

1. Executive Report

Assessment outcome:

A second surveillance visit was completed against the PAS55 certification of National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET). The visit demonstrated that the Asset Management processes demonstrated at certification are still effective and are generally being applied therefore continued certification is recommended.

System effectiveness and continual improvement:

Since the last surveillance visit two main initiatives have been implemented:

Firstly a new Asset Management Director has been appointed and a new strategy for the National Grid business has been developed and is being implemented. The business strategy described was consistent with the requirements of PAS55. The Asset Management strategy document will require updating to align with the new business strategy.

Secondly, the introduction and implementation of Alliance working. The process for the development of the Alliance framework was described and this appeared robust and well managed. Risks had been identified and mitigated throughout the process. At the time of the surveillance visit, the Alliances had only recently been formed and full operation could not be assessed. A focus on the operation of the Alliances will be maintained at the next surveillance visit in 12 months time which should enable a full assessment of the process to be undertaken.

These initiatives provide evidence that NGET are continually reviewing their AM systems with a view to continual improvement.

Areas for management attention:

NGET should ensure that the introduction of the new business strategy and the Alliance working do not have an adverse impact on their Asset Management system. It is not thought that the new business strategy could have this impact but the implementation of Alliance working has the potential for negative impact although the change management process so far has been robust. NGET should ensure that key areas such as risk management, competency, records and documentation remain well managed and consistent, where appropriate, across the Alliances.

During the surveillance visit one new Minor Non Conformance was raised against Clause 4.3.2 Risk identification, assessment and control relating to an apparent inconsistency in producing project risk assessments. In addition a Minor Non Conformance from the previous surveillance visit remains open related to the updating of MIMS.

NGET should address these deficiencies and take appropriate corrective/preventative action which will be verified at the next surveillance visit.