## **Modification Proposal – BSCP40/03**

MP No: P237 (mandatory by BSCCo)

Title of Modification Proposal (mandatory by originator): Standard BM Unit configuration for offshore power park modules

Submission Date (mandatory by originator): 26 June 2009

## **Description of Proposed Modification** (mandatory by originator)

Currently, paragraph K3.1.4(a) of the BSC defines a Power Park Module as one of the standard BM Unit configurations. This means that each Power Park Module (as defined in the Grid Code) is treated as a BM Unit (unless the Lead Party applies for a non-standard BM Unit configuration).

The changes introduced into the Grid Code (on 24 June 2009) for offshore transmission amend the definition of Power Park Module to recognise two different types: Onshore Power Park Modules, and Offshore Power Park Modules.

Because the Grid Code definition of Offshore Power Park Module only includes Power Park Strings connected to a single busbar or a "collection of directly electrically connected busbars", treating each Offshore Power Park Module as a single BM Unit may be administratively inefficient for some configurations of offshore wind farms. It is therefore proposed that the standard BM Unit configuration as set out in Section K of the BSC is expanded to include an aggregation of Offshore Power Park Modules (where requested by the Lead Party and agreed by the Transmission Company).

This proposed Modification to the BSC is one of the changes that was recommended by the Issue 37 Group.

**Description of Issue or Defect that Modification Proposal Seeks to Address** (mandatory by originator)

The Government and Ofgem have introduced a competitive Offshore Transmission Regime which is set to Go-Live in Summer 2010. This regime impacts all offshore generation and transmission which is connected at 132kV and above. As part of the regime the Government is introducing changes to all the electricity codes to facilitate the new regime.

The changes introduced into the Grid Code include an amended definition of Power Park Module, which allows Power Park Strings connected to a single busbar or to a collection of directly electrically connected busbars to form an Offshore Power Park Module. However, requiring each Offshore Power Park Module (as so defined) to form a separate BM Unit is administratively inefficient, as this can:

- Require more metering and data collection for wind farms in the transitional regime;
- Require aggregation rules to change more often; and
- Lead to excessive BM Units which creates an administrative burden for generators and the GBSO.

**Impact on Code** *(optional by originator)* Section K

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Impact on Core Industry Documents or System Operator-Transmission Owner Code (optional by originator)

Impact on BSC Systems and Other Relevant Systems and Processes Used by Parties (optional by originator)

**Impact on other Configurable Items** (optional by originator)

Justification for Proposed Modification with Reference to Applicable BSC Objectives (mandatory by originator)

The Proposal would better facilitate BSC Objectives (b), (c) and (d).

The Offshore Transmission Regime does not intend to add administrative burden to offshore generation when compared to other types of generation or increase inefficiencies on the generator, the GBSO or BSC agents. Offshore generation within the transitional regime has been designed and planned prior to the introduction of the new Offshore Transmission Regime. The Government included a transitional regime to ensure that existing offshore projects continued to be developed.

BSC Objective (b) would be better facilitated by ensuring that BM Units are not required to level in excess of that required for the GBSO to efficiently and economically operate the GB transmission system.

BSC Objective (c) would be better facilitated by a not requiring offshore generation to register excessive BM Units where these are not required for the economic, efficient and co-ordinated operation of the GB transmission system by the GBSO. This ensures that where an offshore generator is having no impact on the costs of the GB transmission system, they do not face excessive BM Unit requirements when compared to other types of generation. This is particularly the case for offshore generators in the transitional regime that either planned, built, or are in the process of constructing to designs that did not require or envisage the need for BM Units.

BSC Objective (d) would be better facilitated as BSC agents would not have to accommodate excessive BM Units.

**Urgency Recommended: No** (delete as appropriate) (optional by originator)

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**Justification for Urgency Recommendation** (mandatory by originator if recommending progression as an Urgent Modification Proposal)

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