

Company Directive

POLICY DOCUMENT: SD4/11

11kV and 6.6kV Network Design

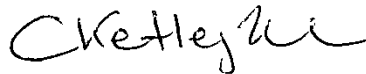
Summary

This document describes the requirements for the design of 11kV and 6.6kV networks.

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Implementation Date: December 2024

Approved by



Carl Ketley-Lowe
Head of Engineering Policy

Date: 20th December 2024

Target Staff Group	Staff involved with the analysis and design of National Grid Electricity Distribution's (NGED's) 11kV and 6.6kV networks, telecommunication systems and information technology systems.
Impact of Change	Amber – This document relaxes the requirements for System Frequency Integrity. It also explicitly requires Network Capability to be satisfied under Operational Technology (OT) outage and fault conditions.
Planned Assurance checks	One year after the issue of this document Engineering Policy shall audit a number of 11kV and 6.6kV network modifications to check that they comply with the requirements of this policy.

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IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Introduction

This document specifies the detailed requirements for 11kV and 6.6kV Network design.

Main Changes

A number of definitions have been added and some existing definitions have been renamed/modified to provide additional clarity.

System Frequency Integrity requirements are now based on the magnitude of the Normal Infeed Loss Risk, as defined in the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) Security and Quality of Supply Standard (SQSS).

The document has also been modified to explicitly require Network Capability to be satisfied under Secured Operational Technology (OT) Outage and Operational Technology (OT) Secured Next Fault conditions.

Impact of Changes

Target Staff Group	Staff involved with the analysis and design of National Grid Electricity Distribution's (NGED's) 11kV and 6.6kV networks, telecommunication systems and information technology systems.
Impact of Change	Amber – This document relaxes the requirements for System Frequency Integrity. It also explicitly requires Network Capability to be satisfied under Operational Technology (OT) outage and fault conditions.

Implementation Actions

Managers shall ensure that staff involved in the analysis and design of 11kV and 6.6kV Networks are aware of, and follow, the requirements of this document.

[PowerPoint Presentation](#)

Implementation Timetable

This document is implemented on issue for new and substantially modified 11kV and 6.6kV networks.

REVISION HISTORY

DOCUMENT REVISION & REVIEW TABLE			
Issue	Date	Comments	Author
11	01/12/2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 1.0 Introduction has been replaced with Scope • Section 2.0 The following definitions have been added, renamed or amended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Advanced Distribution Management System (ADMS) ○ Customer Limitation Scheme ○ Customer Security ○ Failover ○ Information Technology (IT) Secured Next Fault ○ Intact Network ○ Network Capability ○ Operational Technology (OT) Secured Next Fault ○ Secured Information Technology (IT) Outage ○ Secured Next Fault ○ Secured Operational Technology (OT) Outage ○ Secured Telecommunications Outage ○ System Frequency Integrity ○ Telecommunication Secured Next Fault • Section 3.2 – The requirements for Network Integrity have been modified to explicitly cater for Operational Technology Secured Next Faults and Secured Operational Technology Outages. • Section 3.3 – The requirements for System Frequency Integrity have been modified and are now based on the magnitude of the Normal Infeed Loss Risk of 1320MW, as defined in the NETS SQSS. 	Andy Hood
10	Oct 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document rebranded and hyperlinks updated 	Seth Treasure
9	May 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document has been re-formatted to comply with POL:GE1. • Definitions have been added. • References to the Electricity Safety Quality and Continuity Regulations and to the National Electricity Transmission System Security and Quality of Supply Standard (NETS SQSS) have been added. • Generation Security, Network Integrity, System Integrity requirements have been added. • Network complexity requirements have been clarified. • Load Management Scheme requirements have been modified. • Step Voltage Change requirements have been modified. • A section on network Losses has been added. 	Andy Hood

