

Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1388 of 17 August 2016 establishing  
a Network Code on Demand Connection (Text with EEA relevance)

TITLE II

**CONNECTION OF TRANSMISSION-CONNECTED  
DEMAND FACILITIES, TRANSMISSION-CONNECTED  
DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS**

CHAPTER I

**General requirements**

*Article 12*

**General frequency requirements**

- 1 Transmission-connected demand facilities, transmission-connected distribution facilities and distribution systems shall be capable of remaining connected to the network and operating at the frequency ranges and time periods specified in Annex I.
- 2 The transmission-connected demand facility owner or the DSO may agree with the relevant TSO on wider frequency ranges or longer minimum times for operation. If wider frequency ranges or longer minimum times for operation are technically feasible, the consent of the transmission-connected demand facility owner or DSO shall not be unreasonably withheld.

*Article 13*

**General voltage requirements**

- 1 Transmission-connected demand facilities, transmission-connected distribution facilities and transmission-connected distribution systems shall be capable of remaining connected to the network and operating at the voltage ranges and time periods specified in Annex II.
- 2 Equipment of distribution systems connected at the same voltage as the voltage of the connection point to the transmission system shall be capable of remaining connected to the network and operating at the voltage ranges and time periods specified in Annex II.
- 3 The voltage range at the connection point shall be expressed by the voltage at the connection point related to reference 1 per unit (pu) voltage. For the 400 kV grid voltage level (or alternatively commonly referred to as 380 kV level), the reference 1 pu value is 400 kV, for other grid voltage levels the reference 1 pu voltage may differ for each system operator in the same synchronous area.
- 4 Where the voltage base for pu values is from 300 kV to 400 kV included, the relevant TSO in Spain may require transmission-connected demand facilities, transmission-connected distribution facilities and transmission-connected distribution systems to remain connected in the voltage range between 1,05 pu-1,0875 pu for an unlimited period.

---

*Changes to legislation:* There are outstanding changes not yet made to Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1388. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

---

5 Where the voltage base for pu values is 400 kV, the relevant TSOs in the Baltic synchronous area may require transmission-connected demand facilities, transmission-connected distribution facilities and transmission-connected distribution systems to remain connected to the 400 kV network in the voltage ranges and for time periods that apply to the Continental Europe synchronous area.

6 If required by the relevant TSO, a transmission-connected demand facility, a transmission-connected distribution facility, or a transmission-connected distribution system shall be capable of automatic disconnection at specified voltages. The terms and settings for automatic disconnection shall be agreed between the relevant TSO and the transmission-connected demand facility owner or the DSO.

7 With regard to transmission-connected distribution systems with a voltage below 110 kV at the connection point, the relevant TSO shall specify the voltage range at the connection point that the distribution systems connected to that transmission system shall be designed to withstand. DSOs shall design the capability of their equipment, connected at the same voltage as the voltage of the connection point to the transmission system, to comply with this voltage range.

#### *Article 14*

### **Short-circuit requirements**

1 Based on the rated short-circuit withstand capability of its transmission network elements, the relevant TSO shall specify the maximum short-circuit current at the connection point that the transmission-connected demand facility or the transmission-connected distribution system shall be capable of withstanding.

2 The relevant TSO shall deliver to the transmission-connected demand facility owner or the transmission-connected distribution system operator an estimate of the minimum and maximum short-circuit currents to be expected at the connection point as an equivalent of the network.

3 After an unplanned event, the relevant TSO shall inform the affected transmission-connected demand facility owner or the affected transmission-connected distribution system operator as soon as possible and no later than one week after the unplanned event, of the changes above a threshold for the maximum short-circuit current that the affected transmission-connected demand facility or the affected transmission-connected distribution system shall be able to withstand from the relevant TSO's network in accordance with paragraph 1.

4 The threshold set in paragraph 3 shall either be specified by the transmission-connected demand facility owner for its facility, or by the transmission-connected distribution system operator for its network.

5 Before a planned event, the relevant TSO shall inform the affected transmission-connected demand facility owner or the affected transmission-connected distribution system operator, as soon as possible and no later than one week before the planned event, of the changes above a threshold for the maximum short-circuit current that the affected transmission-connected demand facility or the affected transmission-connected distribution system shall be able to withstand from the relevant TSO's network, in accordance with paragraph 1.

