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| Explanatory note for establishing monitoring area operational methodology for the Synchronous Area of Great Britain |
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| Date 23/07/2018 |

Explanatory note

In relation to the Commission Regulation (EU) 2017/1485 establishing a guideline on electricity transmission system operation (hereafter referred to as “SO GL”)

The single electricity system operator in GB (the ESO) will undertake all the activities defined in the methodology for establishing monitoring area operational methodology in the GB in accordance with article 121 of SO GL.

For synchronous areas with more than one electricity system operator, which operate an aFRR and must coordinate control in response to FRCE ensuring that all power flows on tie-lines is monitored correctly is important for the following reason:

* The active power interchange is an important component in determining what portion of imbalance error in a synchronous area is apportioned to an LFC Block in the ACE loop calculation of areas with more than one LFC Area and more than one LFC Block.
* The actual flows on tie-lines between neighbouring areas in the same Synchronous Area compared with scheduled power flows ones combined with the conversion of frequency deviation to a MW error provides information about which TSO in which LFC Area requires to take action in which monitoring area.

Within GB there is only a single Monitoring Area and hence the boundary tie-lines are those of the HVDC interconnectors with other Synchronous Areas. Furthermore, since GB has a single monitoring area and does not calculate FRCE as a MW error to directly determine the amount of Frequency Restoration Reserves that need to be activated, these values are less critical in the effective operation of the Process Activation Structure than other areas. Furthermore, except under circumstances where the HVDC controllers or physical infrastructure have suffered a technical failure, HVDC actual transfer always follows the scheduled power transfer programme.

However for the avoidance of doubt, the ESO shall, monitor HVDC metered active power transfers and those associated with cross-border exchange and sharing processes as virtual tie-lines and factor those into control decisions related to the secure operational of the electricity system; this shall include the activation of FCR, FRR, or RR withn GB or cross-border.

This proposal is subject to approval by the NRA authority (ie OFGEM) of the Synchronous Area Great Britain according to SOGL Article 6(3)(g).