



# Connection Network Code Feedback from Industry

Brussels  
12 December 2019

# Agenda

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As operation and connection with RfG have now started in Europe, EUTurbines has collected multiple examples of “what could be improved” for this NC and beyond.

This presentation highlights 5 of the mains concerns:

1. Alignment of NCs and Standards
2. Exhaustive requirements: prevent national decisions to infringe NCs
3. Non-exhaustive requirement: harmonise and justify
4. Transparent implementation at national level
5. Efficient implementation at national level (e.g. compliance).

# 1. Alignment of NCs and Standards

- NC RfG clearly states that “established technical standard should be taken into consideration”.
- NC requirements are still set without formal and thorough consultation with product standards (EN, ISO, IEC, etc).
- Misalignments between well-thought standards and EU Regulation lead to increase cost and complexity.
- Standards and NC would mutually benefit from collaboration to drive the cost of electricity down.

## **Recommendations:**

- Improve participation in mutual cooperation/support structures between CENELEC and ENTSO-E, especially of National Representatives of SOs.
- Review national requirements, aiming at harmonisation with standardisation, in view of a revision of the present implementation of the regulation.
- Ensure that studies are not over simplified and respect technology specifics.
- Technical Committees shall be involved in the definition of new requirements (EN, ISO, IEC, etc).

## 2. NC exhaustive requirements implemented exceeding defined values

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- In some countries implemented exhaustive requirements with values exceeding the ones set NC RfG exhaustive requirements:
  - Ireland (60 min at 52 Hz)
  - Norway (20 s at 45 Hz, 30 min 53 Hz, 10 s at 60 Hz)
- Obligation to follow the derogation procedure, presenting a justification, national consultation and cost-benefit analysis; information shall centralised at EU level.

### **Recommendations:**

- National decisions must comply with NC. NER must signal a deviation from the requirements to SO that have to request a derogation.
- This derogation shall be recorded at EU level (ACER?). This shall be publicly communicated at European level and stakeholders are requested to participate to the process

## 2. NC exhaustive requirements: Example Ireland

### IRELAND

Eirgrid Grid Code rev 7

CC.7.3.1.1

Each **Generation Unit**, shall, as a minimum, have the following capabilities:

- (a) operate continuously at normal rated output at **Transmission System Frequencies** in the range 49.5Hz to 50.5Hz;
- (b) remain synchronised to the **Transmission System at Transmission System Frequencies** within the range 47.5Hz to 52.0Hz for a duration of 60 minutes;

### NC RFG (EU) 2016/631

< Ireland has a dedicated Chapter on frequencies in The RfG

< Derogation process

Recommended during implementation process

Ireland and Northern Ireland	47,5 Hz-48,5 Hz	90 minutes
	48,5 Hz-49,0 Hz	To be specified by each TSO, but not less than 90 minutes
	49,0 Hz-51,0 Hz	Unlimited
	51,0 Hz-51,5 Hz	90 minutes

## 2. NC exhaustive requirements: Example Norway (requirements submitted to NVE for approval)

### — NORWAY

Statnetts forslag til praktisk gjennomføring av EUs forordning for tilknytning av produksjon (NC-RfG) – 20.12.2017

Frekvensområde	Varighet
45,0 Hz – 47,5 Hz	20 sekunder
47,5 Hz – 49,0 Hz	30 minutter
49,0 Hz – 51,0 Hz	Kontinuerlig
51,0 Hz – 51,5,0 Hz	30 minutter
51,0 Hz – 53,0 Hz	30 minutter
53,0 Hz – 57,0 Hz	20 sekunder
57,0 Hz – 60,0 Hz	10 sekunder

Tabell A2: Minimum tidsperioder hvor produksjonsanlegg skal være i drift for ulike avvik fra nominell frekvens.

### — NC RFG (EU) 2016/631

< Norway is part of the Baltic  
< Recommended RfG value or derogation process

Baltic	47,5 Hz-48,5 Hz	To be specified by each TSO, but not less than 30 minutes
	48,5 Hz-49,0 Hz	To be specified by each TSO, but not less than the period for 47,5 Hz-48,5 Hz
	49,0 Hz-51,0 Hz	Unlimited
	51,0 Hz-51,5 Hz	To be specified by each TSO, but not less than 30 minutes

< it is not cost free for the industry and manufacturers!

