

## 21<sup>th</sup> Grid Connection European Stakeholder Committee (GC ESC)

09 March 2021 from 09:30-13:00

GotoWebinar

### Draft Minutes (to be updated)

Participants		
Addala	Srinivasa Raju	EUGINE
Alcazar	Freddy	EUGINE/INNIO Jenbacher
Ali	Mansoor	FGH GmbH
Barroso Gomes	Maria	ACER
Chevillard	Naomi	SolarPower Europe
Dekinderen	Eric	VGB
Guenzi	Luca	EUTurbine - Solar Turbine
Jantzen	Annette	EUGINE – European Engine Power Plants Association
Kay	Mike	P2 Analysis Ltd
Klonari	Vasiliki	WindEurope
Kurz	Magdalena	EUTurbines
Luxa	Andreas	orgalim
Makki	Erfaan	FGH GmbH
Malbrancke	Marc	CEDEC
Ndreko	Mario	TenneT TSO GmbH
O'Connell	Elaine	EC
Oberhauser	Klaus	VGB Powertech
Pasquadibisceglie	Marco	arera
Pfeiffer	Ralph	Amprion GmbH / ENTSO-E
Reif	Valerie (FSR)	FSR
Rusek	Bartosz	Amprion
Schaupp	Thomas	CENELEC

Schowe-von der Brellie	Bernhard	EFAC / VAZ (FGH)
Teelahk	Anneli	EASE
Van Bossuyt	Michael	IFIEC Europe
Werderitsch	Esther	E-Control
Wilch	Michael	EDSO
Benedict	Florentien	CEDEC
Gonzalez	Adrian	ENTSOE-E
Trovato	Vincenzo	ACER

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## 1. **Opening**

### 1. ***Review of Agenda***

Due to unavailability of Uros Gabrijel, the meeting will be chaired on behalf of ACER by Vincenzo Trovato.

The Chair welcomes the participants to the 21<sup>th</sup> GC SC session.

The agenda is approved (available [here](#))

### 2. ***Follow-up actions from previous meeting/ new additions to Issue Logger (available here):***

Ioannis Theologitis (ENTSO-E) presents the follow-up actions from the previous meeting.

No comments raised

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## 2. **ENTSOE CNC implementation update**

Ioannis Theologitis (ENTSO-E) presents slides (available [here](#))

Eric Dekinderen (VGB) asks if there is the possibility to run a second public consultation for the IGD on Compliance Verification. Ioannis Theologitis (ENTSO-E) answers that a second public consultation would add a layer of process which would not benefit the timely development of the IGD. However, after all the comments have been assessed, it would be possible to organize another workshop on this IGD if more clarifications on the comments received are needed. Eric agrees that VGB would welcome a second workshop.

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## 3. **Implementation Monitoring Activities**

Vincenzo Trovato (ACER) presented the slides (available [here](#)) on ACER Implementation Monitoring activities.

Thomas Schaupp (CENELEC) comments that, regarding RfG Article 13(2) (b), it should be added that several countries including DE allow the requirement for several technologies.

Mike Kay (GEODE) raises a question concerning slide 15, asking if the TSO agreement works when the generation is connected at DSO level. Vincenzo answers that the agreement is between the relevant system operator, coordination with the relevant TSO, and the powergenerating facility owner.

Luca Guenzi (EUTurbines) asks if, on the possible misalignments between the RSO-user agreement and the RfG the Agency has a position for mandatory solution in favor of compliance with the CNCs. Vincenzo (ACER) reminds that the system user should not unreasonably withhold consent to the request for wider requirements raised by the relevant system operator. However, the connection should not be withheld if the system user is not able to comply with the requirements which are wider than those set in the CNCs.

Freddie Alcazar (Eugine) asks about the definition of the different generator type definitions, in particular if the type categorization for synchronous generators is managed by the single generators or considering the grouped power (in case of multiple generators connected). Vincenzo answers that the monitoring report doesn't include any clarification on this topic, however it is noted that there is currently the need to clarify it.

Ralph Pfeiffer (ENTSO-E) replies that he doesn't agree with the statement made by ACER, saying: that "connection shall not be withheld as long as the CNC requirements are met, regardless of the compliance with any additional national regulation". The CNCs do not deliver all the conditions to grant the connection to a user, since they cover only a selection of requirements. To grant a connection to a user all the connection requirements should be met, including the national requirements.

Ralph Pfeiffer (ENTSO-E) presents slides (available [here](#)) on ENTSO-E Implementation Monitoring Report

It is agreed that there will be a follow-up on the Implementation Monitoring topic in the next GC ESC meeting. Due to time limitation, it is proposed to record the relevant questions and invite the members to review the different presentations and Monitoring reports and raise additional ones, if any.

Srinivasa Raju Addala (EUGINE) comments that there is the need to have a common guideline under which operating conditions (MW, MVAR, power factor, Max or Min Grid short circuit power, FRT capability) need to be analysed. Otherwise this will lead to different compliance evaluation methods.