8	Sep 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A reference to EREC G99 has been added to Section 2.3 and Appendix B. 	Andy Hood
7	Sep 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2.1.1 relating to the requirements for networks that include active load management has been added. 	Andy Hood
6	Feb 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Table 1 and 2 amended - minimum voltage limits have been reduced by approximately 0.5%. 	Andy Hood
5	Nov 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 3.1 regarding voltage limits has been re-written to simplify the assessment process. • Table B1 replaced by Table 1 and Table 2 • Table B2 replaced by Table 3 which now caters for both leading and lagging power factors • Clause 3.1.4 added to clarify voltage requirements under back-feed conditions 	Andy Hood
4	May 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clause 2.2 and Section 3 modified to account for the possibility of voltage rise due to generation • Clause 3.1.1 added relating to voltage regulation across distribution transformers 	Andy Hood
3	Oct 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • References to the Distribution Code and Grid Code added. • G59/2 reference added and G59/1, G75/1 and ETR113 removed. 	Andy Hood
2	May 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clause 2.1 – system reliability assessed in accordance with ST:AM5C • Clause 2.4 – Schemes shall be assessed in accordance with PO:AM5 and POL:FI06/04/01 	Andy Hood
1	Apr 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documents rebranded • G5/3 reference updated to G5/4 • G75 reference added 	N J Turvey
0	Jul 1996	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document Issued 	N J Turvey

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1.0 SCOPE

This document describes the standard requirements for the design of the 11kV and 6.6kV networks including those associated with Customer Security, Network Capability, System Frequency Integrity, network complexity, load management, network improvement, supply quality, safety, losses, asset utilisation and capital investment. Where any difficulty is encountered with the application of this policy, the author shall be notified, who will consider if a variation is appropriate.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

Name/Phase	Definition
Advanced Distribution Management System (ADMS)	<p>A NGED system that provides Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA), Distribution Management System (DMS) and Outage Management System (OMS) functionality.</p> <p><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Customer Limitation Scheme	<p>A system that is owned by a customer and that controls the net flow of electricity into or from the distribution network at the Connection Point to prevent the customer exceeding their agreed export capacity and/or agreed import capacity.</p> <p><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Customer Security	<p>The requirement for Demand Security and Generation Security</p> <p><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Demand Security	<p>The ability to meet customer demand under Intact Network and outage conditions.</p> <p><i>Definition Taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Failover	<p>The ability to switch automatically and seamlessly to a reliable backup system when a component or system fails.</p> <p><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Generation Security	<p>The ability to accept customer export under Intact Network and outage conditions.</p> <p><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Information Technology (IT) Secured Next Fault	<p>An IT fault outage after which Customer Security, Network Capability and System Frequency Integrity requirements must be satisfied when <u>operating</u> the network.</p> <p>The following fault conditions starting from the prevailing running arrangement are shall be considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • each front-end processor (FEP) • each firewall system • each ADMS server

Name/Phase	Definition
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • each ANM system server • each network switch • each ethernet circuit • each GPS time synchronising clock • each independent source of electrical power <p>Outages in all relevant parts of the IT system shall be considered, including outages on third party systems and equipment, where applicable.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Intact Network	<p>A network operating with open points in their normal position and without any outages that are material to the condition being considered or studied.</p> <p>The Intact Network arrangement shall be agreed between Primary Network Design, the Distribution System Operator Modelling and Analysis Team, NGED's Control Centre and the relevant Operations Team and shall be recorded on network diagrams and within ADMS.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Load	<p>The apparent power (e.g., kVA or MVA) associated with demand, generation and/or electrical energy storage.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Load Management Scheme (LMS)	<p>Plant, equipment and software systems that together manage network loading and voltages by either controlling demand and/or generation connected to the network, operating switchgear to change the topology of the network and/or controlling the settings of tap-change controllers, reactive compensation equipment and flexible power links. Examples of Load Management Schemes include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational Intertripping • Active Network Management (ANM) • Soft-intertripping • Overload protection • Auto-changeover • Voltage constraint • Manual Curtailment <p>The following are not considered to be Load Management Schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customer-owned limitation schemes • Conventional independent tap-change control schemes