6 The threshold set in paragraph 5 shall either be specified by the transmission-connected demand facility owner for its facility, or by the transmission-connected distribution system operator for its network.

---

**Changes to legislation:** There are outstanding changes not yet made to Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1388. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

---

7 The relevant TSO shall request information from a transmission-connected demand facility owner or a transmission-connected distribution system operator concerning the contribution in terms of short-circuit current from that facility or network. As a minimum, the equivalent modules of the network shall be delivered and demonstrated for zero, positive and negative sequences.

8 After an unplanned event, the transmission-connected demand facility owner or the transmission-connected distribution system operator shall inform the relevant TSO, as soon as possible and no later than one week after the unplanned event, of the changes in short-circuit contribution above the threshold set by the relevant TSO.

9 Before a planned event, the transmission-connected demand facility owner or the transmission-connected distribution system operator shall inform the relevant TSO, as soon as possible and no later than one week before the planned event, of the changes in short-circuit contribution above the threshold set by the relevant TSO.

### *Article 15*

#### **Reactive power requirements**

1 Transmission-connected demand facilities and transmission-connected distribution systems shall be capable of maintaining their steady-state operation at their connection point within a reactive power range specified by the relevant TSO, according to the following conditions:

- a for transmission-connected demand facilities, the actual reactive power range specified by the relevant TSO for importing and exporting reactive power shall not be wider than 48 percent of the larger of the maximum import capacity or maximum export capacity (0,9 power factor import or export of active power), except in situations where either technical or financial system benefits are demonstrated, for transmission-connected demand facilities, by the transmission-connected demand facility owner and accepted by the relevant TSO;
- b for transmission-connected distribution systems, the actual reactive power range specified by the relevant TSO for importing and exporting reactive power shall not be wider than:
  - (i) 48 percent (i.e. 0,9 power factor) of the larger of the maximum import capability or maximum export capability during reactive power import (consumption); and
  - (ii) 48 percent (i.e. 0,9 power factor) of the larger of the maximum import capability or maximum export capability during reactive power export (production);

except in situations where either technical or financial system benefits are proved by the relevant TSO and the transmission-connected distribution system operator through joint analysis;

- c the relevant TSO and the transmission-connected distribution system operator shall agree on the scope of the analysis, which shall address the possible solutions, and determine the optimal solution for reactive power exchange between their systems, taking adequately into consideration the specific system characteristics, variable structure of power exchange, bidirectional flows and the reactive power capabilities in the distribution system;

---

*Changes to legislation:* There are outstanding changes not yet made to Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1388. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

---

- d the relevant TSO may establish the use of metrics other than power factor in order to set out equivalent reactive power capability ranges;
- e the reactive power range requirement values shall be met at the connection point;
- f by way of derogation from point (e), where a connection point is shared between a power generating module and a demand facility, equivalent requirements shall be met at the point defined in relevant agreements or national law.

2 The relevant TSO may require that transmission-connected distribution systems have the capability at the connection point to not export reactive power (at reference 1 pu voltage) at an active power flow of less than 25 % of the maximum import capability. Where applicable, Member States may require the relevant TSO to justify its request through a joint analysis with the transmission-connected distribution system operator. If this requirement is not justified based on the joint analysis, the relevant TSO and the transmission-connected distribution system operator shall agree on necessary requirements according to the outcomes of a joint analysis.

3 Without prejudice to point (b) of paragraph 1, the relevant TSO may require the transmission-connected distribution system to actively control the exchange of reactive power at the connection point for the benefit of the entire system. The relevant TSO and the transmission-connected distribution system operator shall agree on a method to carry out this control, to ensure the justified level of security of supply for both parties. The justification shall include a roadmap in which the steps and the timeline for fulfilling the requirement are specified.

4 In accordance with paragraph 3, the transmission-connected distribution system operator may require the relevant TSO to consider its transmission-connected distribution system for reactive power management.

