

ACER draft amendments to the Network Code on Requirements for Generators

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

This consultation aims to present ACER's draft amendments to the Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/631 of 14 April 2016 establishing a **Network Code on Requirements for Grid Connection of Generators ('NC RfG')**.

For draft amendments concerning Network Code on Demand Connection ('NC DC'), please go to the respective form: [NC DC](#).

Responses to this consultation should be submitted by 25 September 2023.

Background

Important developments in the policies of decarbonisation of the European Union (EU) energy and transport sectors have taken place since the inception of the development of the first European Grid Connection Network Codes (GC NCs) in 2012.

In the framework of the Grid Connection European Stakeholder Committee (GC ESC), the European Commission proposed for ACER to initiate the process towards the amendment of the existing GC NCs in September 2022. The amendment process, as presented to the GC ESC is outlined in the Figure below:



Following the scoping phase, ACER published the Policy Paper on the revision of the network code on requirements for grid connection of generators and the network code on demand connection in September 2022. The Policy Paper aimed to transparently indicate to stakeholders the key policy areas in which amendments were to be expected.

[Access the ACER Policy Paper on the revision of the NC RfG and NC DC.](#)

As a next step, ACER launched the Public Consultation to gather stakeholders' views and concrete amendment proposals regarding the GC NCs. The stakeholders could submit their inputs by 21 November 2022.

[Access the results of the Public Consultation on the amendments to the grid connection network codes.](#)

Additionally, in the preparation of the draft amendment proposals, ACER organised three dedicated public workshops, namely:

- [electromobility, power-to-gas demand units and heat-pumps](#) (held on 17 April 2023);
- [rate of change of frequency and grid forming capabilities](#) (held on 10 May 2023); and
- [electricity storage](#) (held on 11 May 2023).

After the evaluation of stakeholders' inputs, ACER has formulated its own proposal for the amendments of the GC NCs which is subject to this public consultation.

Stakeholder's details

ACER is highly committed in processing personal data in a lawful way.

Find out more how we process your data: <https://www.acer.europa.eu/the-agency/about-acer/data-protection>

* Name of the stakeholder:

IFIEC Europe

* Contact person:

[REDACTED]

* Contact person's email address:

[REDACTED]

* Country of the stakeholder's headquarters or main country of operation:

Belgium

* Type of the stakeholder:

- ☐ Generator (including association)
- ☒ Consumer (including association)
- ☐ Transmission system operator (including association)
- ☐ Distribution system operator (including association)
- ☐ Manufacturers (including association)
- ☐ Academia/research institution
- ☐ Regulatory authority
- ☐ Other (please, elaborate)

Please, elaborate on your answer above, if necessary:

* Do you consent to the publication of the stakeholder's name?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

* Do you consent to the publication of provided answers?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No (please, note that your answer, without your name and organization, may be shared with the EU institutions and national authorities)

Instructions

Stakeholders are invited to submit their comments to the NC RfG articles amended by ACER in three mandatory steps:

1. by downloading the ACER draft amendments in the Word file provided below. The file can also be accessed on the right panel of the consultation form under the Background Documents;
2. by commenting on the ACER's draft amendments through this online consultation form and adding their alternative text proposals to the table, if any; and
3. by uploading the alternative amendment proposals to the **entire NC RfG** using the Track Changes mode in the ACER draft amendments file downloaded from **Step 1**.

Where the stakeholder does not have any comments regarding the amendments, the relevant cells in the consultation form can be left blank.

The mandatory steps for submitting the comments are listed below.

Step 1

Please see ACER's draft amendments in the Word file provided below. The file can also be accessed on the right panel of the consultation form under the Background Documents.

[Download ACER draft amendments to the NC RfG here](#)

Step 2

Kindly note that this consultation form follows the structure of the NC RfG amended legal text provided by ACER in Step 1.

