

DCUSA Issues Form (DIF)

This form should be used by parties to submit matters for consideration to DCUSA Standing Issues Group (SIG).

The completed form should be issued to DCUSA@electralink.co.uk

Document Control	
Date Submitted	12 th November 2010
Issue Title:	Relevant Charging Statement – Version Control
Issue Number*:	014
Meeting Ref*:	11/10
Attachments:	None

**Assigned by DCUSA Secretariat*

Originator details	
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Nature of Issue

If amendments are made to a DNOs Charging Statement between releases e.g. Indicative Prices and Final Prices, (even if the change is correcting a typo) – if the amendment is not clearly highlighted in the new Statement, we (as an IDNO mirroring the host’s tariffs) could be working on incorrect figures. As a result, we could unintentionally charge more than if the customer was connected to the host DNO, and therefore be in breach of our Charging Methodology and our Licence. This issue would also impact Suppliers and their own tariff calculations.

As an example, in the latest release (EFD 1st October 2010), a DNO published as follows:

- Indicative Prices released 30th June 2010.
- Final prices released 20th August (with indicator that ‘nothing had changed since indicative’ – this was actually very helpful)
- Updated Final Charging Statement (where the time zones were altered) released 30th September 2010 – but with no comment as to whether or not anything had changed.

As that release was silent on any changes that had been made, the time zones changes were missed by ourselves. Also both the 30th June and 30th September releases were recorded as Version 1.0. When we saw that the version number was the same, we did a couple of spot checks on prices and were happy that nothing had changed. It wasn’t until a Supplier phoned us and pointed out that our Charging Statement was not mirroring the DNOs that the changes were identified.

If one of the following solutions is not used (or an alternative more effective solution proposed), then it means that each time a DNO releases a Statement, we have to check every page, word by word, figure by figure, to ensure all the details are the same as previously. 14 times for each release potentially. An administrative burden that could easily be rectified with some form of version control.

Solution Overview – if known

Solution description:

It would be very helpful if DNOs had version control and in that control, have details of what has changed since the last version e.g. this is what we have in our statement:

VERSION CONTROL

Version	Revision Details	Prepared By Date	Approved By Date
0.1	Draft	JS JUNE 10	DMT JULY 10
1.0	Indicative Issue	JS JULY 10	DMT JULY 10
1.1	Final Issue.	JS AUGUST 10	DMT AUGUST 10
1.2	Amendments to time bands page [n]	JS OCT 2010	DMT OCT 2010

Alternatively, attaching a ‘track-changed’ copy of the Statement could also

	<p>be used to highlight any amendments. This would clearly identify what changes had occurred since the last statement.</p> <p>Detailing the changes (or confirming there are in fact no changes since the last release) in the accompanying correspondence (letter, email) would also do the same job.</p>
Lead time for Implementation:	3 months – in time for the Final Statement release for April 2011 Charges (Indicative released in December 2010).