## 2. NC exhaustive requirements: Recommendations and Actions

- Exhaustive requirements are not subject to public consultation. Associated values (and eventual deviation) are nowhere tracked: derogation process shall be set-up for transparency reason
- EUT recommend ACER to have Member States notifying any additions or deviations from the CNC
- Deviation (or derogation process) can be indicated in the monitoring file
- Deviations should be permitted following a proper derogation process that shall include:
  - < Technical justification
  - < CBA
  - < participation of stakeholder

	Non-Exhaustive Requirement		FREQUENCY RANGES			
	Comment	Proposal of requirements of general applications	time period for operation in the frequency ranges	Continenta Europe 47.5 - 48.5 Hz and 48.5 - 49	Nordic:4 5 - 49 Hz	
IE	PROPOSAL		48.5 Hz – 49.0 Hz 90 minutes			
NO	PROPOSAL		30 min			
APPROVAL		motivation why the				

### 3. Non-exhaustive requirements: harmonise and justify

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- Manufacturers currently are required to cover simultaneously:
  - 68 non-exhaustive requirements
  - 28 Member States own processes (technical committee, meetings and schedule) and documentation that requires reviewing.
- IGD, Q&A, Workshop, Expert groups have reached their efficiency limit

#### **Recommendations:**

- Workshops: Ensure SOs participation, introducing a quorum (a minimum nr of participation and ensure that all MS are present).
- Expert groups: Reinforce role of EG and dissemination of results as basis of necessary discussions.
- Consider that the requirements in the regulation are subject to review within the next 2-3 years. It is necessary to identify the entity responsible for the review process.



## 4. Transparent implementation at national level

- What shall all strive for: single point of access (ENTSO-E website) with free and clear access to National rules and process description.
- [CNC monitoring file](#) improved, but still insufficient.
  - Industry survey revealed: No improvement from August
  - Contact links don't work. If correct, often delayed or no reply.
- Several infrastructure applications done in the last months without being able to understand “what are the grid requirements in this country?”

### Recommendations:

- Accountability: National grid operators to respond to EU integrated market requirements.
- Audit and structure national grid requirement portals, ensuring accessibility for all stakeholders
- National Authorities shall involve at least stakeholders participating to GC ESC.

