Modification Proposal – BSCP40/03

MP No: P336

(mandatory by BSCCo)

Title of Modification Proposal

Fuel types on the BMRS

Submission Date

29/02/16

Description of Proposed Modification

We propose to expand the list of generation fuel types reported on the Balancing Mechanism Reporting Service (BMRS) to include a 'biomass' category.

Alongside this, we propose that the existing provisions which allow the Panel to approve new External Interconnection flows as separate categories without the need for a Modification is extended to allow the Panel to include any additional fuel types not currently listed, and the removal of any outdated fuel types that are no longer used.

Description of Issue or Defect that Modification Proposal Seeks to Address

The generation mix of the system is changing and therefore the BMRS should be able to adapt to allow new fuel sources to be added and removed as a fuel type category. For example, two generating units at Drax power station have been converted to run off biomass, with a third expected in late 2016, which in total will comprise around 2GW of generation. At times biomass generation exceeds that of wind and/or solar generation. However, there is no specific 'biomass' fuel type category reported on the BMRS, and so the output from these generating units is being allocated to the 'other' category. The list of fuel types to be reported on the BMRS is laid out in BSC Section Q6.1.18.

Approved Modification P244 'Provision of BritNed flow data to the BMRS' introduced a provision that allows the Panel to approve new External Interconnection flows as further fuel type categories without the need to amend the BSC. This was done on efficiency grounds to prevent a new Modification being raised for each interconnector that would be subsequently built. These provisions were utilised in 2012 to add the East-West Interconnection (EWIC) to the BMRS (Panel 194/04). However, this provision is limited to External Interconnection flows, and does not allow other fuel types to be approved in the same way. As such, a Modification is required to enable the Panel to amend the fuel type categories without the need to amend the BSC, thereby building on P244 by further promoting efficiency. This would allow the BMRS to accurately reflect GB generation.

Impact on Code

Section Q

Impact on Core Industry Documents or System Operator-Transmission Owner Code

None anticipated

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Impact on BSC Systems and Other Relevant Systems and Processes Used by Parties

Balancing Mechanism Reporting Agent (BMRA) and the Balancing Mechanism Reporting Service (BMRS)

Impact on other Configurable Items

NETA Interface Definition and Design (IDD) part 1

Justification for Proposed Modification with Reference to Applicable BSC Objectives

We believe that the provision of better quality information should improve self-balancing by market participants which should, in turn, improve the efficient, economic and co-ordinated operation of the national electricity transmission system (Applicable BSC Objective (b)).

Furthermore, an increase in information transparency and availability of improved market information to all participants should promote effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity (Applicable BSC Objective (c)).

We also consider that allowing the Panel to approve any further fuel type categories without the need to progress a Modification would be more efficient and less costly than the current process, while still ensuring such developments remain under the Panel's authority (Applicable BSC Objective (d)).

Is there a likely material environmental impact?

No

Urgency Recommended: No

Justification for Urgency Recommendation

N/A

Self-Governance Recommended: Yes

Justification for Self-Governance Recommendation

This Modification seeks to expand the list of fuel types reported on the BMRS. This will have no material impact on any of the areas listed under the Self-Governance Criteria. We therefore consider that this Modification should be progressed as a Self-Governance Modification.

Fast Track Self-Governance Recommended: No

Balancing and Settlement Code

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Justification for Fast Track Self-Governance Recommendation

N/A

Should this Modification Proposal be considered exempt from any ongoing Significant Code Reviews?

Yes, as this change has no interaction with the Next Day Switching SCR currently being progressed.

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Attachments: No

If Yes, Title and No. of Pages of Each Attachment:

N/A