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

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Date: 28 June 2017

Dear colleagues,

Approval of request to defer the implementation date of approved modification P297 'Receipt and Publication of New and Revised Dynamic Data Items' from the June 2017 Release to November 2018 Release (1 November 2018)

This letter sets out our decision to agree to a request from the Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) Panel to defer the implementation date for approved modification P297, from 29 June 2017 to 1 November 2018. 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

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 Parameter⁵ set in the Grid Code, and to modify the Balancing Mechanism Reporting Service system (BMRS) and 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 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.

We approved P297 on 28 April 2014 for implementation on 5 November 2015.⁶ The implementation date was intended to correspond with the point from which NGET could start sending the data to be published on the BMRS.

On 8 August 2016, we approved for the second time a request from the BSC Panel to extend the timescale for implementation of P297 to 29 June 2017.⁷

Extension request

At the BSC Panel meeting held on 11 May 2017, and in accordance with BSC Section F 2.11.8, the Panel agreed to request that the Authority extend the implementation date for P297 to November 2018 BSC Release. The Panel agreed to this request due to delays with the delivery of EBS.

Our decision

We have considered the issues raised by the extension requests and acknowledge that it is appropriate 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 order to come to our decision and better understand the mitigations and risk management of the EBS project, we met with NGET's EBS project leads. In addition to reiterating our disappointment by the further delay implementing these modifications, we received assurances from NGET, which are detailed in Annex A.

In accordance with BSC Section F 2.11.7 we therefore approve the revised implementation dates for P297 of 1 November 2018.

Mark Copley
Associate Partner, Wholesale Markets

⁶ <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/ofgem-publications/87452/p297d.pdf>.

⁷ <https://www.elexon.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/BSC-Panel-P297-and-P321-decision-letter.pdf>.

Annex A

We received assurances from NGET that they would undertake the following actions to ensure that Ofgem is regularly informed of project updates and industry is engaged and sufficiently prepared for go-live:

- A bimonthly Ofgem-NGET project meeting on EBS progress
- A commitment from NGET to engage industry through the formation of an EBS User group
- Continued industry updates from NGET through attendance at relevant code panels, working groups and NGET's Operational Forum.