Eric Dekinderen (VGB) asks the following questions:

- 1) Why nothing was said about Switzerland? Vincenzo (ACER) replies that non EU countries were not on the focus of the report, however the questionnaire was shared with Switzerland, without receiving an answer.
- 2) The FRT requirements for type A in Germany have been mentioned in ACER presentation, even though it is deemed that the topic is outside the RfG scope. Why the topic has been mentioned?
- 3) Which are the arguments provided by countries where there are discrepancies between the national legislation and the EU Regulation?
- 4) In the previous version of the agenda shared among the stakeholders also the European Commission should have presented some material concerning the Implementation Monitoring of the CNC. Why this panel has not been foreseen anymore? Ioannis Theologitis (ENTSO-E) confirms that the item has not been cancelled, but just moved under the presentation that will be given later by Bernhard Schowe-von der Brelie (EFAC).
- 5) Concerning the implementation in Germany, it seems that more requirements have been implemented than the total number of RfG requirements. Is it possible to clarify? Ralph Pfeiffer (ENTSO-E) answers that the total number of requirements is never higher than the one included in the RfG. The difference is that in Germany, 3 more requirements have been implemented as “general” instead of “site-specific”, for this reason the total amount of general requirements in Germany is 171, while in the RfG they are 168.

**ACTION:** any relevant question on the implementation monitoring reports, besides those recorded in the minutes, shall be sent via email and assessed in the next GC ESC meeting.

**ACTION:** Eric Dekinderen (VGB) to send additional details to Vincenzo Trovato (ACER) concerning the questions raised.

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#### **4. Implementation of the network code on Requirements for Generators**

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Bernard Schowe von der Brelie (FGH) and Mansoor Ali (FGH) presents slides (available [here](#))

Ralph Pfeiffer (ENTSO-E) remarks that the RfG defines necessary requirements for the connection to the systems, but not sufficient since additional requirements could be defined at national level. In addition, Ralph disagrees with the labelling of the reactive power capability requirements for Type B Generators as “additional requirement”. This is because for this type of generators it is stated in the RfG that generators can define Reactive Power capability requirements for the module. This makes the requirement not an additional one, but fully part of the code. Erfaan Makki replies that he agrees with Ralph’s approach, but for the sake of comparison, these requirements have been categorized as “additional”. In addition, the reactive power requirement has been considered as “additional requirement” for type B generators since they are not explicit in the code. However, it can be agreed that this categorization is open to interpretation.

Eric Dekinderen (VGB) asks if the recommendations included in the last slide are done on behalf of the EC. Bernard confirms that the recommendations are not included on behalf of the EC. Elaine O’Connell (European Commission) complements the topic by saying that the study has been issued as a complementary activity to the already good quality implementation monitoring activities performed by ACER and ENTSO-E in order to make sure that the status of the codes is kept under analysis, especially in relation to the future challenges related to the increasing RES penetration.

Eric Dekinderen (VGB) asks if there is the will on ENTSO-E side to harmonize the frequency related requirements in the future and if it is available a document explaining the reasons of the different choices taken by the single countries on the capacity thresholds, in the framework of national implementation of the CNCs **ACTION**.

Vincenzo Trovato (ACER) comments that, in relation to Cyprus not replying to the implementation monitoring requests (slide 1), it should be reminded that the country is an island and lies under a different implementation framework and the CNCs are not applicable for its case. In addition, he confirms that, in agreement with Ralph Pfeiffer (ENTSO-E), the requirements of the codes should be considered together with the set of the national connection requirements. However, in case of a full discrepancy with a value or a range defined in the CNC, this should be considered as a violation of the European Law. Mansoor Ali (FGH) answers that the countries in which the CNCs are not applicable, have not been considered for the implementation figures included in the study.

Freddy Alzacar (EUGINE) re-iterates the comment already raised on the ACER presentation.

Ioannis Theologitis (ENTSO-E) confirms that the questions raised in the chat have been recorded.

**ACTION:** ENTSO-E to send a follow up email including the link to the relevant material

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## 5. *Joint EUTurbines – VGB proposal “Connection Network Code Amendments – the necessity of precoderual improvements”*

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Luca Guenzi (EUTurbines) presents the slides (available [here](#)) and the work done in collaboration with VGB.

Ioannis Theologitis (ENTSO-E) proposes that all GC ESC members to look at the slides presented by Luca and come back with comments. Ioannis adds that the topics presented however, would not necessarily be material for a dedicated expert group but a dedicated workshop (possibly in May before the next GC ESC meeting) which would help focus on the discussion. The topic should be followed up also during the next GC ESC meeting, with a major focus on the most critical issues. Luca Guenzi (EUTurbines) confirms the possibility of organizing a workshop in May and invites the GC ESC members to contact him for any comments.