Name/Phase	Definition
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network protection for fault clearance • Loss-of-mains protection, including loss-of-mains intertripping • Timed connections <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Network Capability	<p>Thermal, voltage and other technical limits, excluding frequency-related limits, within which the network must operate to prevent damage to plant and equipment and to prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable, danger.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Operational Technology (OT) Secured Next Fault	<p>An Information Technology Secured Next Fault or Telecommunication Secured Next Fault</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Definition taken from POL:SD2</i></p>
Secured Information Technology (IT) Outage	<p>An IT outage or combination of outages after which Customer Security, Network Capability and System Frequency Integrity requirements must be satisfied in <u>design</u> studies.</p> <p>An arranged outage and also an arranged outage followed by a fault outage, of any combination of the following components, is considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FEP • Each firewall system • Each ADMS server • Each ANM server • Each network switch • Each ethernet circuit • Each GPS time synchronising clock • Each independent source of electrical power <p>Outages in all parts of the IT system shall be considered, so far as is possible, including outages in third-party networks, where applicable.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Secured Next Fault	<p>An electrical fault outage after which Customer Security, System Frequency Integrity and Network Capability must be satisfied when operating the network. The following fault conditions starting from the prevailing running arrangement are applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each Circuit fault • Each busbar fault

Name/Phase	Definition
	<p>Outages at all voltage levels in question shall be considered, including outages on the transmission system and other third-party networks, where applicable.</p> <p><i>Definition taken from POL:SD2</i></p>
Secured Outage	<p>An outage or combination of outages after which Customer Security, Network Capability and System Frequency Integrity requirements must be satisfied in <u>design</u> studies.</p> <p>The following types and combinations of outages are considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • each circuit fault outage* • each busbar fault outage • each circuit arranged outage* • each circuit arranged outage followed by each circuit fault outage* • each circuit arranged outage followed by each busbar fault outage • each busbar arranged outage* • each busbar arranged outage followed by each circuit fault outage* • each busbar arranged outage followed by each busbar fault outage <p>Outages at all voltage levels shall be considered, so far as is possible, including outages on the transmission network and other third-party networks, where applicable.</p> <p><i>Outage types and combinations with Demand Security requirements in EREC P2 are marked with asterisks (*) above.</i></p> <p><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Secured Operational Technology (OT) Outage	<p>A Secured IT Outage, Secured Telecommunications Outage or combination of these outages after which Customer Security, Network Capability and System Frequency Integrity requirements must be satisfied in <u>design</u> studies.</p> <p>An arranged outage and also an arranged outage followed by a fault outage, of any combination of the components identified in the definitions for Secured IT Outage and Secured Telecommunications Outage, is considered.</p> <p><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Secured Telecommunications Outage	<p>An operational telecommunication network outage or combination of outages after which Customer Security, System Frequency Integrity and Network Capability requirements must be satisfied in <u>design</u> studies.</p>

Name/Phase	Definition
	<p>An arranged outage and also an arranged outage followed by a fault outage, of any combination of the following components, is considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • each communication circuit • each fibre • each communication mast / tower • each fixed radio link (Super High Frequency) • each multi-drop/combiner facility • each multiplexer • each network switch • each firewall • each independent source of electrical power • each time synchronising clock <p>Outages in all parts of the operational telecommunication network shall be considered, so far as is possible, including outages in third-party networks, where applicable.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Step Voltage Change	<p>The change from the initial voltage level to the resulting voltage level after all generating unit automatic voltage regulator (AVR) and static VAR compensator (SVC) actions and transient decay (typically 5s after the fault clearance or network switching) have taken place, but before any other automatic or manual tap-changing and switching actions have commenced.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Definition derived from EREC P28</i></p>
System Frequency Integrity	<p>The ability of the GB system to operate within acceptable frequency-related technical limits under both Intact Network and outage conditions.</p> <p>System Frequency Integrity is primarily managed by the National Energy System Operator (NESO), but it can be affected by the operation of NGED's network and customers. This includes but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low Frequency Demand Disconnection • Interface Protection associated with Power Generating Modules • Changes in net Load caused by protection operation, manual intervention or the operation of Load Management Schemes. <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Telecommunication Secured Next Fault	<p>An operational telecommunication network fault outage after which Customer Security, System Frequency integrity and</p>