## *Article 16*

### **Protection requirements**

1 The relevant TSO shall specify the devices and settings required to protect the transmission network in accordance with the characteristics of the transmission-connected demand facility or the transmission-connected distribution system. The relevant TSO and the transmission-connected demand facility owner or the transmission-connected distribution system operator shall agree on protection schemes and settings relevant for the transmission-connected demand facility or the transmission-connected distribution system.

2 Electrical protection of the transmission-connected demand facility or the transmission-connected distribution system shall take precedence over operational controls while respecting system security, health and safety of staff and the public.

3 Protection scheme devices may cover the following elements:

- a external and internal short circuit;
- b over- and under-voltage at the connection point to the transmission system;
- c over- and under-frequency;
- d demand circuit protection;
- e unit transformer protection;
- f back-up against protection and switchgear malfunction.

4 The relevant TSO and the transmission-connected demand facility owner or the transmission-connected distribution system operator shall agree on any changes to the protection schemes relevant for the transmission-connected demand facility or the transmission-connected

---

**Changes to legislation:** There are outstanding changes not yet made to Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1388. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

---

distribution system, and on the arrangements for the protection schemes of the transmission-connected demand facility or the transmission-connected distribution system.

### *Article 17*

#### **Control requirements**

1 The relevant TSO and the transmission-connected demand facility owner or the transmission-connected distribution system operator shall agree on the schemes and settings of the different control devices of the transmission-connected demand facility or the transmission-connected distribution system relevant for system security.

2 The agreement shall cover at least the following elements:

- a isolated (network) operation;
- b damping of oscillations;
- c disturbances to the transmission network;
- d automatic switching to emergency supply and restoration to normal topology;
- e automatic circuit-breaker re-closure (on 1-phase faults).

3 The relevant TSO and the transmission-connected demand facility owner or the transmission-connected distribution system operator shall agree on any changes to the schemes and settings of the different control devices of the transmission-connected demand facility or the transmission-connected distribution system relevant for system security.

4 With regard to priority ranking of protection and control, the transmission-connected demand facility owner or the transmission-connected distribution system operator shall set the protection and control devices of its transmission-connected demand facility or its transmission-connected distribution system respectively, in compliance with the following priority ranking, organised in decreasing order of importance:

- a transmission network protection;
- b transmission-connected demand facility or transmission-connected distribution system protection;
- c frequency control (active power adjustment);
- d power restriction.

### *Article 18*

#### **Information exchange**

1 Transmission-connected demand facilities shall be equipped according to the standards specified by the relevant TSO in order to exchange information between the relevant TSO and the transmission-connected demand facility with the specified time stamping. The relevant TSO shall make the specified standards publicly available.

2 Transmission-connected distribution system shall be equipped according to the standards specified by the relevant TSO in order to exchange information between the relevant TSO and the transmission-connected distribution system with the specified time stamping. The relevant TSO shall make the specified standards publicly available.

3 The relevant TSO shall specify the information exchange standards. The relevant TSO shall make publicly available the precise list of data required.

---

*Changes to legislation:* There are outstanding changes not yet made to Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1388. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

---

## Article 19

### Demand disconnection and demand reconnection

1 All transmission-connected demand facilities and transmission-connected distribution systems shall fulfil the following requirements related to low frequency demand disconnection functional capabilities:

- a each transmission-connected distribution system operator and, where specified by the TSO, transmission-connected demand facility owner, shall provide capabilities that enable automatic 'low frequency' disconnection of a specified proportion of their demand. The relevant TSO may specify a disconnection trigger based on a combination of low frequency and rate-of-change-of-frequency;
- b the low frequency demand disconnection functional capabilities shall allow for disconnecting demand in stages for a range of operational frequencies;
- c the low frequency demand disconnection functional capabilities shall allow for operation from a nominal Alternating Current ('AC') input to be specified by the relevant system operator, and shall meet the following requirements:
  - (i) frequency range: at least between 47-50 Hz, adjustable in steps of 0,05 Hz;
  - (ii) operating time: no more than 150 ms after triggering the frequency setpoint;
  - (iii) voltage lock-out: blocking of the functional capability shall be possible when the voltage is within a range of 30 to 90 % of reference 1 pu voltage;
  - (iv) provide the direction of active power flow at the point of disconnection;
- d the AC voltage supply used in providing low frequency demand disconnection functional capabilities, shall be provided from the network at the frequency signal measuring point, as used in providing functional capabilities in accordance with paragraph 1(c), so that the frequency of the low frequency demand disconnection functional capabilities supply voltage is the same as the one of the network.

