

MODIFICATION PROPOSAL

SHORT TITLE: Frequency Response Service for Centrally Dispatched Generators

DATE: 9th February 1998

URGENCY: Non-urgent (target 1st April 1998) Implement direct requested.

PROCEDURE AND TIMETABLE:

11 Feb Proposal and legal drafting to Mods Panel and shippers

16 Feb Discussion at special capacity workstream

19 Feb Mod Panel - decision on Implement Direct

18 Mar Final mod report to Ofgas

1 Apr Implementation

JUSTIFICATION:

The proportion of generating capacity provided by gas has increased significantly in recent years. Previously gas generation has predominantly provided base load, and had not been required to provide a response service to the National Grid. Some gas generation will provide peak generation during the summer of 1998 and, as required by the Grid Code, will need to provide a Frequency Response service to the National Grid.

CONSEQUENCE OF NOT MAKING THIS CHANGE:

The inability to provide this service puts generators in breach of the Grid Code and could ultimately lead to the removal of their generators licence.

There are implications for the wider gas industry, in that an inability of generators to provide this service to the National Grid, Scottish Power and Scottish Hydro-Electric could lead to a longer term curtailment of the expansion of gas generation.

The Network Code provisions currently limit the service to generators connected to the transmission system operated by National Grid plc, which rules out the Scottish electricity transmission systems.

AREA OF NETWORK CODE CONCERNED:

Section J 4.10

NATURE OF PROPOSAL:

To have generic Network Code rules as far as possible which govern provision of a Frequency Response service rather than individually developed and managed NExAs and Ancillary Agreements.

Provisions for Frequency Response already exist in the

Network Code (section J4.10), these provisions currently allow for Registered Users to enter into an Ancillary Agreement for a Frequency Response service.

It is felt since the service would be open to all centrally dispatched generators and the terms of the agreement would be the same for all users, the most appropriate place for the detailed provisions of the service would be the Network Code rather than a NExA. This would reduce the administrative burden associated with Ancillary Agreements.

The proposal is to:-

Offer a service to all centrally dispatched CCGTs connected to either the National Grid Company, Scottish Power or Scottish Hydro-Electric electricity transmission systems, to allow a no notice rate change of the lesser of 25% of SOQ in order that they can meet their obligations under the applicable Grid Code.

The conditions that would need to be met in order to take this service are as follows:-

1) Transco will require a flow test at site to ensure that:.

the Transco offtake equipment and upstream pipework are capable of supplying under the conditions of this service, the APPLICABLE OFFTAKE PRESSURE (as per J4.2.1 (v)).

that no adverse pressure transients are created in any part of the Transco network by the frequency response service.

If condition 1(a) is not satisfied the APPLICABLE OFFTAKE PRESSURE will not apply for the period that a frequency response service is taken by the effected supply point.

If condition 1(b) is not satisfied Transco may decline to offer a frequency response service at the affected supply point.

2) Transco may withdraw the service from individual stations where, operational experience or. planning data shows that this is, or may be, prejudicial to safe or efficient operation of the Transco network.

3) Transco may temporarily suspend the service to individual power stations where, maintenance on the Transco system may be affected by the service. [Notice of 10 working days would normally be given except in a pipeline emergency. The affected duration shall not normally exceed 5 days over and above the maintenance days notified in L.3.]

4) The frequency response service is an increase in offtake rate of 25% of the maximum supply point offtake rate, from an offtake rate below the maximum offtake rate up to, but not exceeding the maximum supply point offtake rate, in a period of 10 seconds with no prior notification to Transco.

5) The Frequency Response service shall be subject to revalidation as set out in 1 above, if the maximum supply point offtake rate is increased.

6) Shippers are required to notify Transco no later than 30 minutes after the commencement of a frequency response period, and at D+1 with details of the number of occasions, start times and volumes involved in each frequency response action.

7) Transco retains the right to charge for this service, where costs can be identified its provision. Initially the charges will be zero.

PURPOSE OF PROPOSAL:

To provide a robust solution to the need for centrally dispatched CCGTs to meet their Grid Code obligations to provide a Frequency Response service to National Grid, whilst maintaining control over the security of the Transco gas transportation system.

IDENTITY OF PROPOSER'S REPRESENTATIVE:

David Salisbury

PROPOSER: John Lockett
SIGNATURE:

POSITION: Manager, Network Code
COMPANY: Transco, BG plc

MODIFICATION PANEL SECRETARY'S USE ONLY

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