Name/Phase	Definition
	<p>Network Capability must be satisfied when operating the Network.</p> <p>The following fault conditions starting from the prevailing running arrangement are considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • each communication circuit • each fibre • each communication mast / tower • each fixed radio link (Super High Frequency) • each multi-drop/combiner facility • each multiplexer • each network switch • each firewall • each independent source of electrical power • each time synchronising clock <p>Outages in all relevant parts of the operational telecommunication network shall be considered, including outages on third party systems and equipment, where applicable.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Definition taken from POL: SD2</i></p>
Unsecured Outage	<p>An outage condition that is beyond the scope of a Secured Outage.</p> <p>Unsecured Outages are not normally considered when designing the network. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple concurrent arranged outages • Circuit breaker failure fault outages • Multiple concurrent fault outages • The concurrent fault outage of multiple circuits sharing the same structure, such as double circuit tower lines <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Definition taken from POL:SD2</i></p>

3.0 REQUIREMENTS

The design of the 11kV and 6.6kV networks shall satisfy the requirements of the Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations, Distribution Code of Licensed Distribution Network Operators of Great Britain and the relevant requirements of the Grid Code and the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) Security and Quality of Supply Standard (SQSS).

3.1 Customer Security

11kV and 6.6kV networks shall be designed to satisfy the Demand Security requirements and Generation Security requirements specified in:

- [EREC P2](#) for Demand Security only
- bilateral connection agreements with customers and other network operators for both Demand Security and Generation Security

Due consideration shall also be given to Customer Interruptions (CIs), Customer Minutes Lost (CMLs) and to vulnerable customer obligations. In addition, no more than 5000 customers shall be fed from a single 66kV or single 33kV transformer unless there is an automatic or remotely operable back-feed arrangement.

3.2 Network Capability

11kV and 6.6kV networks shall be designed to operate within their Network Capability under Intact Network, Secured Outage and Secured OT Outage conditions.

NGED networks shall also be designed so they may be operated within their Network Capability for Secured Next Faults and OT Secured Next Faults.

Network capability may be satisfied by the inherent capability of the plant and equipment, operation of protection, operation of Load Management Schemes and by flexibility services and/or manual intervention.

Outages of IT components (e.g., FEPs, firewalls, servers, network switches, ethernet switches, GPS time synchronising clocks etc.) are typically mitigated by providing 3 independent instances of each component and by only taking an arranged outage on one item at a time. Where this is the case, each component shall be designed to carry the full load and to Failover successfully.

3.3 System Frequency Integrity

11kV and 6.6kV networks shall be designed to enable System Frequency Integrity to be maintained under Intact Network and Secured Outage, Secured OT Outage, Secured Next Fault and OT Secured Next Fault conditions.

To achieve this requirement the change of Load across all NGED license areas under these circumstances shall not exceed the magnitude of the Normal Infeed Loss Risk defined in the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) Security and Quality of Supply Standard (SQSS). At the time of issue of this document the SQSS defines the Normal Infeed Loss Risk as 1320MW. In addition, for Secured OT Outages and OT Secured Next Faults the magnitude of the net change in Load across all NGED license areas shall not exceed 300MW per minute unless otherwise agreed with the National Energy System Operator (NESO).

3.4 Load Management

Where the Load is actively managed the network and the associated Load Management Scheme shall satisfy the requirements of POL: SD11.

3.5 Network Improvement

Network improvement proposals shall be technically appraised and approved in accordance with POL: AM5.

3.6 Supply Quality

11kV and 6.6kV networks shall be designed to:

- have a voltage regulation that will ensure that the voltage at customer connection points, including low voltage connection points comply with the limits in the Electricity Safety Quality and Continuity Regulations. Further guidance is provided in Section 3.10.
- ensure that customer connections comply with the voltage unbalance limits contained in [EREC P29](#)
- ensure that customer connections comply with the voltage fluctuation requirements of [EREC P28](#). Clause 6.2 of EREC P28 allows Distribution Network Operators some discretion with regard to Step Voltage Change limits caused by customer equipment and installations. National Grid Electricity Distribution's Step Voltage Change limits applicable to customer connections are defined in Table 1.
- ensure that customer connections comply with the limits for harmonics in the UK contained in [EREC G5](#)
- have a Step Voltage Change no higher than the limits specified in Table 2 for Distribution Network Operator, Independent Distribution Network Operator and Transmission Network Operator events and operations.

