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BSC Panel, BSC Parties, National
Grid Electricity Transmission Plc
(NGET), Elexon Ltd

Direct Dial: 020 7901 7000
Email: industrycodes@ofgem.gov.uk

Date: 16 March 2015

Dear colleagues,

Approval of revised implementation date for P297: Receipt and Publication of New and Revised Dynamic Data items

This letter sets out our decision to agree to a request from the Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) Panel to extend the implementation date for approved modification P297, from 5 November 2015 to 3 November 2016. Background to the request and the reasons for our decision are set out below.

Background

National Grid Electricity Transmission's (NGET) Balancing Mechanism (BM) System is being replaced with the Electricity Balancing System (EBS).¹ The BM System receives data from, and issues instructions to, market participants and publishes the results to the Balancing Mechanism Reporting Agent (BMRA) and Settlement Administration Agent (SAA).² In preparation for the EBS go-live date the EBS group³ has been progressing the required changes to the Dynamic Data Set,⁴ which includes revision of two existing data items and the addition of one new data item.

NGET aims for market participants to be able to start using the new web-technology interfaces⁵ from around six months after EBS go-live. To facilitate this NGET raised P297 'Receipt and Publication of New and Revised Dynamic Data Items' on 24 July 2013 to align the BSC with changes made to the Dynamic Parameter⁶ set in the Grid Code, and to modify the BMRS and Settlement Administration Agent (SAA) systems to enable the Balancing and Settlement Code Company (BSCCo) to receive and publish the new and revised Dynamic Data items from NGET.

¹ A replacement for the BM System, to improve functionality and resilience, originally consulted on by National Grid in 2008: <http://www2.nationalgrid.com/uk/industry-information/electricity-codes/balancingframework/electricity-balancing-system/>.

² More information regarding the SAA is available: <http://www.elexon.co.uk/knowledgebase/trading-settlement/>

³ <http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/gridcode/workinggroups/ElectricityBalancingSystemGroup/>

⁴ The Dynamic Data Set comprises a set of data items defined in the Grid Code. For each relevant BM Unit, the Lead Party needs to ensure that those data items forming part of the Dynamic Data Set are submitted to the Transmission Company (NGET) in accordance with the provisions of the Grid Code.

⁵ For market participant data submissions this will be known as "EDT*".

⁶ The data described as Dynamic Parameters are set out in National Grid's Balancing Code 1.A.1.5 - http://www.nationalgrid.com/NR/rdonlyres/79FE9275-D1FA-47F7-BF2C-E39662106062/58738/20_BALANCING_CODE_1_I5R2.pdf

The Authority approved P297 on 28 April 2014 for implementation on 5 November 2015⁷. The implementation date was intended to correspond with the point from which NGET could start sending the data to be published on the BMRS. NGET have subsequently delayed the implementation of the EBS by 12 months from the first quarter of the financial year 2015 until July 2016.

Extension request

At the BSC Panel meeting held on 12 February 2015, and in accordance with BSC Section F 2.11.8, the Panel agreed to request that the Authority extend the implementation date for P297. The Panel requested a 12 month extension in order to delay the P297 implementation date to align with NGET's estimate of the EBS go-live date of July 2016. This would change the P297 implementation date from 5 November 2015 to 3 November 2016.

We have considered the issues raised by the extension request and acknowledge that implementation in November 2015 would mean the BMRS and SAA systems would be developed with no test data. This has been assessed as being a risk to central systems, and that this could increase risk and cost of any subsequent changes to SVAA and BMRS before November 2016.

We consider that it is appropriate to ensure that the implementation date for P297 is properly aligned with the EBS go live date, consistent with the intended approach when we approved P297.

In accordance with BSC Section F 2.11.7 we therefore approve the revised implementation date for P297 of 3 November 2016.

Mark Copley
Associate Partner, Wholesale Markets

⁷ <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/ofgem-publications/87452/p297d.pdf>