

3rd Meeting of Ad-hoc Expert Group for Electricity System operation

05-07-2010 from 10:30 to 17:00 hours

CEER Offices, Brussels

(Rue le Titien 28, B-1000)

FINAL MINUTES

Participants			
Tahir	Kapetanovic	E-Control (AT)	Chair
Katharina	Bauer	E-Control (AT)	
Christine	Materazzi-Wagner	E-Control (AT)	
Alain	Marien	CREG (BE)	Excused
François-Annet	de Ferrières	CRE (FR)	
Carlo	Sabelli	Expert	
Christoph	Schneiders	Expert	
Eckart	Lindwedel	Expert	
Guido	Cervigni	Expert	Excused
Javier	Paradinas	Expert	
Jonathan	O'Sullivan	Expert	Excused
Juan Manuel	Rodriguez	Expert	Excused
Jorg	Teupen	Expert	
Marek	Zima	Expert	
Michael	Zoglauer	Expert	
Peter	Rasch	Expert	
Peter	Christensen	Expert	
Steve	Drummond	Expert	
Rudolf	Baumann	Expert	
Natalie	McCoy	CEER Secretariat	

1. Opening

The meeting opened at 10h39 Tahir Kapetanovic (E-Control, AT) in the Chair.

1.1. Approval of the agenda

The Agenda was approved in the form shown in these minutes.

2. Initial Impact Assessment process on system operation

2.1. Chapters 2 and 3 of the IA document – brief introduction and recap by ERGEG on the key points

The Chair reviewed the process for framework guidelines and network codes. Following discussions at the Florence Forum in June 2010, the European Commission clarified that it plans to issue the official letter requesting that ERGEG work 'as the Agency' and produce the framework guideline on system operation in September. As of this date, the official 6 months foreseen in the 3rd Package begin to count. ERGEG will hold a public workshop during the 2-month public consultation period. The European Commission then has the discretion to decide whether to make network codes legally binding. There are two approaches in this respect – a shallow and simple document (e.g. the Congestion Management Guidelines) or a very detailed and explicit document (e.g. the UCTE handbook). In the second case, full agreement and understanding is needed by all the Member State authorities, which sit in the comitology committee.

System operation is one of the most developed areas in energy – with the preceding UCTE and Nordel handbooks and existing rules of operation. ERGEG is grateful to the experts for their input, in particular identifying existing problems in system operation.

For the Florence Forum, ERGEG and ENTSO-E presented their respective ongoing work on framework guidelines and network codes. With regard to system operation, a brief status note was jointly prepared by ERGEG and ENTSO-E to explain the work and approach on system operation.

The Chair reiterated that the framework guideline will not be lengthy or detailed, this will rather be the task of the network code(s). The initial impact assessment, which covers problem identification and objectives, are seen as a complimentary part of the framework guideline.

With regard to the expert group the chair would like the members to reach a common understanding on the problems and objectives, such that the regulators can take forward the subsequent work on the policy options and the draft framework guideline (on that basis). The aim is to finalise a draft text by end 2010, in order to provide the Agency with the result of the work in Q1 2011. On an informal basis, ERGEG does dialogue with ENTSO-E on the framework guidelines/network codes.

Mr. Drummond noted that the European Commission is planning a consultancy study on integration of renewables, which could be of interest for this work, but which is foreseen for 2011. Mr. Kapetanovic remarked that renewables are an important issue and have an impact both on market operations and networks – this issue will likely be re-considered in future years.

2.2. Detailed review of the chapters 2 and 3 of the IA documents (the members of the expert group are kindly asked to prepare their comments)

Katharina Bauer provided a brief overview of the work undertaken since the last meeting. Using the problem table which was developed with/by the experts, the draft initial impact assessment has been revised.

The question of personal safety and personnel has not been fully addressed in this work. One issue which relates directly to system operation is whether to interrupt service if there is a safety concern. Generally, safety issues are addressed through national safety and electrotechnical rules/laws. In some situations, safety can affect operability – and a reference should be made to this issue (i.e. the safety aspect should always be taken into account for all system operation activities). Furthermore, there should be transparency on information of the rules being applied.

The members discussed the draft chapter on problem definition in detail. Issues of compensation payments are not addressed within this work, although perhaps a reference to restoration (being done as quickly as possible) following an unplanned interruption could be included. Compensation

for planned interruptions would be difficult. Compensation could be more relevant for the work on transmission tariffication.

The impact of renewables on system operation should also be taken into account, in addition to grid connection issues.

In future, the nature and structure of the load will change (energy efficiency, electric vehicles, etc) which will also have an impact on system operation.

The members also discussed the 'problem' table which was constructed with input from the experts.

With regard to the objectives chapter, the members noted that DC lines operate differently from AC lines and that this issue (in terms of system operation) may need to be addressed in future.

The final version of the table of problems and ideas will be circulated for information to the experts. This will not form part of the final documents, but was rather a working tool for the expert group. A revised draft of the problem identification/objectives will be circulated, following the discussions of the meeting.

3. Policy Options and Assessment – brief introduction by ERGEG

Please refer to agenda item 2.

4. Next steps

Please refer to agenda item 2.

ERGEG thanked the experts for their contribution, commitment and support in the work of developing the initial impact assessment for the framework guideline on system operation. The experts will of course be invited to the future workshop which ERGEG will hold within the context of the public consultation.

5. Any other business

N/A

The meeting adjourned at 15h53.