Condition³	Step Voltage Change Limit^{1,2}
Import / Export Variation	-3% fall and +3% rise subject to compliance with P28 flicker limits ⁴
Load Management Scheme curtailment	-3% fall and +3% rise subject to compliance with P28 flicker limits
Generator interface (e.g., G59 or G99) protection trip	-6% fall and +6% rise
Fast frequency response (e.g., maximum import to maximum export and vice versa)	-3% fall and +3% rise
Frequent ⁵ operational switching by the customer	-3% fall and +3% rise subject to compliance with P28 flicker limits
Infrequent ⁶ operational switching by the customer	-3% fall and +3% rise
Very Infrequent ⁷ operational switching by the customer	-6% fall and +6% rise
<i>Note 1: Limits apply at the point of common coupling</i>	
<i>Note 2: Limits are expressed as percentage of nominal system voltage. For example, for 11kV networks a 3% Step Voltage Change equates to a voltage change of 0.33kV phase-phase.</i>	
<i>Note 3: Consider the most onerous operating arrangements specified in P28 and the most onerous demand / generation conditions (e.g., max. demand and min. generation / min. demand and max. generation).</i>	
<i>Note 4: For the purpose of this assessment wind turbine and photovoltaic Generating Units are assumed to have a minimum output of 20% of their maximum capacity. Other types of Generating Units are assumed to have a zero minimum output.</i>	
<i>Note 5: Frequent operational switching events are those that are expected to occur more than 4 times in any month, consist of more than 4 operations in any day or include operations that are separated by less than 10 minutes.</i>	
<i>Note 6: Infrequent operational switching events occur more frequently than once every three months up to a maximum of 4 times in a calendar month. Each event may consist of up to 4 operations in one day, each operation separated by at least 10 minutes.</i>	
<i>Note 7: Very infrequent operational switching events occur no more frequently than once every 3 months. Each event may consist of up to 4 operations in one day, each separated by at least 10 minutes.</i>	

Table 1 Step Voltage Change Limits associated with Customer Equipment and Connections

Condition	Step Voltage Change Limit^{8,9}
Trip metering circuit breaker	-6% fall and +6% rise
Secured Outage ¹⁰	-6% ¹¹ fall and +6%
Specific secured events ¹²	-12% fall and +6% rise
Load Management Scheme communication system or IT system disconnection or failure	-10% fall and +6% rise
Fast Frequency Response event	-6% fall and +6% rise
Frequent ¹³ operational switching	-3% fall and +3% rise
Infrequent ¹⁴ operational switching	-6% fall and +6% rise
<i>Note 8: Limits apply at customer Connection Points and at the lower voltage busbar of Bulk Supply Points.</i>	
<i>Note 9: Limits are expressed as percentage of nominal system voltage. For example, for 11kV Connection Points a 3% Step Voltage Change equates to a voltage change of 0.33kV phase-phase.</i>	
<i>Note 10: See the definition for Secured Outage.</i>	
<i>Note 11: If the -6% limit is exceeded then values up to -10% may be considered as long as this is supported by an appropriate cost benefit analysis that is approved by the Primary Network Design Manager.</i>	
<i>Note 12: Events specified within section b) and c) of Table 6.5 of the National Electricity Transmission System Security and Quality of Supply Standard (SQCC)</i>	
<i>Note 13: Operational switching events that are expected to occur several times per day, including automatic operation of tap-changers etc.</i>	
<i>Note 14: Operational switching events that are expected to occur less than once per day on average associated with plant/equipment commissioning and maintenance etc.</i>	

Table 2 Step Voltage Change Limits for Network Operations, Outages and Events

3.7 Safety

66kV and 33kV networks shall:

- be protected in accordance with POL:TP4
- comply with [EREC G59](#) or [EREC G99](#), as applicable
- take account of the fault level calculation methodology detailed in [EREC G74](#)
- operate within equipment design ratings including any appropriate cyclic or short-term rating as defined in the appropriate Engineering Instructions and Directives.

