of planned outages of generating units and parts of the transmission and user systems. Ofgem considers that the additional clarity in the definition of OC2 information exchange obligations as a consequence of these proposed changes will contribute to the efficiency of NGC's operation of the transmission system and promote the security of the electricity system as a whole.

Ofgem is also aware that a number of respondents to NGC's consultations F/03 and E/04 indicated that a more fundamental review of OC2 would be of value. Ofgem further notes that at the recent Grid Code Review Panel meeting¹⁵, the panel agreed to NGC's proposal to establish a working group to carry out a detailed review of the requirements in OC1 and OC2 of the Grid Code. Ofgem expects that this working group would also consider the comments that were made in response to NGC's consultations F/03 and E/04 about administrative burden, appropriateness of Output Usable and general drafting clarity as part of this review.

¹³ The licensee's transmission licence defines the Grid Code objectives as follows:

- (i) to permit the development, maintenance and operation of an efficient, co-ordinated and economical system for the transmission of electricity;
- (ii) to facilitate competition in the generation and supply of electricity (and without limiting the foregoing, to facilitate the GB transmission system being made available to persons authorised to supply or generate electricity on terms which neither prevent nor restrict competition in the supply or generation of electricity); and
- (iii) subject to sub-paragraphs (i) and (ii), to promote the security and efficiency of the electricity generation, transmission and distribution systems in Great Britain taken as a whole.

¹⁴ Ofgem's statutory duties are wider than the matters that NGC must take into consideration and include amongst other things social and environmental guidance provided to Ofgem by the government.

¹⁵ Meeting held on 23 September 2004.

Ofgem notes one respondent's objection to the proposed changes to OC2 relating to the timescales for transmission system outage planning. In particular, Ofgem acknowledges this respondent's concern that the proposed financial year basis for transmission system outage planning is inconsistent with the calendar year basis for generator outage planning set out in the Grid Code. Ofgem has considered the apparent discontinuity within the Grid Code but does not consider that it has a significant impact as outage planning is carried out on a rolling timescale and there is an overlap between the timetable defined for the information provided by NGC with that defined for the provision of information by Users.

Ofgem further notes this respondent's concern that the proposed change to the Grid Code introduces an inconsistency with the timescales defined for outage planning obligations in both the Scottish Grid Code and the Distribution Code. Ofgem has sought views from both the chair of the Scottish Grid Code Review Panel and the chair of the Distribution Code Review Panel on the inconsistency with the Scottish Grid Code and Distribution Code (identified by the respondent to NGC's consultation F/03) and for details of any consequential changes that would be required should the changes to the Grid Code proposed in consultation F/03 be implemented. No issues were identified in response to either of these Ofgem consultations. Ofgem notes that there are differences between the scope of OC2 in the two Grid Codes and that many of the obligations set out in OC2 of each of the two Grid Codes are not exactly aligned. Ofgem also notes that the Distribution Code sets out that the information provided by the transmission licensee under OC2 of the Grid Code will form the basis of Operational Planning under Distribution Operating Code 2 and that no changes to the Distribution Code were identified as a necessary consequence of these proposed changes to the Grid Code.

Ofgem acknowledges the respondent's concern that a Network Operator would not receive generator outage plan and Output Usable forecast information unless NGC also considered that the proposal may affect the integrity of that Network Operator's User System. However, Ofgem considers that it is important that NGC is always obliged to consider (including by consulting with the relevant Network Operator) if a planned Genset outage notified to it under OC2 would impact on the integrity of a Network Operator's User System as the Network Operator would not necessarily have access to this information other than via NGC. As such, Ofgem considers that the drafting proposed by NGC (".....the reasonable opinion of NGC and the Network Operator") is more appropriate than that proposed by the respondent (".....the reasonable opinion of NGC or the Network Operator").

Ofgem notes that in the proposed changes, NGC has restricted the use of the formal definition of 'week' to OC2. Ofgem acknowledges that other parts of the Grid Code also define obligations on a weekly basis but accepts that it would be unreasonable for a general definition of 'week' to be added to the Glossary & Definitions without proper consideration of such a change on other sections of the Grid Code. Ofgem considers that this is a matter that NGC could address as part of future reviews of the Grid Code.

