



Making a positive difference
for energy consumers

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Date: 27 February 2024

DIRECTION UNDER PARAGRAPH 9 OF AMENDED STANDARD CONDITION E12 – J4 OF THE OFFSHORE TRANSMISSION LICENCE

Whereas: -

1. TC Rampion OFTO Limited (the **Licensee**) is the holder of an offshore electricity transmission licence (the **Licence**) granted under section 6(1)(b) of the Electricity Act 1989 (the **Act**).
2. The Licensee considers that the events where circuits were taken out of service on the dates listed below (the **Events**) were wholly or partially caused by Exceptional Events (as defined in Amended Standard Condition E12-J1 of the Licence);
 - 12 to 13 September 2022, and
 - 14 to 15 September 2022.
3. The Licensee notified the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the **Authority**) of the Events within the 14-day period required by the licence;
4. The Licensee provided details of the Events and further information requested by the Authority;
5. The Authority gave notice to the Licensee in accordance with paragraph 11 of Amended Standard Condition E12-J4 of the Licence on 31 January 2024 of the proposed terms of this direction (the **Draft Direction**);
6. The Licensee did not submit any representations.
7. For the reasons set out below, the Authority directs that there will be no adjustment in respect of the Events for the purposes of paragraph 9(d) of Amended Standard Condition E12-J4 of the Licence. The details of the Events and reasons for the Authority's decision are set out in the Annex to this Direction.

This direction constitutes notice pursuant to section 49A(1)(c) of the Act.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yvonne Naughton', with a stylized, flowing script.

Yvonne Naughton
Head of OFTO Licensing and Compliance

Duly authorised by the Authority

ANNEX

REASONS FOR REJECTION OF AN EXCEPTIONAL EVENTS CLAIM SUBMITTED BY TC RAMPION OFTO LIMITED UNDER PARAGRAPH 9 OF AMENDED STANDARD CONDITION E12-J4

TC Rampion OFTO Limited (the **Licensee**) is the holder of an offshore transmission licence (the **Licence**) granted under section 6(1)(b) of the Electricity Act 1989 (the Act).

The Licensees offshore transmission system connects Rampion Offshore Wind Farm (**ROW**) to National Grid Electricity Transmission's (**NGET**) onshore transmission system.

The Licensee considers that events where circuits were taken out of service on the dates listed below (the **Events**) were wholly or partially caused by Exceptional Events (as defined in Amended Standard Condition E12-J1 of the Licence);

- 12 to 13 September 2022, and
- 14 to 15 September 2022.

The Licensee states that:

- The Events on the Rampion offshore transmission system were necessary to ensure the safe execution of planned maintenance works undertaken by NGET, on the dates listed above.
- It was able to coordinate some minor works during the Events. These works were relatively insignificant and not something the Licensee would have instigated an Outage for on a standalone basis. The Licensee clarified the Outages to undertake the minor works lasted 1-2 hours and 3-4 hours respectively and that the work was carried out as the duration of the Events allowed for it.

The Licensee considers the Events were beyond its control as each were requested and taken by NGET.

On 17 January 2024 the Licensee confirmed its *transmission system was physically capable of providing transmission services (i.e. was 100% available)* for the majority of the period of the Events, *"solely as a result of a restriction required by National Grid Electricity System Operator Limited (NGESO), to allow National Grid Electricity Transmission to carry out works in proximity to the TC Rampion OFTO assets"*.

Therefore, and pursuant to paragraph 9 of amended standard condition E12-J4 and where the Licensee's offshore transmission system was fully available during each of the Events, we consider the Events on the Licensee's Transmission System did not cause a Transmission Service Reduction as defined in Amended Standard Condition E12-A1 of the Licence and accordingly do not constitute Exceptional Events as defined in Amended Standard Condition E12-J1.

Outages taken during the Events that caused the Licensee's transmission system to be unavailable are Transmission Service Reductions that will affect the availability incentive calculation.

Accordingly, the Authority is not satisfied for the purposes of paragraph 9(d) of the Condition that the Events were exceptional events and directs that there will be no adjustment in respect of the Events for the purposes of paragraph 9(d) of Amended Standard Condition E12-J4 of the Licence.