The paragraph numbering in the form reflects paragraph numbers in the amended legal text. Nevertheless, stakeholders can comment on the deleted paragraphs/articles/titles, which are marked as [deleted]. New articles and titles are marked as [new].

Please use this form to comment on ACER draft amendments and/or to provide an alternative text proposal. The instructions are the following:

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below.


 Includes new articles

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 1	1	2
Article 3		
Article 4		
Article 4a [new]		
Article 5		
Article 6		
Article 7		
Article 8		
Article 9		
Article 10		
Article 11		
Article 12		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below.

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

 The maximum file size is 1 MB

Select file to upload

1. Leave comments on the ACER draft amendment proposals.
 2. Propose (if any) alternative wording of the relevant provision, as you provided in the Word file.
 3. Provide (if any) your proposals for adding new provisions to the relevant section of the NC RfG, as you provided in the Word file.
 4. Upload figures or tables if necessary; text inputs should be provided directly in the consultation form.
-

Step 3

Where the stakeholder would like to propose an alternative amendment to the **entire NC RfG**, please upload the Word file (**downloaded from Step 1**) containing all your alternative amendment proposals in the Track Changes mode to the next **FILE UPLOAD** section and rename it with your stakeholder's name ("ACER_draft_RfG_stakeholder_name"). You can also upload your justification documents, where applicable.

In case the file size exceeds the 1MB limit, which is a consultation tool limit, kindly send the document to the functional mailbox shown on the right panel of the consultation form. Please rename the file with your stakeholder's name as indicated above and send it with the subject "ACER draft RfG legal text [stakeholder name]". Note that only submissions sent within the consultation deadline will be considered.

To facilitate the process, please, make sure that the **alternative text proposals provided in this consultation form are consistent**, to the extent possible, **with those in the Word file** you are uploading, taking into account the character limitations of each cell (max 5000 characters).

FILE UPLOAD

Please upload your file here

The maximum file size is 1 MB

Only files of the type pdf,doc,docx,odt,txt,rtf are allowed

ecfa23e6-32fc-4f37-ad2e-40eed7685c9e/RfG_-_Lettre_ACER.docx

Kindly note that in case the file size exceeds 1MB, the file can be sent to the functional mailbox shown on the right panel of the consultation form under Contact. Please ensure that the file name and email subject are consistent with the instructions in Step 3.

Please also upload any other document (i.e. **justifications**) below, if relevant.

Please upload your file

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Due to the significant length of this survey:

- you have the possibility to edit your answer after submission. When clicking on "Submit" button, you will be given a Contribution ID which you can then use to access your answers and edit them, if necessary.
- we kindly suggest that you download the entire survey as .pdf (link on the right), prepare your answers and then upload them at once in the EU Survey Tool, to avoid a session timeout on submission.

The maximum length of each cell is 5000 characters. This is the maximum technical limit set by the EUsurvey tool, which cannot be increased.

Whereas Section

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

Numbers in the first column correspond to the recitals of the amended version of NC RfG Whereas section, including new recitals

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
(1)		
(2)		
(3)		
(s1)		
(s2)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
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(23)		
(24)		
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(26)		
(27)		
(28)		
(29)		
(30)		
(31)		
(32)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New recital	

Definitions (Article 2)

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

Includes new definitions

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 2(1)		
Article 2(2)		
Article 2(3)		
Article 2(4)		
Article 2(5)		
Article 2(6)		
Article 2(7)		
Article 2(8)		
Article 2(9)		
Article 2(10)		
Article 2(10a)		
Article 2(11)		
Article 2(12)		
Article 2(13)		
Article 2(14)		
Article 2(15)		
Article 2(16)		
Article 2(17)		
Article 2(18)		
Article 2(19)		
Article 2(20)		
Article 2(21)		
Article 2(22)		
Article 2(23)		
Article 2(24)		