Ralph Pfeiffer (ENTSO-E) thanks Luca for the extensive work and expresses some perplexities about having a workshop organized under the official framework of the GC ESC for a topic stirred by a single stakeholder. This could be perceived as giving an advantageous position to a single (or few) stakeholder (s). A better idea would be to have the workshop organized by both VGB and and EUTurbines. Ioannis Theologitis (ENTSO-E) answers that in case there is the need to guarantee fair space to all positions from the members, the format of a dedicated discussion could be adapted. The important it is to ensure that sufficient time is allocated to the assessment of the topic and all relevant stakeholder had the opportunity to prepare and submit an opinion, if appropriate. Vincenzo Trovato (ACER) does not oppose a dedicated initiative from a single stakeholder to discuss the topic of amendments. While agreeing with Ralph that equal treatment of the GC ESC members should be ensured, he welcomes this kind of initiatives from all its members, since the committee gives equal space to all of them to present their proposals on the topic of CNC amendments. Luca Guenzi (Euturbines) confirm the availability to organize a dedicated session and invite the members of the GC ESC to deliver any feedback in advance.

**ACTION:** Luca Guenzi (EUTurbines) to send out an invitation to GC ESC members and the interested stakeholders for a workshop dedicated to the CNC amendments proposals that EUTurbines and VGB prepared.

Vassiliki Klonari (WindEurope) highlights that the GC ESC is the right place to discuss the topic of CNC amendments and a workshop of this topic should be organized by ENTSO-E and ACER giving all the stakeholders the possibility to participate and present proposals. Ralph Pfeiffer (ENTSO-E) agrees that in case of a workshop on the general topic of CNC amendments should be organized by ACER/ENTSO-E, but an event dedicated to specific set of proposals in order to discuss them could also be held by the member responsible for these proposals.

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## 6. *Temporary Overvoltages withstand capabilities*

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Bartosz Rusek (VDE FNN) presents the slides (available [here](#))

Eric Dekindere (VGB) asks

- 1) what is the position of the other TSOs like RTE and NGESO on the study presented and its conclusion: do they support the conclusions of this assessment?
- 2) Have weak points of the grid been considered in the study (in relation to the topic of “aging” of the system?)
- 3) In case of an incident who is responsible for the possible damages that may occur?

Bartosz gives the following answers

- 1) No other TSOs have been involved in the study. However, there is a CIGRE group dedicated to this topic.
- 2) The standards applicable in Germany allow this application without restrictions. The CIGRE study could show that there are some applications for which the age of the equipment should be taken in account more in detail.

- 3) The legal responsibility has not been taken into consideration. According to the experience, there have not been that many cases of incidents. In this case, extensive studies would be needed to analyze the rules applied and the related responsibilities. Ralph Pfeiffer (ENTSO-E) adds that from the technical point of a temporary overvoltage should not be considered a violation of the code or a standard. The main discrepancy between the application of the regulation and the relevant standards is the proper compliance testing processes which are currently missing. Eric Dekinderen (VGB) suggests to involve legal expertise in the CIGRE group assessing the topic of temporary overvoltages.

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## 7. Expert Groups

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### Interaction studies and simulation models for PGM/HVDC (EG ISSM)

Mario Ndreko (ENTSO-E) presents the slides (available [here](#))

Ioannis Theologitis (ENTSO-E) confirms that there is no page limit for the final report and there is also the possibility to include annexes.

Eric Dekinderen (VGB) remarks that currently there is a lack of regulation providing requirements on what a new installation, located near an HVDC system should provide in terms of interactions. Maybe it should be considered the possibility to add rules in the HVDC and RfG codes covering the subject.

**ACTION:** Mario Ndreko (ENTSO-E) to include the question related to the requirements for new installations located near HVDC systems in the issue log

**ACTION:** ENTSO-E to follow-up on the question and propose an answer.

### Criteria for Significant Modernisation (EG CSM)

Michael Wilch (EDSO) presented the slides (available [here](#)).

### Baseline for Type A (EG BFTA)

Florentien Benedict (CEDEC) presents the slides (available [here](#)).

Bernard von der Brelie (EFAC) in relation to EU Reg 765/2008, it does not help on the side of compliance verification, since it only covers the topic of accreditation bodies. Ioannis Theologitis (ENTSO-E) invites Bernhard to participate to a EG BFTA meeting to discuss the inclusion of the reference to the EU Reg 765/2008

Thomas Schaupp (CENELEC) complements Bernhard's comment by saying that including a "product" approach in the RfG for Type B and C would be beneficial.

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## 8. AOB

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## 9. Follow-up actions:

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1. Any relevant question on the implementation monitoring reports, besides those recorded in the minutes, shall be sent via email and assessed in the next GC ESC meeting
  2. Eric Dekinderen (VGB) to send additional details to Vincenzo Trovato (ACER) concerning the questions raised.
  3. ENTSO-E to respond to the will to harmonize the frequency related requirements in the future and if it is available a document explaining the reasons of the different choices taken by the single countries on the capacity thresholds, in the framework of national implementation of the CNCs
  4. ENTSO-E to send a follow up email including the link to the relevant material concerning TOP 4
  5. Luca Guenzi (EUTurbines) to send out an invitation to GC ESC members and the interested stakeholders for a workshop dedicated to the CNC amendments proposals that EUTurbines and VGB prepared.
  6. Mario Ndreko (ENTSO-E) to include the question related to the requirements for new installations located near HVDC systems in the issue log
  7. ENTSO-E to follow-up on the questions on EG ISSM and propose an answer
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