Ofgem asked NGC to review the proposed drafting for the changes set out in the reports to the Authority arising from consultation F/03 ("Proposed Changes to Operating Code OC2") and from consultation E/04 ("Further Proposed Changes to Grid Code OC2") in light of the changes to the Grid Code for BETTA ("Issue 3 of the Grid Code") that were implemented on 1 September 2004 and those that have been approved for implementation on 11 October 2004. NGC has subsequently provided revised drafting that highlights the proposed changes against Issue 3, Revision 2 of the Grid Code which is included as Appendices 1 and 2 to this letter. Ofgem notes that NGC has amended the change proposed in consultation F/03 for OC2.1.3 and OC2.4.1.3.3(e) to reflect the changes that were made throughout the Grid Code for BETTA. Ofgem does not consider that there are significant differences between the drafting in F/03 Version 1.1 and E/04 Version 1 and that contained in Appendices 1 and 2 to this letter.

The Authority's decision

Based on the reasons set out above the Authority has therefore decided to approve the Grid Code changes set out in reports submitted to the Authority arising from consultation F/03 ("Proposed Changes to Operating Code OC2") and from consultation E/04 ("Further Proposed Changes to Grid Code OC2") subject to the amendments set out in Appendices 1 and 2 to this letter. These amendments reflect the changes made to the Grid Code for BETTA that were implemented on 1 September 2004 and the changes to the Grid Code that have been approved for implementation on 11 October 2004.

The Authority agrees that the implementation date for these changes should be 29 November 2004.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on the above number if you have any queries in relation to the issues raised in this letter or alternatively contact Bridget Morgan on 020 7901 7080.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Scott". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

John Scott
Technical Director

Signed on behalf of the Authority and authorised for that purpose by the Authority

cc: David Payne, GCRP Secretary

Appendix 1 – Amendment to Change Proposed to OC2.1.3, OC2.4.1.2.2, OC2.4.1.2.3, OC2.4.1.2.4, OC2.4.1.3.1, OC2.4.1.3.2, OC2.4.1.3.3, OC2.4.1.3.4 and OC2.4.1.3.5 in the Reports to the Authority Arising from Consultation F/03 (“Proposed Changes to Operating Code OC2 – Outage Planning”) and Consultation E/04 (“Further Proposed Changes to Grid code OC2”)

OC2.1.3 In this **OC2** for the purpose of **Generator outage co-ordination** Year 0 means the current calendar year at any time, Year 1 means the next calendar year at any time, Year 2 means the calendar year after Year 1, etc. For the purpose of **Transmission outage planning** Year 0 means the current **Financial Year** at any time, Year 1 means the next **Financial Year** at any time, Year 2 means the **Financial Year** after Year 1, etc. References to ‘weeks’ in **OC2** are to **calendar weeks as defined in ISO 8601**.

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OC2.4.1.2 **PLANNING OF GENSET OUTAGES**

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OC2.4.1.2.2 **Operational Planning Phase - Planning for Calendar Year 1 and Calendar Year 2 – Weekly Resolution**

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(c) By the end of week 12

NGC will:

- (i) notify each **Generator** in writing whether the **Output Usable** estimates are adequate for weeks 1-52 of Years 1 and 2, together with suggested changes to its **Final Generation Outage Programme** where necessary and will advise each **Generator** with **Large Power Stations** of the **Surpluses** both for the **GB Transmission System** and **System Zones** and potential export limitations, on a weekly resolution which would occur without such changes;

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(e) By the end of week 34

Each **Generator** will provide **NGC** in writing with revised best estimate weekly Output Usable forecasts for each **Genset** for weeks 1-52 of Years 1 and 2.

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(g) By the end of week 39

NGC will:

- (i) notify each **Generator** in writing whether it accepts the **Output Usable** estimates for weeks 1-52 of Years 1 and 2, and of any suggested changes to its **Final Generation Outage Programme** where necessary and will advise **Generators** with **Large Power**

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Stations of the Surpluses both for the **GB Transmission System** and **System Zones** and potential export limitations on a weekly basis which would occur without such changes;

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OC2.4.1.2.3 Planning for Calendar Year 0 – Weekly Resolution

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The basis for **Operational Planning** for Year 0 will be the revised **Final Generation Outage Programme** agreed for Year 1:

In each week:

(a) By 1600 hours each Wednesday - Weekly Resolution

Each **Generator** will provide **NGC** in writing with an update of the **Final Generation Outage Programme** and a best estimate weekly Output Usable forecast for each of its **Gensets** from the 2nd week ahead to the 52nd week ahead.

(b) Between 1600 hours Wednesday and 1600 hours Friday

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NGC will be analysing the revised estimates of **Output Usable** supplied by **Generators** under (a) and will be analysing **Operational Planning Margins** for the period. Taking into account **GB Transmission System** constraints and outages and **Network Operator User System** constraints and outages known to **NGC**, **NGC** will assess whether the estimates of **Output Usable** supplied by **Generators** are sufficient to meet forecast **GB Transmission System Demand** plus the **Operational Planning Margin**.