### 3. Implementation process – Survey

Country	Request for info sent (Monitoring file sent and reply date)	Request for info sent (Monitoring file sent and reply date)	Monitoring Update	Info and Links on Monitoring File (29-August-2019)	Link to detailed documentation in monitoring file	EM
Austria	NO CONTACT		NO UPDATE	Link to 1 page in local language	NO	NO
Austria	13 July 2019		NO UPDATE	Link does not point directly to rules, are difficult to navigate, link will be updated and regarded to make it work	no update	NO
Belgium	INFO AVAILABLE		NO UPDATE	YES	Partly (Info not approved, links not provided)	YES
Bosnia and Herzegovina	13 July 2019		DA	NO	NO	NO
Bulgaria	13 July 2019		NO UPDATE	NO	NO	NO
Croatia (HR)	13 July 2019	25 July 2019 Resurred	EUT replies as information provided	NO	NO	NO
Cyprus	NO CONTACT		NO UPDATE	NO	NO	NO
Czech Republic	13 July 2019		NO UPDATE	Link to specific information Download info in the english webpage not working	NO (link only from the english webpage; download does not work)	YES, but not working
Denmark	13 July 2019	15 August 2019	UPDATED	NO	NO	NO
Estonia (EE)	NO CONTACT		NO UPDATE	NO	NO	NO
Finland	13 July 2019		NO UPDATE	YES	YES - ONLY in Finnish (to be announced that all info are general)	NO
France	INFO AVAILABLE		NO UPDATE	YES	YES (access to the final version)	NO
Germany	INFO AVAILABLE		NO UPDATE	YES	YES - Link to VDE	Partly
Greece	13 July 2019		NO UPDATE	YES	Partly: ONLY in native language (english webpage provided as error, only threshold defined Parameters not defined	NO
Hungary	13 July 2019	27 August 2019	NO UPDATE	YES	YES - link to word document with links to relevant documentation. Some data are principal specific (to be provided by local SO)	YES
Iceland	NO CONTACT		NO UPDATE			
Iceland	INFO AVAILABLE		NO UPDATE	YES	Partly - CEU Association with reference document. No Detailed Grid Code available	YES
Italy	INFO AVAILABLE		NO UPDATE	YES	Partly - ONLY in Italian Documents from the Energy Regulatory Authority. Recommended to add links to CEI old and YESNA Grid Code	NO
Lithuania	13 July 2019		NO UPDATE	NO	NO	NO
Lithuania	13 July 2019		UPDATED	YES	YES - ONLY in Local language	NO
Luxembourg	13 July 2019 (Correct)		NO UPDATE	YES	YES - Many references to the German grid	NO
Malaysia	13 July 2019		UPDATED	NO	NO	NO
Netherlands	NO CONTACT		UPDATED			
Netherlands	13 July 2019		NO UPDATE	YES	YES - ONLY in local language (TSC all data available)	NO
Norway	13 July 2019		NO UPDATE	YES	YES - ONLY in Local language. The document associated in quite long and difficult to be read (translated into an Norwegian longer than RfG page 74)	NO
Poland	13 July 2019		NO UPDATE	YES	YES - ONLY in local language	NO
Portugal	13 July 2019		UPDATED	NO	NO	NO
Romania	13 July 2019	25 July 2019	NO UPDATE EUT replies as information provided	YES	YES - ONLY in local language, links to three different pdf	NO
Slovakia	13 July 2019		NO UPDATE	NO	NO	NO
Slovenia	13 July 2019		NO UPDATE	YES	YES - ONLY local language and document referring to non-valuation, non monitoring requirements	NO
Slovenia	13 July 2019		NO UPDATE	YES	YES - ONLY local language and document referring to non-valuation, non monitoring requirements	NO
Spain	INFO AVAILABLE		NO UPDATE	NO	Wrong link to Finnish pdf document indicated (probably by mistake)	NO
Sweden	27 November 2019		Not updated	YES	YES - ONLY in local language. 42 pages document containing the requirements	NO
Switzerland	INFO AVAILABLE		NO UPDATE	NO	NO	NO
Great Britain/ United Kingdom	INFO AVAILABLE		UPDATED	YES	Link to 3 different pdf document related to RfG and DCC. No direct link to Grid Code. To get there one has to browse the Grid Code page and get to the final doc (Grid Code Implementation dated 1st of August 2019)	YES

Recommendation:

— ETNSO –E reviews progress at next RfG

## 5. Efficient implementation at national level

### The (very) important list:

- ☐ English language (copy)
- ☐ Free access to Rules
- ☐ Coherent structure with NCs (RfG and beyond)

### Why:

- Guarantee access for any EU stakeholder
  - Compliance must not be a question of costs
  - Avoid mis-understanding and confusion.
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- Need clear descriptions on compliance tests, with reference to the applicable rules and criteria
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- Need to clearly state whether and under which conditions a certification process is foreseen – at plant and/or at unit level and based on which requirements.

☐ Compliance Testing

☐ Certification

**Recommendation:** Apply those 5 points as key performance indicators of efficiency and effectiveness of National Level Implementation.  
Review progress at next GC ESC.

# Conclusions

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- **Precondition:** It is essential to keep in mind that we are only at the beginning. This is the first review of the RfG requirements, and this process needs the full attention of all stakeholders involved.
- **Core Topics:** The 5 items as outlined in this presentation are critical for appropriate definition and transposition of NCs in the design operation of the future of the EU electric power system.
- **Core Actions:** Suggestion to proceed and convert the “recommendations” boxes into “action” and to follow on the progress on those 5 items at the next GC-ESC.
- **Monitoring:** The dedicated entities need to take over the full responsibility of the implementation monitoring.

## 4. Contact

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