

# SONI Consultation Paper Grid Code Governance Rules – Guidance for Modifications and Constitution of the SONI Grid Code

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Consultation Paper  
Mach 25<sup>th</sup> 2022



## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 SONI has developed a set of rules giving much needed guidance on the process for Modifications to the SONI Grid Code. We are now consulting more widely on this document to give an opportunity for feedback from customers and stakeholders.
- 1.2 In conjunction with the guidance document, SONI has made changes to the Constitution of the SONI Grid Code, mainly referred to as 'housekeeping' changes. We are now consulting more widely on these changes to give an opportunity for feedback from customers and stakeholders.
- 1.3 The new guidance document aims to provide Users with guidance on procedures for modifying the Northern Ireland Grid Code. These **Governance Rules** are supplementary to the **Grid Code Constitution** and shall not create any additional rights or obligations.
- 1.4 SONI has presented and discussed the new guidance document and the modifications to the Constitution at the Grid Code Review Panel on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021 and 14<sup>th</sup> December 2021 latterly on 08<sup>th</sup> March 2022.
- 1.5 SONI circulated the proposed Constitution changes to the Panel members from 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022 but received no comments.
- 1.6 We are now presenting both the new guidance document and the proposed amendments to the Constitution for wider consultation with all affected parties.
- 1.7 This consultation paper sets out a high-level summary of the proposed changes and seeks comments from relevant parties on any aspect of the proposed amendments.
- 1.8 Section 2 of this paper provides a high-level overview of proposed changes and structure of new governance document and Section 3 outlines the next steps.
- 1.9 The deadline for submission of comments is close of business on 06<sup>th</sup> May 2022 giving six weeks for consultation period. See section 4.1 for further details. We will submit a copy of all responses to the Utility Regulator alongside our report on this consultation. If you require your response to remain confidential you should clearly state this on the coversheet of the response. We intend to publish all non-confidential responses. Please note that, in any event, all responses will be shared with the Regulatory Authorities.

## 2. High-level overview

### **SONI Governance Rules – Guidance for Modifications**

- 2.1 A new document ‘SONI Governance Rules – Guidance for Modifications’ has been created to include a procedure and timetable for Modifications and the process to be followed.
- 2.2 It is intended that implementing a timetable for Modifications will ensure a more efficient process where the development of the Grid Code will be facilitated in a timelier manner.
- 2.3 The new document comprises the following sections; Note this a new document and not an existing document with proposed changes.

Section1: Governance Rules for NI Grid Code Modifications

Section 2: Grid Code Modification Proposals

Section 3: Grid Code Review Panel Evaluation and Decision

Section 4: Modification Consultation

Section 5: Resolutions and Voting

Section 6: Authority Approval

Section 7: Grid Code Modification Register

Section 8: Grid Code Derogation Register

Section 9: Definitions

Appendix: SONI Grid Code Modification Timetable

### **SONI Constitution**

- 2.4 The SONI Constitution was outdated and required updating in terms of pronouns and communication methods. The following changes have been proposed;
- 2.5 Terms changed are ‘Chairman’ to ‘Chairperson’, and pronouns ‘him/her’ to ‘them’, ‘his/her’ to ‘their’ and ‘he/she’ to ‘they’.
- 2.6 Other changes include adding a requirement for Panel Members to provide their email address rather than their ‘address’.

### 3. Next steps

- 3.1 The consultation period will run for 6 weeks. Users are invited to send their comments to SONI via email to [gridcode@soni.ltd.uk](mailto:gridcode@soni.ltd.uk) by close of business on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022. In the meantime, should any Users have any queries they should contact SONI via [GridCode@soni.ltd.uk](mailto:GridCode@soni.ltd.uk).
- 3.2 Following receipt of comments in relation to this Consultation Paper and the expiration of the period for making comments, SONI will, in accordance with Condition 16 of its Licence, send to the Northern Ireland Authority for Utility Regulation (the “Authority”) a report on the outcome of this review.
- 3.3 If you require your response to remain confidential you should clearly state this on the coversheet of the response. We intend to publish all non-confidential responses. Please note that, in any event, all responses will be shared with the Regulatory Authorities.
- 3.4 Following the end of the consultation period and the discussions to be held with the Authority, the new guidance document and revisions to the Constitution will be finalised and published on the SONI website once approval has been received from the Authority.