(c) By 1600 hours each Friday

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NGC will:

- (i) notify each **Generator** with **Large Power Stations** and **Network Operator**, in writing if it considers the **Output Usable** forecasts will give **Surpluses** and potential export limitations both for the **GB Transmission System** and **System Zones** from the 2nd week ahead to the 52nd week ahead;

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OC2.4.1.2.4 Programming Phase – 2-49 Days Ahead – Daily Resolution

(d) Between 1100 hours and 1600 hours each Business Day

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NGC will be analysing the revised estimates of **Output Usable** supplied by **Generators** under (b) and will be analysing **Operational Planning Margins** for the period 2-14 days ahead. Taking into account **GB Transmission System** constraints and outages and **Network Operator User System** constraints and outages known to **NGC**, **NGC** will assess whether the estimates of **Output Usable** are sufficient to meet forecast **GB Transmission System Demand** plus the **Operational Planning Margin**.

(e) By 1600 hours each **Business Day**

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(i) **NGC** will notify in writing each **Generator with Large Power Stations** and each **Network Operator**, of the **Surpluses** both for the **GB Transmission System** and **System Zones** and potential export limitations, for the period from and including day 2 ahead to day 14 ahead which it considers the **Output Usable** forecasts will give. The time of 1600 hours can only be met in respect of any **Generator** or **Network Operator** if all the information from all **Generators** was made available to **NGC** by 1100 hours and if a suitable electronic data transmission facility is in place between **NGC** and the **Generator** or the **Network Operator**, as the case may be, and if it is fully operational. In the event that any of these conditions is not met, or if it is necessary to revert to a manual system for analysing the information supplied and otherwise to be considered, **NGC** reserve the right to extend the timescale for issue of the information required under this sub-paragraph to each, or the relevant, **Generator** and/or **Network Operator** (as the case may be) provided that such information will in any event be issued by 1800 hours.

OC2.4.1.3 Planning of **GB Transmission System** Outages

OC2.4.1.3.1 **Operational Planning Phase** - Planning for **Financial Years 2 to 5** inclusive ahead

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NGC shall plan **GB Transmission System** outages required in Years **2 to 5** inclusive required as a result of construction or refurbishment works. This contrasts with the planning of **GB Transmission System** outages required in Years **0 and 1** ahead, when **NGC** also takes into account **GB Transmission System** outages required as a result of maintenance.

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OC2.4.1.3.2 In each calendar year:

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(e) By the end of week 34

NGC will draw up a draft **GB Transmission System** outage plan covering the period Years 2 to 5 ahead and **NGC** will notify each **Generator** and **Network Operator** in writing of those aspects of the plan which may operationally affect such **Generator** (other than those aspects which may operationally affect **Embedded Small Power Stations** or **Embedded Medium Power Stations**) or **Network Operator**. **NGC** will also indicate where a need may exist to issue other operational instructions or notifications or **Emergency Instructions** to **Users** in accordance with **BC2** to allow the security of the **GB Transmission System** to be maintained within the **Licence Standards**.

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OC2.4.1.3.3 Operational Planning Phase - Planning for **Financial Year**1 ahead

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Each calendar year **NGC** shall update the draft **GB Transmission System** outage plan prepared under OC2.4.1.3.2 above and shall in addition take into account outages required as a result of maintenance work.

In each calendar year:

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(d) Between the end of week 32 and the end of week 34

NGC will draw up a revised **GB Transmission System** outage plan (which for the avoidance of doubt includes **Transmission Apparatus** at the **Connection Points**).

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(e) By the end of week 34

NGC will notify each **Generator** and **Network Operator**, in writing, of those aspects of the **GB Transmission System** outage programme which may, in **NGC's** reasonable opinion, operationally affect that **Generator** (other than those aspects which operationally affect **Embedded Small Power Stations** or **Embedded Medium Power Stations**) or **Network Operator** including in particular proposed start dates and end dates for relevant **GB Transmission System** outages.

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NGC will inform: ¶
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(i) each **Network Operator** of the impact on its **User System** in Years 1 and 2, and; ¶
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(ii) each **Generator** of any potential restrictions on its **Large Power Stations** in Years 1 and 2.

NGC will provide to each **Network Operator** and to each **Generator** a copy of the information given to **NGC** under paragraph (c) above (other than the information given by that **Network Operator**). In relation to a **Network Operator**, the data must only be used by that **User** in operating that **Network Operator's User System** and must not be used for any other purpose or passed on to, or used by, any other business of that **User** or to, or by, any person within any other such business or elsewhere.

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(g) Between the end of week 34 and 49

NGC will draw up a final **GB Transmission System** outage plan covering Year 1.