2 With regard to low voltage demand disconnection functional capabilities, the following requirements shall apply:

- a the relevant TSO may specify, in coordination with the transmission-connected distribution system operators, low voltage demand disconnection functional capabilities for the transmission-connected distribution facilities;
- b the relevant TSO may specify, in coordination with the transmission-connected demand facility owners, low voltage demand disconnection functional capabilities for the transmission-connected demand facilities;
- c based on the TSO's assessment concerning system security, the implementation of on load tap changer blocking and low voltage demand disconnection shall be binding for the transmission-connected distribution system operators;
- d if the relevant TSO decides to implement a low voltage demand disconnection functional capability, the equipment for both on load tap changer blocking and low voltage demand disconnection shall be installed in coordination with the relevant TSO;
- e the method for low voltage demand disconnection shall be implemented by relay or control room initiation;
- f the low voltage demand disconnection functional capabilities shall have the following features:

---

**Changes to legislation:** There are outstanding changes not yet made to Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1388. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

---

- (i) the low voltage demand disconnection functional capability shall monitor the voltage by measuring all three phases;
  - (ii) blocking of the relays' operation shall be based on direction of either active power or reactive power flow.
- 3 With regard to blocking of on load tap changers, the following requirements shall apply:
- a if required by the relevant TSO, the transformer at the transmission-connected distribution facility shall be capable of automatic or manual on load tap changer blocking;
  - b the relevant TSO shall specify the automatic on load tap changer blocking functional capability.
- 4 All transmission-connected demand facilities and transmission-connected distribution systems shall fulfil the following requirements related to disconnection or reconnection of a transmission-connected demand facility or a transmission-connected distribution system:
- a with regard to the capability of reconnection after a disconnection, the relevant TSO shall specify the conditions under which a transmission-connected demand facility or a transmission-connected distribution system is entitled to reconnect to the transmission system. Installation of automatic reconnection systems shall be subject to prior authorisation by the relevant TSO;
  - b with regard to reconnection of a transmission-connected demand facility or a transmission-connected distribution system, the transmission-connected demand facility or the transmission-connected distribution system shall be capable of synchronisation for frequencies within the ranges set out in Article 12. The relevant TSO and the transmission-connected demand facility owner or the transmission-connected distribution system operator shall agree on the settings of synchronisation devices prior to connection of the transmission-connected demand facility or the transmission-connected distribution system, including voltage, frequency, phase angle range and deviation of voltage and frequency;
  - c a transmission-connected demand facility or a transmission-connected distribution facility shall be capable of being remotely disconnected from the transmission system when required by the relevant TSO. If required, the automated disconnection equipment for reconfiguration of the system in preparation for block loading shall be specified by the relevant TSO. The relevant TSO shall specify the time required for remote disconnection.

#### *Article 20*

### **Power quality**

Transmission-connected demand facility owners and transmission-connected distribution system operators shall ensure that their connection to the network does not result in a determined level of distortion or fluctuation of the supply voltage on the network, at the connection point. The level of distortion shall not exceed that allocated to them by the relevant TSO. TSOs shall coordinate their power quality requirements with the requirements of adjacent TSOs.

---

*Changes to legislation:* There are outstanding changes not yet made to Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1388. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

---

## Article 21

### Simulation models

1 Transmission-connected demand facilities and transmission-connected distribution systems shall fulfil the requirements set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 related to the simulation models or equivalent information.

2 Each TSO may require simulation models or equivalent information showing the behaviour of the transmission-connected demand facility, or the transmission-connected distribution system, or both, in steady and dynamic states.

3 Each TSO shall specify the content and format of those simulation models or equivalent information. The content and format shall include:

- a steady and dynamic states, including 50 Hz component;
- b electromagnetic transient simulations at the connection point;
- c structure and block diagrams.

