

P22 PROVISION OF GENERATOR PLANNED OUTAGE INFORMATION TO ALL – ASSESSMENT REPORT

1. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 Recommendations

On the basis of the analysis, consultation and assessment undertaken in respect of Modification Proposal P22 during the Assessment Phase, and the resultant findings of this report, the Modification Group recommends that the BSC Panel should:

- a) Publish Output Usable data on the ELEXON web site and source this data from NGC as defined in the Alternative Modification Proposal.
- b) Proceed to the Report Phase and recommend to the Authority that the Alternative Modification proposal is approved with an implementation date of 1 April 2002, subject to a positive Authority decision by 1 December 2001.

1.2 Background

Modification Proposal P22 was raised by Dynegy UK Limited on the 22 June 2001 and subsequently considered by the Panel on the 28 June 2001, where it was agreed that the Modification Group should proceed with a Definition Report. A Definition Report was published on the 19 July 2001 and the Panel agreed that the Proposal move to the Assessment Procedure. This report is the conclusion of that Assessment.

The purpose of the Assessment Procedure is to evaluate whether the Modification Proposal better facilitates achievement of the Applicable BSC Objectives and whether any alternative modification would, as compared with the Proposed Modification, better facilitate the achievement of the Applicable BSC Objectives in relation to the issues or defect identified in the Modification Proposal.

The Applicable BSC Objectives (as defined in Condition 7A (3) of the Transmission Licence) are:

- i. the efficient discharge by the Licensee of the obligations imposed upon it by the licence;
- ii. the efficient, economic and co-ordinated operation by the Licensee of the Licensee's Transmission System;
- iii. promoting effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity, and (so far as consistent therewith) promoting such competition in the sale and purchase of electricity; and
- iv. promoting efficiency in the implementation and administration of the balancing and settlement arrangements.

1.3 Rationale for Recommendations

The original Modification Proposal as submitted by the Proposer was necessarily documented at a business, or high, level. On further investigation the Modification Group identified that a number of options were present within Modification Proposal P22. The identified options were primarily associated with precisely "*what*" data might be published and "*how*" that data might be published. Each of these is discussed below.

The Group were also mindful of the fact that NGC had advised as part of their impact assessment that if the original proposal were implemented they would advise that all genset data sent into them by generating companies would need to be transferred electronically. This electronic transfer is designed to mitigate against the possibility of transcript errors associated with individual gensets being published. The Group considered that the original proposal could therefore impose a significant impact on those generators that do not currently use electronic data transfer mechanisms into NGC, currently indicated by NGC to be around half.

1.3.1 Data Options

Two main questions were identified when the Group were considering “what” should be published, these were (1) what level of aggregation for the various data sets is most appropriate and (2) which data sets better facilitate BSC objectives?

Aggregation

In terms of what level of aggregation was most appropriate, the Group identified three options

- i. No aggregation
- ii. Aggregation to NGC Zone
- iii. Aggregation to BMRS Zone

The majority of the Modification Group concluded that publishing data which is aggregated by NGC zone is preferable as it is consistent with current publication formats and does not identify individual generating stations thereby potentially commercially disadvantaging them.

Data Sets

As requested by the Panel a consultation exercise was undertaken during the Assessment phase that included questions associated with the better facilitation of BSC objectives. Consultation responses were broadly split as to whether the publication of only one or both proposed data sets (Output Useable and / or Outage data) better facilitated BSC Objectives.

The majority of the Modification Group believe that publishing only generator Output Usable data better facilitates BSC objectives as it removes the asymmetry of access to the data but does not give rise to the potential reduction in the quality of planning data available to the Transmission Company.

1.3.2 Publication Mechanism

Consistent with the Panels request the Modification Group considered two options for the publication of data under Modification Proposal P22, these are:

- i. The BMRS; or
- ii. The ELEXON website.

Both publication mechanisms were considered for each of the options identified by the Group, although the Group felt, given the purpose of the BMRS, that the data would probably be more appropriately published on the BMRS. On consideration of the impact assessment analysis from the BMRA and ELEXON the Modification Group, bearing in mind BSC Objective (iv) associated with efficiency in the implementation of the trading arrangements, decided that publishing the data via the ELEXON website was preferable. The Group also noted that if

Parties, in future, felt that the data was more appropriately published via the BMRA than a Change Request could be raised. Such a Change Request would be subject to industry impact assessment and could be incorporated within another BSC Systems project and therefore potentially benefit from economies of scope and scale.

The Modification Group wish to note that, although the quotations received from the BMRA and ELEXON for the provision of data are not identical and that the services provided by each differ in terms of reliability, service levels and connectivity, the difference in cost is so significant to be outrageous.

2. INTRODUCTION

This Report has been prepared by ELEXON Ltd., on behalf of the Balancing and Settlement Code Panel ('the Panel'), in accordance with the terms of the Balancing and Settlement Code ('BSC'). The BSC is the legal document containing the rules of the balancing mechanism and imbalance settlement process and related governance provisions. ELEXON is the company that performs the role and functions of the BSCCo, as defined in the BSC.

An electronic copy of this document can be found on the BSC website, at www.elexon.co.uk