Article 2(25)		
Article 2(26)		
Article 2(27)		
Article 2(28)		
Article 2(29)		
Article 2(30)		
Article 2(31)		
Article 2(32)		
Article 2(33)		
Article 2(34)		
Article 2(35)		
Article 2(36)		
Article 2(37)		
Article 2(38)		
Article 2(39)		
Article 2(40)		
Article 2(41)		
Article 2(42)		
Article 2(43)		
Article 2(44)		
Article 2(45)		
Article 2(46)		
Article 2(47)		
Article 2(48)		
Article 2(49)		
Article 2(50)		
Article 2(51)		
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Article 2(57)		
Article 2(58)		
Article 2(59)		
Article 2(60)		
Article 2(61)		
Article 2(62)		
Article 2(63)		
Article 2(64)		
Article 2(65)		
Article 2(66)		
Article 2(67)		
Article 2(68)		
Article 2(69)		
Article 2(70)		
Article 2(71)		
Article 2(72)		
Article 2(73)		
Article 2(74)		
Article 2(75)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New definition	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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TITLE I - General provisions

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

Includes new articles

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 1		
Article 3		
Article 4		
Article 4a [new]		
Article 5		
Article 6		
Article 7		
Article 8		
Article 9		
Article 10		
Article 11		
Article 12		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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TITLE II CHAPTER 1 - General Requirements

General requirements for type A power-generating modules

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

Includes new paragraphs

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 13(1)		
Article 13(2)		
Article 13(3)		
Article 13(4)		
Article 13(5)		
Article 13(6)		
Article 13(7)		
Article 13(8)		
Article 13(9)		
Article 13(10)		
Article 13(11)		
Article 13(12)		
Article 13(13)		
Article 13(14)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New provision	

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[NEW] General requirements for type EV1 and EV2 V2G electric vehicles and associated V2G electric vehicle supply equipment

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 13a(1)		
Article 13a(2)		
Article 13a(3)		
Article 13a(4)		
Article 13a(5)		
Article 13a(6)		
Article 13a(7)		
Article 13a(8)		
Article 13a(9)		
Article 13a(10)		
Article 13a(11)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New provision	

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General requirements for type B power-generating modules

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 14(1)		
Article 14(2)[deleted]		
Article 14(2)		
Article 14(3)		
Article 14(4)		
Article 14(5)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New provision	

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[NEW] Requirements for type EV3 electric vehicles and associated V2G electric vehicle supply equipment and V2G electrical charging parks

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 14a(1)		
Article 14a(2)		
Article 14a(3)		
Article 14a(4)		
Article 14a(5)		
Article 14a(6)		
Article 14a(7)		
Article 14a(8)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New provision	

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General requirements for type C power-generating modules

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 15(1)		
Article 15(2)		
Article 15(3)[deleted]		
Article 15(3)		
Article 15(4)		
Article 15(5)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New provision	

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General requirements for type D power-generating modules

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 16(1)		
Article 16(2)		
Article 16(3)		
Article 16(4)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New provision	

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TITLE II CHAPTER 2 - Requirements for synchronous power-generating modules

[NEW] Requirements for type A synchronous power-generating modules

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article X		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New provision	

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Requirements for type B synchronous power-generating modules

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 17(1)		
Article 17(2)		
Article 17(3)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New provision	

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Requirements for type C synchronous power-generating modules

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 18(1)		
Article 18(2)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New provision	

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Requirements for type D synchronous power-generating modules

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

Includes new paragraphs

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 19(1)		
Article 19(2)		
Article 19(3)		
Article 19(4)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New provision	

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TITLE II CHAPTER 3 - Requirements for power park modules

[NEW] Requirements for type A power park modules

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article Y(1)		
Article Y(2)		
Article Y(3)		
Article Y(4)		
Article Y(5)		
Article Y(6)		
Article Y(7)		
Article Y(8)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New provision	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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Requirements for type B power park modules

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

Includes new paragraphs

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 20(1)		
Article 20(2)		
Article 20(3)		
Article 20(4)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New provision	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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Requirements for type C power park modules

