

Proposed modification:	<b>Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement (DCUSA) DCP193 – Panel Editing Change Reports</b>		
Decision:	The Authority <sup>1</sup> directs that modification DCP193 be made <sup>2</sup>		
Target audience:	DCUSA Panel, Parties to the DCUSA and other interested parties		
Date of publication:	24 February 2014	Implementation Date:	Next DCUSA release

### Background to the modification proposal

The current DCUSA rules do not permit the DCUSA Panel to alter Change Reports prepared by Working Groups except in the ways prescribed in the DCUSA. This includes altering the party categories eligible to vote, altering the implementation date and adding up to two 'alternative' solutions to the report. If errors or other necessary amendments are discovered by the Panel the Change Report must either be sent for party voting without correction, or returned to the Working Group for amendment.

### The modification proposal

This proposal was raised by Eastern Power Networks ('the proposer') to allow the DCUSA Panel to alter a Change Report that has been submitted by a Working Group, provided that the substance of the report is not changed. The proposer highlights that the Panel is currently unable to edit Change Reports in order to correct typographical errors, poor language or "improper allegations", despite the Working Group acting on behalf of the Panel.

### DCUSA Parties' recommendation

The Change Declaration for DCP193 indicates that all parties were eligible to vote on DCP193. In each party category where votes were cast (no votes were cast in the DG party category),<sup>3</sup> there was majority (>50%) support for the proposal and for its proposed implementation date. In accordance with the weighted vote procedure, the recommendation to the Authority is that DCP193 is accepted. The outcome of the weighted vote is set out in the table below:

DCP193	WEIGHTED VOTING (%)							
	DNO <sup>4</sup>		IDNO/OTSO <sup>5</sup>		SUPPLIER		DG <sup>6</sup>	
	Accept	Reject	Accept	Reject	Accept	Reject	Accept	Reject
CHANGE SOLUTION	88	12	100	0	100	0	n/a	n/a
IMPLEMENTATION DATE	88	12	100	0	100	0	n/a	n/a

### The Authority's decision

We have considered the issues raised by the proposal and the Change Declaration dated 20 January 2014. We have considered and taken into account the vote of the DCUSA Parties on the proposal which is attached to the Change Declaration. We have concluded that:

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

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

<sup>3</sup> There are currently no gas supplier parties.

<sup>4</sup> Distribution Network Operator

<sup>5</sup> Independent Distribution Network Operator/Offshore Transmission System Operator

<sup>6</sup> Distributed Generation

- implementation of the change proposal DCP193 will better facilitate the achievement of the General DCUSA objectives;<sup>7</sup> and
- directing that the change is approved is consistent with the Authority's principal objective and statutory duties.<sup>8</sup>

### **Reasons for the Authority's decision**

We consider this proposal will better facilitate DCUSA General Objective 3.1.4 and has a neutral impact on the other applicable objectives.

#### **DCUSA General Objective 3.1.4 – the promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of this Agreement and the arrangements under it**

The proposer considers that DCUSA General Objective 3.1.4 would be better facilitated by the ability of the DCUSA Panel to edit Change Reports. Comments supplied with the party vote agreed that the ability for the DCUSA Panel to make minor amendments to Change Reports would improve efficiency in code administration. One DNO voted against this modification, however, commenting that while typographical errors should be amended by the Panel, other changes should be referred back to Working Group.

We consider that it would be appropriate to provide feedback to Working Groups in cases where the Panel feel it necessary to amend a Change Report for changes that may go beyond correcting typographical errors. However, to avoid unnecessary delays it is not necessarily beneficial to require the Panel to return the Change Report to the Working Group, and therefore delay the party vote on that change proposal.

We note that the Panel is ultimately responsible for the quality of final Change Reports and in our view it is appropriate for the Panel to be able to amend Change Reports where necessary. This should improve the efficiency in the DCUSA change process by removing unnecessary delays and ensuring better quality Change Reports are submitted for decision.

### **Decision notice**

In accordance with standard licence condition 22.14 of the Electricity Distribution Licence, the Authority hereby directs that modification proposal DCP193: 'Panel Editing Change Reports' be made.

**Lesley Nugent**  
**Head of Industry Codes and Licensing**

Signed on behalf of the Authority and authorised for that purpose

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<sup>7</sup> The DCUSA General Objectives (Applicable DCUSA Objectives) are set out in Standard Licence Condition 22.2 of the Electricity Distribution Licence and are also set out in Clause 3.1 of the DCUSA.

<sup>8</sup> The Authority's statutory duties are wider than matters that the Panel must take into consideration and are detailed mainly in the Electricity Act 1989 as amended.