3.8 Losses

NGED is obliged to operate an efficient and economic system under its Distribution Licence. Standard Licence Condition 49 requires NGED to ensure distribution losses are as low as reasonably practicable, maintain a Losses Strategy and to design, build and operate the network in a manner that is reasonably expected to ensure losses are as low as reasonably practicable.

11kV and 6.6kV networks shall be designed in accordance with ST: SD1H, The Treatment of Losses in an Inclusive Network Design Process.

3.9 Asset Utilisation and Capital Investment

11kV and 6.6kV networks will be designed:

- using short circuit and load flow analysis tools approved by the Head of Modelling and Analysis.
- using equipment of standard capacities.
- to improve asset utilisation whilst satisfying Customer Security, Network Capability, System Integrity, supply quality, safety and network loss requirements specified in this document.

4.0 Background Information

Voltage Limits

NGED's distribution transformers generally have manually adjustable (rather than automatically adjustable) tap positions. This means that the voltage on the LV network is controlled by the automatic tap-changers and automatic voltage regulators on the 11kV and 6.6kV networks.

It is assumed that the maximum voltage regulation across the LV network and distribution transformer is +1.5% and - 8% of nominal voltage. This equates to a maximum voltage rise of +3.45V on the LV network (including the voltage rise across the distribution transformer) and maximum voltage drop of 18.4V on the LV network (including the voltage drop across the distribution transformer).

In order to maintain statutory voltage at LV, 11kV and 6.6kV connections the maximum and minimum voltage limits defined in Table 3 and Table 4 shall be satisfied. These tables specify the voltage limits at the HV terminals of NGED owned distribution transformers, and at HV connected customers. The limits at the HV terminals of a distribution transformer depend on the transformer tap position.

Lower voltage limits for back feed conditions are listed in brackets, e.g. (9.77kV) for an 11kV transformer on the 0% tap. Despite this, all reasonable steps shall be taken to satisfy the normal voltage limits when outages are taken, for example by:

- Only taking planned outages during periods of low load.
- Splitting the back fed network between different circuits.
- Feeding some substations from mobile generators.

Where it is not possible to satisfy the normal limits during back feed conditions the lower limits may be used, however the duration shall be kept to a minimum.

These steps will minimise the risk of a network running outside of statutory limits whilst still allowing the network to be back fed under the most extreme conditions.

In addition to the above requirements, the RMS voltage on any part of NGED's 11kV network shall not exceed 12kV and on any part of NGED's 6.6kV network shall not exceed 7.2kV, in order to ensure equipment ratings are not exceeded.

When assessing the maximum voltage rise and maximum voltage drop on the network the bandwidth of tap change control schemes shall be taken into account. This bandwidth is specified by Engineering Design and depends on the size of the tap steps, the make and type of tap-change control relay (e.g., electromechanical or electronic / solid state) and, to some extent, on the characteristics of the load. The bandwidth is set between +/- 1.0% and +/- 2.0% and a value of +/-1.25% is typical. Consideration shall also be given to line/load drop compensation settings, where applied.

The value of voltage drop / rise across 11kV/LV or 6.6kV/LV distribution transformer depends on the magnitude of current flowing through the transformer and the power factor. Table 5 lists the voltage drop across different types of distribution transformers operating at their name plate rating (based on a phase to neutral voltage of 230V) for a number of different power factors.

The requirements of this policy have evolved over a period of time and represent tried and tested principles.

Engineering Directive POL: SD1 contains further information on the fundamental aims of system design.