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

Includes new paragraphs

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 21(1)		
Article 21(2) [deleted]		
Article 21(2)		
Article 21(3)		
Article 21(4)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New provision	

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Requirements for type D power park modules

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

Includes new paragraphs

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 22(1)		
Article 22(2)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New provision	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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TITLE II CHAPTER 4 - Requirements for offshore power park modules

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 23		
Article 24		
Article 25		
Article 26		
Article 27		
Article 28		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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TITLE III - Operational notification procedure for connection

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

Includes new articles

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 29		
Article 30		
Article 30a [new]		
Article 30b [new]		
Article 31		
Article 32		
Article 33		
Article 34		
Article 35		
Article 36		
Article 37		
Article 38		
Article 39		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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TITLE IV - Compliance

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 40		
Article 41		
Article 42		
Article 43		
Article 44		
Article 45		
Article 46		
Article 47		
Article 48		
Article 49		
Article 50		
Article 51		
Article 52		
Article 53		
Article 54		
Article 55		
Article 56		
Article 57		
Article 58		
Article 59		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

The maximum file size is 1 MB

TITLE V - Derogations

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 60		
Article 61		
Article 62		
Article 63		
Article 64		
Article 65		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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[DELETED] TITLE VI - Transitional arrangements for emerging technologies

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Title VI [deleted]		

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 70a [new]		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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TITLE VII - Final provisions

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

Includes new articles

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 71		
Article 71a [new]		
Article 72		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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Other additional provisions

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
	<p>Dear Sir or Madam,</p> <p>As you are aware, within IFIEC Europe we do not have necessarily all the experts available regarding the technical requirements of PGMs, SPGMs, pump-hydro facilities, etc which are the main scope of the RfG codes and as such IFIEC Europe will not provide a full-fledged and exhaustive overview of comments on the ACER proposal regarding RfG version 2. However, we have been discussing several topics also with the experts of other ESC stakeholders such as VGB and Eurelectric and in general we support their concerns.</p> <p>In general, there are some specific issues which greatly worry industrial consumers as they could significantly impact not only the operation of assets, but also could (and in most cases clearly will) impact the cost position of these assets and thus of the overall system. Also, IFIEC Europe is concerned that in many cases the “easy” solution is chosen, by enforcing through the Network Code that all assets have built-in capabilities which can then be used afterwards (e.g. through application of SOGL/E&R or national legislation) to solve anticipated issues of grid operators. While this might be an effective approach, it might definitely not be an efficient approach, as it potentially leads to costly over-investments of capabilities for all assets but to achieve the required overall impact this capability will not need to be used with all for all generators (e.g. contracting capabilities through market instruments). Therefore, generalised, too stringent and rigid obligations</p>

Other new provisions

under the Network Code could drive up costs, and even lower the impact of innovation as the massive deployment of capabilities will erase the potential of more innovative solutions.

The specific topics in the proposed version of RfG that worry IFIEC are:

