LETTER OF INTENT
TO COOPERATE ON SMART GRID COORDINATION

The Smart Grid Interoperability Panel (SGIP) is providing direction for the development of standards that will support interoperability of the Smart Grid. This effort has included the creation of priority action plans to help accelerate standards development in critical areas. The Governing Board of the SGIP (SGIP GB) provides ongoing guidance for the SGIP in identification of standards needs, tracking progress of the standards development efforts, and assessment of implementation issues.

The desire of the SGIP is to coordinate these interoperability standards efforts with international standards development activities. In Japan, interoperability standards development efforts are mainly being coordinated by the Japan Smart Community Alliance (JSCA) with close collaboration with Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). This letter of intent proposes an approach to enhance the coordination between the SGIP GB and JSCA.

SCOPE
The following areas are identified as particular priorities for collaboration to help assure that smart grid interoperability standards are applicable across the widest possible range of applications around the world.

Sharing of Information for Standardization Policy
These activities may involve collaboration and sharing of national and regional standards information that would enhance the integration and performance of smart electric grids. This may involve recommendations to national standards committees for new work item proposals to international standards bodies.

Sharing of Project Information on Smart Grid
These activities may include sharing of project information on Smart Grid that has been already delivered by both parties.
  i  Information about Smart Cities and/or Smart Communities implementations and the lessons learned about how to integrate multiple “smart” services into a successful program
  ii Tactics, techniques, and practices (TTP) for the design and implementation of microgrids
  iii Information on pilots and demonstrations
Testing and Certification of Smart Grid Interoperability Standards Compliance
These activities may include sharing of information related to testing and certification requirements associated with Smart Grid interoperability standards. Examples include requirements for testing and certification approaches, etc.

Other Information Sharing
The parties may share information and documents in the areas outlined above. Review of the information will be conducted and feedback provided to enhance collaboration and consistency in the standards efforts.

Conference and Meeting Participation
The parties may encourage participation in conferences and meetings where information about standards development activity can be shared and discussed. Both parties may participate in interoperability-related conferences and meetings, held in both countries, whose focuses are on both parties' interest.

CODICIL
This letter of intent to collaborate and shall not be construed to create any legal obligation on the part of either side. This letter of intent is not legally binding.

In particular, the Chair of the SGIP GB and JSCA acknowledge that nothing in this letter:
(a) creates an exclusive relationship between the Parties;
(b) will restrict either Party's individual interactions with third parties or each other;
(c) gives either Party the authority to act on behalf of the other side;
(d) requires SGIP GB or JSCA to conduct themself in a manner inconsistent with their respective charters; or commits either side to expend funds;
(e) forms a legally or financially binding agreement; or
(f) authorizes or obligates either side to expend, exchange, or reimburse funds, services, or supplies, or transfer or receive anything of value.

If the foregoing accurately reflects our mutual understanding, please acknowledge acceptance by executing this Letter of Intent.

Agreed and Accepted on the twentieth day of March in the year two thousand and twelve.

John McDonald
Chair of the Smart Grid Interoperability Panel Governing Board

Hiroshi Watanabe
Executive Director of NEDO and Secretary General of JSCA