

All interested parties,
stakeholders in Northern Ireland,
and other regulatory bodies.

Ref: NET/E/TH/21

Date: 5 November 2018

To whom it may concern

Approval of SONI TSO Amended Proposal for the determination of Load Frequency Control (LFC) Structure in accordance with the requirements set out in Regulation 2017/1485

In accordance with Article 141 (2) of Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/1485, establishing a guideline on electricity transmission system operation (hereafter referred to as SOGL), on the 6 September 2018 the Utility Regulator (UR) received the TSO's (SONI – The System Operator in Northern Ireland in conjunction with EirGrid) amended proposal for the determination of Load Frequency Control Structure methodology for Ireland and Northern Ireland (the LFC Block Proposal).

Background

This letter provides detail on the decision of the UR, on the LFC amended proposal put forward by SONI. The proposal was submitted in accordance with Article 5 (1) and Article 141 (2) of the SOGL by the TSOs that related to the synchronous area spanning Ireland and Northern Ireland (the 'Synchronous Area IE/NI').

SONI and Eirgrid conducted a public consultation on their initial proposed LFC Block Structure from 29th November 2017 and closed on the 8th January 2018. One response was received to this consultation, and the TSOs addressed the concerns of the respondent in their final submitted proposal to the Regulatory Authorities.

On the 12 January 2018 the UR received the initial LFC Block Proposal. The UR requested an amendment to this initial proposal on 27 June 2018, to have two monitoring areas instead of one. SONI submitted the amended LFC Block Proposal to the UR on the 6 September 2018.

The TSOs' September 2018 amended proposal submitted detail, which outlined that there would be two monitoring areas, one LFC area and one LFC Block within the existing All-island Synchronous area.

Their proposal outlined the following TSO responsibilities for each structure as per the below table.

Country	TSO (full company name)	TSO (short name)	Monitoring Area	LFC Area	LFC Block
Ireland	EirGrid	EIRGRID	EIRGRID	EIRGRID + SONI	EIRGRID + SONI
Northern Ireland	SONI (System Operator for Northern Ireland)	SONI	SONI	EIRGRID + SONI	EIRGRID + SONI

Decision

The UR has reviewed the amended LFC Block Proposal in line with the requirements of the SOGL, the wider objectives of Regulation (EC) 2017/1485 and the UR's statutory duties and obligations.

As required by Article 6(7), the UR has closely cooperated and coordinated with other Regulatory Authorities (Commission for Regulation of Utilities - CRU) in order to reach agreement on the proposal.

In line with the Regulatory Authorities' agreement, this letter approves SONI's TSO amended proposal for the determination of Load Frequency Control (LFC) Structure, in line with the requirements set out in regulation 2017/1485.

Next Steps

In accordance with Article 8(1) of Regulation 2017/1485, SONI will be required to publish this decision on the LFC Block methodology, on the internet.

If you have any queries regarding the information contained within this letter please contact jody.oboyle@uregni.gov.uk or aidan.girvan@uregni.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely



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