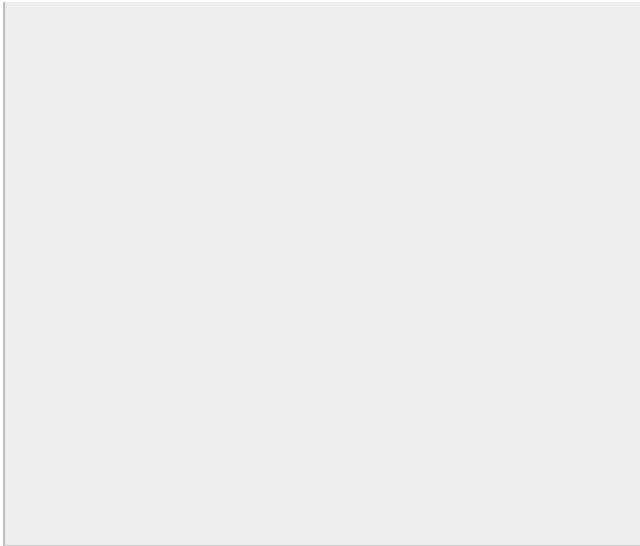
- Maintaining of the 110kV criterion. While IFIEC Europe greatly appreciates the efforts of ACER to try to find a balanced classification approach, we still firmly believe that such voltage criterion is not necessary and creates additional unwarranted costs. Additionally, it will lead to situations where identical assets have to comply with different requirements depending at which voltage level or in which legal constellation (e.g. CDS with its own RSO or industrial site with public RSO) they are connected. IFIEC Europe strongly insists on abolishing this 110kV requirement completely. In case this would not be done, while IFIEC Europe appreciates again the efforts of ACER to include a capacity threshold (in casu 10 MW), we insist that this threshold should be at least the value of the B-C delineation to avoid that any assets of type A or B would be treated as type D and this because of the important cost implications.
- Regarding the ABCD thresholds, IFIEC Europe strongly opposes lowering the threshold for type B to 0,5MW and insists that this is maintained at least at the current value of 1MW. By lowering this threshold, many more assets would fall under new obligations, and this for all new assets but also for all modernised assets towards the future, with again very important cost implications. Moreover, voltage requirements for these assets could have an important impact on industrial sites connected to the 380/400kV grids, as this could even result in requiring new transformers and could even hinder the deployment of assets of type B (such as PV and wind). IFIEC Europe thinks it would be better not to shift the threshold and to ensure that some values can be defined on a Member State level, whereas a “one size fits all approach” via a Network Code might lead to perverse effects.
- Moreover, also for industrial sites connected at a voltage level in the range 110 kV - 330 kV,

the voltage criteria for new PGMs type B will create additional investments if the existing transformers HV/MV were not designed in the past according to the imposed voltage requirements. It makes a big difference to justify an investment connected at the internal MV network if the transformers HV/MV have to be replaced due to those new voltage requirements.

- Regarding RoCoF, IFIEC Europe, in consultation with several experts, remains worried as it is not convinced that this topic has been sufficiently studied to allow the incorporation of specific values and requirements in the network code, as the process for modification of a Network Code is very lengthy and cumbersome, so unjustified specific requirements in this version of the RfG code could wreak havoc in operational situations. Moreover, we are informed that the manufacturers of SPGMs are not convinced about the physical feasibility of the proposed RoCoF.

- Regarding all of the above, IFIEC Europe would also very strongly plead for the introduction (in RfG but also in DCC and HVDC) of the notion of a European derogation, in parallel to class and individual derogations which already exist today. This would allow to cope in a more agile way with potential issues and discrepancies that might arise out of this new version of the Network Code, while better ensuring harmonisation across the European Union, as the current (national) derogation processes lead to quickly varying requirements. While IFIEC Europe is thus greatly in favour of maintaining the already existing derogation procedures (to which it would even add the possibility for NRAs to initiate class derogations), it would be very prudent to add an additional European derogation process, a.o. allowing exceptions during the complete lifetime of the concerned PGMs.

- Regarding the requirements on electrical vehicles and the related supply equipment, IFIEC Europe is not an expert but wonders to what extent the proposals are the result of an already very mature reflection and whether these will not hamper innovation and impact competitiveness. Moreover, also in this field IFIEC Europe believes that a European derogation procedure could allow much more agile reactions to issues that might



arise in the future. A similar argument can be raised regarding storage facilities.

While IFIEC Europe does not provide a full-fledged analysis of all the stipulations of the proposed update of the RfG Network Code, we hope that ACER will be able to take into account the above comments. IFIEC Europe will also provide this input in the formal consultation track.

Many thanks in advance for your consideration of these topics. IFIEC Europe remains, as always, available for any questions or discussion.

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Background Documents

[NC_RfG_ACER_draft_amendments_for_PC_2023_E_07.docx](#)

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