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BSI Standards Publication

Microgrids

Part 3-1: Technical requirements — Protection and dynamic control

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National foreword

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The start and finish of text introduced or altered by amendment is indicated in the text by tags. Tags indicating changes to IEC text carry the number of the IEC amendment. For example, text altered by IEC amendment 1 is indicated by A1 A1.

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A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

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Microgrids –
Part 3-1: Technical requirements – Protection and dynamic control

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MICROGRIDS –

Part 3-1: Technical requirements – Protection and dynamic control

FOREWORD

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Technical Specifications are subject to review within three years of publication to decide whether they can be transformed into International Standards.

IEC TS 62898-3-1, which is a Technical Specification, has been prepared by IEC subcommittee 8B: Decentralized Electrical Energy Systems of IEC technical committee 8: System aspects of electrical energy supply.

The text of this Technical Specification is based on the following documents:

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Draft TS	Report on voting
8B/53/DTS	8B/59/RVDTS

Full information on the voting for the approval of this Technical Specification can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

This document has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

A list of all parts in the IEC 62898 series, published under the general title *Microgrids*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under "http://webstore.iec.ch" in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

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INTRODUCTION

Microgrids can serve different purposes depending on the primary objectives of their applications. They are usually seen as a means to manage reliability of supply in a grid contingency and to facilitate local optimization of energy supply by controlling distributed energy resources (DER). Microgrids also present a way to provide electricity supply in remote areas, to use renewable energy as a systematic approach for rural electrification and to increase resiliency and security of supply to end users.

Deployment of DER can cause a microgrid or distribution system of a grid to face several challenges, including fault protection and dynamic control issues. There are, however, some issues commonly faced in the protection and control of microgrids which are less prevalent in large grids. These issues include: bidirectional flow of power resulting in voltage excursions outside acceptable limits, fault current being supplied from multiple sources, loss of synchronism between multiple sources when a fault occurs, potentially limited fault current magnitude, lower inertia or lower primary time constant, regular changes in operational configuration due to economic optimization, and intermittency of source-dependent renewable distributed generators. These issues worsen when the microgrid contains several converter-based generators (CBGs) and operates in island mode. As such, conventional protection and control strategies may not be suitable or sufficient for microgrids. Protection systems different from the conventional ones may be required. In some instances, protection systems may need to be adjusted dynamically based on the operating state of the microgrid.

Conventional power systems have predominantly consisted of power sources, such as fossil fuel-fired thermal power plants, hydro power plants and nuclear power plants, which are relatively stable and easy to control. On the other hand, microgrids often contain many different types of sources, many of which are intermittent. Hence, protection and dynamic control in microgrids need to be more sophisticated than in conventional power systems. However, the main grid contributes to the fault currents in the grid-connected mode of operation and hence the fault currents are large enough to actuate conventional protection devices. Though it is possible to employ conventional protection principles and existing standards for the protection of microgrids operating in grid-connected mode, the existing protection settings should be systematically assessed as the existence of DER may compromise the coordination of the protection system.

Due to the specific characteristics of microgrids and their frequent use of converter-based generators, disturbances in microgrids require special consideration. The disturbance problems in microgrids can be addressed by dynamic control. Dynamic control can be classified as transient disturbance control and dynamic disturbance control. Transient disturbance control damps disturbances in microgrids caused by forced or unintended sudden and severe voltage and current changes due to switching of large sources or loads, mode transfer or fault clearance, and characterized by large magnitude and phase change and with a time duration of milliseconds. Dynamic disturbance control regulates disturbances in microgrids caused by forced or unintended voltage and current changes due to generator and load variation, and characterized by magnitude and phase changes beyond the normal operating limits, and continuing for milliseconds to seconds.

The initial characteristics of faults are very similar to initial characteristics of transient and dynamic disturbances. Distinguishing the two types of incidents from each other is critical for the proper operation of microgrids. Thus, protection and dynamic control of microgrids are closely related and need to be coordinated with each other.

This part of IEC 62898 specifies requirements to address the above-mentioned protection and dynamic control issues in microgrids.

IEC TS 62898 (all parts) intends to provide general guidelines and technical requirements for microgrids.

a) IEC TS 62898-1 mainly covers the following issues:
   - determination of microgrid purposes and application;
   - preliminary study necessary for microgrid planning, including resource analysis, load forecast, DER planning and power system planning;
   - principles of microgrid technical requirements that should be specified during planning stage;
   - microgrid evaluation to select an optimal microgrid planning scheme.

b) IEC TS 62898-2 mainly covers the following issues:
   - operation requirements and control targets of microgrids under different operation modes;
   - basic control strategies and methods under different operation modes;
   - requirements of energy storage, monitoring and communication under different operation modes;
   - power quality.

c) IEC TS 62898-3-1 mainly covers the following issues:
   - requirements for microgrid protection;
   - protection systems for microgrids;
   - dynamic control for transient and dynamic disturbances in microgrids;

Microgrids can be stand-alone or a sub-system of an interconnected grid. The technical requirements in this Technical Specification are intended to be consistent with:

1) IEC 60364-7 (all parts and amendments related to low-voltage electrical installations);
2) IEC TS 62786, requirements for connection of generators intended to be operated in parallel with the grid;
3) IEC TS 62257 (all parts) with respect to rural electrification;
4) IEC TS 62749 with respect to power quality;
5) IEC TS 62898-1;
6) IEC TS 62898-2;
7) IEC TS 63268;

MICROGRIDS –

Part 3-1: Technical requirements – Protection and dynamic control

1 Scope

The purpose of this part of IEC 62898 is to provide guidelines for the specification of fault protection and dynamic control in microgrids. Protection and dynamic control in a microgrid are intended to ensure safe and stable operation of the microgrid under fault and disturbance conditions.

This document applies to AC microgrids comprising single or three-phase networks or both. It includes both isolated microgrids and non-isolated microgrids with a single point of connection (POC) to the upstream distribution network. It does not apply to microgrids with two or more points of connection to the upstream distribution network, although such systems can follow the guidelines given in this document. This document applies to microgrids operating at LV or MV or both. DC and hybrid AC/DC microgrids are excluded from the scope, due to the particular characteristics of DC systems (extremely large fault currents and the absence of naturally occurring current zero crossings).

This document defines the principles of protection and dynamic control for microgrids, general technical requirements, and specific technical requirements of fault protection and dynamic control. It addresses new challenges in microgrid protection requirements, transient disturbance control and dynamic disturbance control requirements for microgrids. It focuses on the differences between conventional power system protection and new possible solutions for microgrid protection functions.

Depending on specific situations, additional or stricter requirements can be defined by the microgrid operator in coordination with the distribution system operator (DSO).

This document does not cover protection and dynamic control of active distribution systems. This document does not cover product requirements for measuring relays and protection equipment.

This document does not cover safety aspects in low voltage electrical installations, which are covered by IEC 60364 (all parts and amendments related to low-voltage electrical installations). Requirements relating to low voltage microgrids can be found in IEC 60364-8-2.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60364 (all parts), *Low voltage electrical installations*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.