

**Grid Code
Modification Recommendation Form**



Title of Recommended Proposal: Synchronous Condenser Unit (SCU) RoCoF & Protection Requirements

MPID (EirGrid Use Only): MPID340

Date:	30/01/2026
Recommended at GCRP Meeting:	25/09/2025
Grid Code Version:	14.2, as an addition to MPID319 SCU Incorporation
Grid Code Section(s) Impacted by Recommended Proposal:	MPID319 SCU Incorporation clauses SCU1.4.1, SCU1.6.1 and SCU1.6.3

The Reason for the Recommended Modification:

At the June 2025 GCRP meeting, MPID319 SCU Incorporation was recommended for submission to the Regulators for decision. As part of that modification proposal, a clause relating to Rate of Change of Frequency (RoCoF) requirements for SCUs was mistakenly omitted, and references to Generator-specific protection clauses were mistakenly added to the SCU protection section.

The aim of this modification proposal is to include a clause relating to Rate of Change of Frequency (RoCoF) requirements for SCUs (where a similar requirement applies to both Generators and Interconnectors under the Grid Code) and to correct the protection references so they refer to SCU-specific protection requirements rather than Generator-specific protection requirements.

Below are the changes proposed to MPID319 SCU Incorporation. The black text is text already present in the MPID319 modification proposal, the red text is text to be removed from MPID319, and the blue text is newly proposed text.

History of Progression through GCRPs, Working Group and/or Consultation:

This modification proposal was brought to the GCRP on 25th September 2025. Peter King (Non-Synchronous Renewable Generators) asked if more time could be given to review this modification proposal, as Tom Birney (ESPS) is on leave, and to allow time to collect feedback from OEMs. Members agreed to an extended feedback period until 23rd October 2025, aligning with the close of the review of the GCRP meeting minutes. Members agreed that if no feedback is received by 23rd October that would warrant MPID340 returning to the GCRP for discussion, MPID340 will be submitted to the CRU for decision.

Summary Note of any Objections to the Recommended Change from GCRP Members or Consultation Responses:

No objections were received.

Outcome of any GCRP Meeting Actions Relating to the Recommended Modification:

Post the GCRP, Tom Birney (ESPS) confirmed by email to the TSO that there were no feedback or comments for MPID340.

A Table Outlining the Proposed Changes:

Clause	Red Line Version Text <i>Deleted text in strike-through red font and new text highlighted in blue font</i>	Green Line Version Text																												
SCU1.4.1	<p>Each Synchronous Condenser Unit shall, as a minimum, have the following capabilities: [...]</p> <p>(d)</p> <p>(i) Remain synchronised Synchronised to the Transmission System and operate within the frequency Frequency ranges and time periods specified in Table SCU1.4.1.</p> <p><i>Table SCU1.4.1: Minimum Time Periods for Synchronous Condenser Units to Remain Operational without Disconnecting</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Frequency Range</th><th>Time Period</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>47 – 47.5 Hz</td><td>20 seconds</td></tr> <tr> <td>47.5 – 48.5 Hz</td><td>90 minutes</td></tr> <tr> <td>48.5 – 49 Hz</td><td>90 minutes</td></tr> <tr> <td>49 – 51 Hz</td><td>Unlimited</td></tr> <tr> <td>51 – 51.5 Hz</td><td>90 minutes</td></tr> <tr> <td>51.5 – 52 Hz</td><td>60 minutes</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(ii) Remain Synchronised to the Transmission System for a Rate of Change of Frequency up to and including 1 Hz per second as measured over a rolling 500 milliseconds period. Voltage dips may cause localised Rate of Change of Frequency values in excess of 1 Hz per second for short periods, and in these cases, the Fault-Ride Through clause SCU1.4.1(g) supersedes this clause (SCU1.4.1 (d) (ii)). For the avoidance of doubt, this requirement relates to the</p>	Frequency Range	Time Period	47 – 47.5 Hz	20 seconds	47.5 – 48.5 Hz	90 minutes	48.5 – 49 Hz	90 minutes	49 – 51 Hz	Unlimited	51 – 51.5 Hz	90 minutes	51.5 – 52 Hz	60 minutes	<p>Each Synchronous Condenser Unit shall, as a minimum, have the following capabilities: [...]</p> <p>(d)</p> <p>(i) Remain Synchronised to the Transmission System and operate within the Frequency ranges and time periods specified in Table SCU1.4.1.</p> <p><i>Table SCU1.4.1: Minimum Time Periods for Synchronous Condenser Units to Remain Operational without Disconnecting</i></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Frequency Range</th><th>Time Period</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>47 – 47.5 Hz</td><td>20 seconds</td></tr> <tr> <td>47.5 – 48.5 Hz</td><td>90 minutes</td></tr> <tr> <td>48.5 – 49 Hz</td><td>90 minutes</td></tr> <tr> <td>49 – 51 Hz</td><td>Unlimited</td></tr> <tr> <td>51 – 51.5 Hz</td><td>90 minutes</td></tr> <tr> <td>51.5 – 52 Hz</td><td>60 minutes</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(ii) Remain Synchronised to the Transmission System for a Rate of Change of Frequency up to and including 1 Hz per second as measured over a rolling 500 milliseconds period. Voltage dips may cause localised Rate of Change of Frequency values in excess of 1 Hz per second for short periods, and in these cases, the Fault-Ride Through clause SCU1.4.1(g) supersedes this clause (SCU1.4.1 (d) (ii)). For the avoidance of doubt, this requirement relates to the</p>	Frequency Range	Time Period	47 – 47.5 Hz	20 seconds	47.5 – 48.5 Hz	90 minutes	48.5 – 49 Hz	90 minutes	49 – 51 Hz	Unlimited	51 – 51.5 Hz	90 minutes	51.5 – 52 Hz	60 minutes
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	<p>capabilities of Synchronous Condenser Units only and does not impose the need for Rate of Change of Frequency protection nor does it impose a specific setting for anti-islanding or loss-of-mains protection relays;</p>	<p>capabilities of Synchronous Condenser Units only and does not impose the need for Rate of Change of Frequency protection nor does it impose a specific setting for anti-islanding or loss-of-mains protection relays;</p>
SCU1.6.1	<p>Every Synchronous Condenser Unit Operator shall, acting in accordance with Good Industry Practice, be responsible, insofar as is reasonably practicable, for ensuring that faults on Plant and Apparatus cause minimal disturbance to the Power System. Faults on Plant and/or Apparatus connected to the Transmission System should be cleared as soon as possible with no deliberate time delay introduced and, in any event, should be cleared within a maximum time of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 120 milliseconds for the 110 kV system; (b) 100 milliseconds for the 220 kV system; and (c) 80 milliseconds for the 400 kV system. <p>These clearance times are from primary protection systems only. Without limiting this obligation, a Synchronous Condenser Unit Operator shall as a minimum prior to connection of the User's System to the Transmission System install and maintain, in accordance with Good Industry Practice, the protection equipment specified in Error! Reference source not found. and Error! Reference source not found. in this section SCU1.6.</p>	<p>Every Synchronous Condenser Unit Operator shall, acting in accordance with Good Industry Practice, be responsible, insofar as is reasonably practicable, for ensuring that faults on Plant and Apparatus cause minimal disturbance to the Power System. Faults on Plant and/or Apparatus connected to the Transmission System should be cleared as soon as possible with no deliberate time delay introduced and, in any event, should be cleared within a maximum time of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) 120 milliseconds for the 110 kV system; (b) 100 milliseconds for the 220 kV system; and (c) 80 milliseconds for the 400 kV system. <p>These clearance times are from primary protection systems only. Without limiting this obligation, a Synchronous Condenser Unit Operator shall as a minimum prior to connection of the User's System to the Transmission System install and maintain, in accordance with Good Industry Practice, the protection equipment specified in this section SCU1.6.</p>
SCU1.6.3	<p>For the purpose of Error! Reference source not found. SCU1.6.1, the minimum protection requirements for a Synchronous Condenser Unit Operator Facility connecting to the Transmission System will vary according to type, size, Earthing and method of connection. User protection required by the TSO should always be in service when associated plant Plant is in service.</p>	<p>For the purpose of SCU1.6.1, the minimum protection requirements for a Synchronous Condenser Unit Operator Facility connecting to the Transmission System will vary according to type, size, Earthing and method of connection. User protection required by the TSO should always be in service when associated Plant is in service.</p>