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(h) By the end of week 49

(i) **NGC** will complete the final **GB Transmission System** outage plan for Year 1. The plan for Year 1 becomes the final plan for Year 0 when by expiry of time Year 1 becomes Year 0.

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(iii) In addition, in relation to the final **GB Transmission System** outage plan for Year 1, **NGC** will provide to each **Generator** a copy of the final **GB Transmission System** outage plan for that year. OC2.4.1.3.4 contains provisions whereby updates of the final **GB Transmission System** outage plan are provided. The plan and the updates will be provided in writing. It should be noted that the final **GB Transmission System** outage plan for Year 1 and the updates will not give a complete understanding of how the **GB Transmission System** will operate in real time, where the **GB Transmission System** operation may be affected by other factors which may not be known at the time of the plan and the updates. Therefore, **Users** should place no reliance on the plan or the updates showing a set of conditions which will actually arise in real time.

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(i) Information Release or Exchange

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System Data Exchange

(z) as part of a process to facilitate understanding of the operation of the **Total System**,

(1) **NGC** will make available to each **Network Operator**, the **GB Transmission System Study Network Data Files** covering Year 1 which are of relevance to that User's System;

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(4) **NGC** will notify each **Network Operator**, as soon as reasonably practicable after it has updated the **GB Transmission System Study Network Data Files** covering Year 1 that it has done so, when this update falls before the next annual update under this OC2.4.1.3.3(i). **NGC** will then make available to each **Network Operator** who has received an earlier version (and in respect of whom the agreement still exists), the updated **GB Transmission System Study Network Files** covering the balance of Years 1 and 2 which remain given the passage of time, and which are of relevance to that **User's System**. The provisions of paragraphs (2) and (3) above shall apply to the making available of these updates;

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OC2.4.1.3.4 **Operational Planning Phase** - Planning in **Financial** Year 0 down to the **Programming Phase** (and in the case of load transfer capability, also during the **Programming Phase**)

(a) The **GB Transmission System** outage plan for Year 1 issued under OC2.4.1.3.3 shall become the plan for Year 0 when by expiry of time Year 1 becomes Year 0.

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OC2.4.1.3.5 **Programming Phase**

(a) By 1600 hours each Thursday

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(i) **NGC** shall continue to update a preliminary **GB Transmission System** outage programme for the eighth week ahead, a provisional **GB Transmission System** outage programme for the next week ahead and a final day ahead **GB Transmission System** outage programme for the following day.

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DATA REGISTRATION CODE

USERS OUTAGE INFORMATION

DATA DESCRIPTION	UNITS	TIMESCALE COVERED	UPDATE TIME	DATA CAT.	
Details are required from Network Operators of proposed outages in their User Systems and from Generators with respect to their outages, which may affect the performance of the Total System (eg. at a Connection Point or constraining Embedded Large Power Stations)		Years 2-5	Week 8 (Network Operator etc) Week 13 (Generators)	OC2	Deleted: 3 Deleted: PES
(NGC advises Network Operators of GB Transmission System outages (affecting their Systems)		Years 2-5	Week 28)		Deleted: 3
Network Operator informs NGC if unhappy with proposed outages)		"	Week 30	OC2	
(NGC draws up <u>revised</u> GB Transmission System (outage plan advises Users of operational effects		"	Week 34)		Deleted: draft
Generators and Non-Embedded Customers provide Details of Apparatus owned by them (other than Gensets) at each Grid Supply Point		Year 1	Week 13	OC2	Deleted: s Deleted: -2
(NGC advises Network Operators of outages affecting (their Systems)		Year 1	Week 28)		Deleted: -2
Network Operator details of relevant outages affecting the Total System		Year 1	Week 32	OC2	Deleted: s Deleted: -2
(NGC informs Users of <u>aspects that may affect</u> their Systems)		Year 1	Week 34)		Deleted: generation restrictions or Deleted: s
Users inform NGC if unhappy with <u>aspects</u> as notified		Year 1	Week 36	OC2	Deleted: -2
(NGC issues final GB Transmission System (outage plan with advice of operational effects on Users System)		Year 1	Week 49	OC2	Deleted: other impact on Deleted: restrictions or other impacts
Generator, Network Operator and Non-Embedded Customers to inform NGC of changes to outages previously requested		Week 8 ahead to year end	As occurring	OC2	Deleted: s Deleted: -2 Deleted: s Deleted: -2

Details of load transfer capability of 12MW or more between Grid Supply Points in England and Wales and 10MW or more between Grid Supply Points in Scotland.		Within Yr 0	As NGC request	OC2
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Note: **Users** should refer to **OC2** for full details of the procedure summarised above and for the information which **NGC** will provide on the **Programming Phase**.