

Proposed variation:	Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement (DCUSA) DCP029: Part 1 Housekeeping		
Decision:	The Authority ¹ directs that this variation be made ²		
Target audience:	Parties to the DCUSA and other interested parties		
Date of publication:	02 October 2008	Implementation Date:	TBC by DCUSA Panel Secretary

Background to the proposed variation

Parties to the Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement (DCUSA), legal advisors to the DCUSA Panel and the Panel itself may identify housekeeping changes to the DCUSA at any time. These changes are logged in a Housekeeping Log which is maintained and overseen by the DCUSA Panel. From time to time, any party permitted to raise DCUSA change proposals may raise a housekeeping change proposal.

The proposed variation

The proposer, Electricity North West Limited, raised DCP029 in order to progress a number of housekeeping changes which had been captured in the Housekeeping Log. These changes include some consequential on changes in other industry code documents (primarily the Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC)) and others which rectify minor referencing errors in the DCUSA itself. These changes impact on Part 1 matters within the DCUSA, although one Part 2 change is also included. The purpose of the change proposal is to maintain and keep the DCUSA up to date.

The Panel agreed that making these changes would better facilitate the Applicable DCUSA Objective regarding efficient discharge by the DNO and IDNO Parties of their obligations under their Distribution Licences.

Recommendation to Ofgem

The unanimous recommendation of DCUSA Parties of the Party Classes which voted (DNO and Supplier) was to accept the proposed variation. There was also unanimous support for the proposed implementation date.

The Authority's decision

The Authority has considered the issues raised by DCP029 and the final Change Report (CR) dated 21 August 2008. The Authority has considered and taken into account the responses to ElectraLink's³ consultation which are attached to the CR⁴ and the recommendation of the DCUSA Parties. The Authority has concluded that:

1. implementation of the proposed variation will better facilitate the achievement of the Applicable DCUSA Objectives⁵; and

¹ The terms 'the Authority', 'Ofgem' and 'we' are used interchangeably in this document. Ofgem is the Office of the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority.

² This document is notice of the reasons for this decision as required by section 49A of the Electricity Act 1989.

³ The role, functions, and responsibilities of Electralink are set out in Section 1B of the DCUSA.

⁴ DCUSA change proposals, modification reports and representations can be viewed on the DCUSA website at <http://dcusa.co.uk/Public/Default.aspx>

⁵ As set out in the Distribution Licence Standard Condition 9B(9), see: http://epr.ofgem.gov.uk/document_fetch.php?documentid=12773

2. directing that the proposed variation be made is consistent with the Authority's principal objective and statutory duties⁶.

Reasons for the Authority's decision

We consider that this change promotes good housekeeping within the DCUSA document. It allows the DCUSA to be maintained and kept up-to-date by taking into account changes which arise consequentially out of changes to other industry codes. In addition, the changes remove the potential for misinterpretation of DCUSA provisions by users of the document by removing minor drafting errors.

We therefore consider that DCP029 will better facilitate the achievement of Applicable DCUSA Objective (c) *'the efficient discharge by the licensee of the obligations imposed upon it by this licence.'*

Decision notice

In accordance with Standard Condition 9B of the Distribution Licence, the Authority hereby directs that the proposed variation set out in DCP029: "Part 1 Housekeeping" be made, and that it shall be implemented on a date to be confirmed by the DCUSA Panel Secretary.



Mark Feather

Associate Director, Industry Code and Licensing

Signed on behalf of the Authority and authorised for that purpose.

⁶The Authority's statutory duties are wider than matters which the Panel must take into consideration and are detailed mainly in the Electricity Act 1989.