4 For the purpose of dynamic simulations, the simulation model or equivalent information referred to in paragraph 3(a) shall contain the following sub-models or equivalent information:

- a power control;
- b voltage control;
- c transmission-connected demand facility and transmission-connected distribution system protection models;
- d the different types of demand, that is to say electro technical characteristics of the demand; and
- e converter models.

5 Each relevant system operator or relevant TSO shall specify the requirements of the performance of the recordings of transmission-connected demand facilities or transmission-connected distribution facilities, or both, in order to compare the response of the model with these recordings.



### Changes to legislation:

There are outstanding changes not yet made to Commission Regulation (EU) 2016/1388. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

### Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- Regulation revoked by [S.I. 2019/533 reg. 5\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to [legislation.gov.uk](#). Reg. 5 revoked on the day before IP completion day by [S.I. 2019/1104](#), regs. 1(2), 2)

### Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole legislation item and associated provisions

- Title 6 omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 22](#)
- Signature words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 24](#)
- Annex 1 word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 25\(c\)\(i\)](#)
- Annex 1 word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 25\(c\)\(ii\)](#)
- Annex 1 word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 25\(c\)\(iii\)](#)
- Annex 1 word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 25\(c\)\(iv\)](#)
- Annex 1 word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 25\(c\)\(v\)](#)
- Annex 1 word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 25\(c\)\(vi\)](#)
- Annex 1 word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 25\(c\)\(vii\)](#)
- Annex 1 words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 25\(a\)](#)
- Annex 1 words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 25\(b\)](#)
- Annex 1 words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 25\(d\)](#)
- Annex 1 words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 25\(e\)](#)
- Annex 2 word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 26\(a\)\(iii\)\(aa\)](#)
- Annex 2 word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 26\(a\)\(iii\)\(bb\)](#)
- Annex 2 word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 26\(b\)\(iii\)\(aa\)](#)
- Annex 2 word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 26\(b\)\(iii\)\(bb\)](#)
- Annex 2 word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 26\(b\)\(iii\)\(cc\)](#)
- Annex 2 words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 26\(a\)\(i\)](#)
- Annex 2 words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 26\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- Annex 2 words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 26\(a\)\(iv\)](#)
- Annex 2 words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 26\(a\)\(v\)](#)
- Annex 2 words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 26\(b\)\(i\)](#)
- Annex 2 words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 26\(b\)\(ii\)](#)
- Annex 2 words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 26\(b\)\(iv\)](#)
- Annex 2 words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 26\(b\)\(v\)](#)
- Art. 2(5) words substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 1\(4\)\(b\)\(i\)](#)
- Art. 2(5) words substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 1\(4\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#)
- Art. 3(2)(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 2\(3\)](#)
- Art. 4(1)(a)(iii) word omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 3\(2\)\(b\)\(i\)](#)
- Art. 4(1)(a)(iii) words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 3\(2\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#)
- Art. 4(1)(a)(ii) word omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 3\(2\)\(a\)\(i\)](#)
- Art. 4(1)(a)(ii) words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 3\(2\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- Art. 4(1)(b) words substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 3\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- Art. 4(2)(b) words substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 3\(3\)\(a\)\(i\)](#)
- Art. 4(2)(b) words substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 3\(3\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- Art. 4(2)(b) words substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 3\(3\)\(a\)\(iii\)](#)
- Art. 4(4)(b) word omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 3\(5\)\(a\)](#)
- Art. 4(4)(b) words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 3\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- Art. 6(3)(d) words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 4\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- Art. 6(3)(f) word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 4\(4\)\(c\)](#)
- Art. 19(1)(c)(i) word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 11](#)

- Art. 29(2)(f) word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 12\(b\)](#)
- Art. 29(2)(g) word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 12\(c\)\(i\)](#)
- Art. 29(2)(g) word substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 12\(c\)\(ii\)](#)
- Art. 42(3)(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 13](#)
- Art. 48(3)(b) words omitted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 14\(2\)](#)
- Art. 49(2)(c) words substituted by [S.I. 2020/1006 Sch. 2 para. 15](#)