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Requirements for Generators European Network Code – Exclusions for Emerging Technologies

At the April meeting of the Joint European Standing Group (JESG), it was requested that the transitional arrangements now included within the Requirements for Generators network code for application to emerging technologies be clarified for GB stakeholders.

These provisions are detailed in articles 57-61 of the network code in a section titled 'Transitional Arrangements For Emerging Technologies' and can be viewed in the latest version of the code as available through the following link to the ENTSO-E website.

https://www.entsoe.eu/fileadmin/user_upload/library/resources/RfG/130308_Final_Version_NC_RfG.pdf

This new section is additional to the preceding articles 52-56 which detail how Power Generating Facility Owners, DSOs and TSOs may apply for derogations from the network code.

In summary, the provisions made for emerging technology are as follows:

- The RfG code will not apply to emerging technologies. To be classified as an emerging technology generators must be of type A (ie up to 1MW in size and connected at less than 110kV), and as a technology make up no more than 25% of the 'secure level' defined for each synchronous area where exclusion from the code is allowable.
- The secure level is to be defined by the TSO(s) for each synchronous area no later than one month after the entry into force of the code. For GB it is likely to be set at 50MW, so the threshold for an emerging technology will be a maximum of 12.5MW.
- Manufacturers are entitled to submit a request for classification as an emerging technology to the relevant National Regulatory Authority (for GB this is Ofgem) no later than 6 months after entry into force of the Network Code.
- All requests will be considered by the relevant NRAs and a coordinated opinion provided by ACER within 12 months of the entry into force of the code. Each NRA will then decide and publish to which technologies the classification is applicable.

- Where sales subsequent to this decision exceed the threshold, the classification will be revoked. It is understood however that unless a cost benefit analysis were to show otherwise, this decision would not be taken retrospectively. ie For any installations already made, the exclusion would remain in place.

Drafting of the RfG code by ENTSO-E has now been completed, including revisions to key areas as suggested by ACER. The revised code has now been resubmitted to ACER who have submitted it on to the Commission with a recommendation to adopt. The Commission have engaged consultants DNV KEMA to carry out an impact assessment of the code which is due to be completed in September, at which point comitology will then commence. It is likely therefore that comitology will not be completed earlier than Q1 2014. Following comitology, and once the code becomes European Law, there will be a national implementation process for each of the member states to fill in those parameters and other details that are left to national interpretation. This will be subject to NRA approval.

This letter will be discussed at the May 16th meeting of the JESG and will be placed on the JESG website. Any questions or requests for clarification should be directed in the first instance through the National Grid European team .box address as follows:

europeancodes.electricity@uk.ngrid.com

Yours truly,

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(and on behalf of the JESG)