Management of Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO) Systems
Practical Considerations and Lessons Learned
Euan Fenelon
Natural Power Consultants Limited

Abstract
The development and application of high voltage system management procedures for control room and field staff are key considerations for an OFTO to ensure compliance with all relevant legislation, codes and standards.

Methods
Typical services that an OFTO must develop or procure are:
- control room
- access and work control
- safety rules
- 24/7 standby engineer
- first response to onshore and offshore alarms and events
- routine substation inspection
- provision of suitably authorised personnel for planned and reactive works

Results
Operational experience has demonstrated the following:
- the volume of work required to support projects has been seen to vary considerably and has presented major challenges in the development of resourcing and pricing models;
- the more specialised nature of OFTO systems is difficult to resource due to the relative lack of competent personnel;
- training and authorisation of control room and field staff is time-consuming but critical to success;
- efficient alarm handling is essential in order to ensure that alarms and events are properly assessed and prioritised, and that the appropriate follow-up procedures are implemented;
- requirement to attend site in response to alarms and events can be significantly greater than anticipated for a transmission system

Onshore TO
Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO)
Generator

Contact: sayhello@naturalpower.com

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