Distribution Transformer Tap (%)	Voltage Limits for the HV terminals of NGED 11kV Distribution Transformers		Voltage Limits for HV Metered Connections	
	Max. ^[2]	Min.	Max. ^[2]	Min.
+5%	11.59kV	10.68kV (10.25kV) ^[1]	11.66kV	10.34kV (9.90kV) ^[1]
+2.5%	11.31kV	10.42kV (10.01kV) ^[1]		
0	11.04kV	10.17kV (9.77kV) ^[1]		
-2.5%	10.76kV	9.92kV (9.52kV) ^[1]		
-5%	10.49kV	9.66kV (9.28kV) ^[1]		
<p><i>Note 1: The values in brackets only apply under <u>abnormal</u> feeding arrangements. Further guidance on the application of these limits is given in 3.1.4.</i></p> <p><i>Note 2: The maximum values apply under both normal and abnormal feeding arrangements.</i></p> <p><i>Note 3: Under no circumstances shall the RMS voltage on the 11kV network exceed 12kV.</i></p>				

Table 3 Voltage Limits on the 11kV Network^[3]

Distribution Transformer Tap (%)	Voltage Limits for the HV terminals of NGED 6.6kV Distribution Transformers		Voltage Limits for HV Metered Connections	
	Max. ^[2]	Min.	Max. ^[2]	Min.
+8.4% ^[4]	7.00kV	6.61kV (6.35kV) ^[1]	7.00kV	6.20kV (5.94kV) ^[1]
+5% ^[4]	6.95kV	6.41kV (6.15kV) ^[1]		
+4.2% ^[4]	6.90kV	6.36kV (6.10kV) ^[1]		
+2.5% ^[4]	6.79kV	6.25kV (6.01kV) ^[1]		
0	6.62kV	6.10kV (5.86kV) ^[1]		
-2.5% ^[4]	6.46kV	5.95kV (5.71kV) ^[1]		
-4.2% ^[4]	6.35kV	5.85kV (5.62kV) ^[1]		
-5% ^[4]	6.29kV	5.80kV (5.57kV) ^[1]		
-8.4% ^[4]	6.07kV	5.59kV (5.37kV) ^[1]		
<i>Note 1: The values in brackets only apply under abnormal feeding arrangements. Further guidance on the application of these limits is given in 3.1.4.</i>				
<i>Note 2: The maximum values apply under both normal and abnormal feeding arrangements.</i>				
<i>Note 3: Under no circumstances shall the RMS voltage on the 6.6kV network exceed 7.2kV.</i>				
<i>Note 4: 11000/6600/433V dual ratio transformers either have 2.5% tap steps or 4.2% tap steps when connected to their 6600/433 ratio. Please refer to the transformer name-plate for the available tap steps.</i>				

Table 4 Voltage Limits on the 6.6kV Network ^[3]

APPENDIX A: SUPERSEDED DOCUMENTATION

This document supersedes POL: SD4/10 dated October 2023 which has now been withdrawn

APPENDIX B: RECORD OF COMMENT DURING CONSULTATION

[POL: SD4/11 – Comments](#)

APPENDIX C: ANCILLARY DOCUMENTATION

The Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations
The Distribution Code of Licensed Distribution Network Operators of Great Britain
The Grid Code
National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) Security and Quality of Supply Standard (SQSS)
EREC P2, Security of Supply
EREC P29, Planning limits for voltage unbalance in the United Kingdom
EREC P28, Voltage fluctuations and the connection of disturbing equipment to transmission systems and distribution networks in the United Kingdom
EREC G5, Harmonic voltage distortion and the connection of harmonic sources and/or resonant plant to transmission systems and distribution networks in the United Kingdom
EREC G59, Recommendations for the connection of private generating plant to the distribution systems of Licensed Distribution Network Operators
EREC G99, Recommendations for the connection of generating equipment in parallel with public distribution networks on or after 27th April 2019
EREC G74, Procedure to meet the requirements of IEC 60909 for the calculation of short-circuit currents in three-phase AC power systems
PAD: SD, System Design Policy
POL: AM5, Technical Appraisal, Technical Approval and Post-investment Technical Appraisal for Network Related Capital Projects
POL: SD2 132kV Network Design
POL: SD3 66kV and 33kV Network Design
POL: SD5 LV Network Design
POL: SD11 Load Management Schemes
ST:SD1H, The Treatment of Losses in an Inclusive Network Design Process

APPENDIX D: KEYWORDS

ANM, Category A, Category B, Category C, Category D, Category Z, design, intertrip, soft intertrip, Load Management Scheme, network, system, planning, network analysis