

Proposed variation:	Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement (DCUSA) DCP175 – Add National Terms of Connection (NTC) Version Control		
Decision:	The Authority ¹ directs that proposal DCP175 be made ²		
Target audience:	DCUSA Panel, Parties to the DCUSA and other interested parties		
Date of publication:	22 October 2013	Implementation Date:	Next DCUSA release

Background to the modification proposal

The National Terms of Connection (NTC) (“the terms”) are contained within Schedule 2B of DCUSA (“the code”) and published on www.connectionterms.co.uk³. Under the existing arrangements, the DCUSA shows the current version of the terms by the ‘version control number’, whereas the published NTC shows the ‘date published’. There is therefore no version control link between the two documents.

The modification proposal

DCP175 has been raised by UK Power Networks. The intent of the Change Proposal is to add version controls, which will be shown in DCUSA and retained on www.connectionterms.co.uk. The proposer considers that this will improve the current arrangements as code users will be able to cross reference between the current version of the DCUSA and the latest version of the published terms. The proposer considers that this change will make it easier to determine which versions of the terms were live for previous versions of DCUSA. The proposer considers that the adoption of DCP175 would promote efficiency in the implementation and administration of DCUSA and the arrangements under it and would therefore better facilitate DCUSA General Objective 3.1.4.

DCUSA Parties’ recommendation

The Change Declaration for DCP175 indicates that in each party category where votes were cast, there was unanimous support for the proposal and majority (>50%) support for its proposed implementation date. In accordance with the weighted vote procedure, the recommendation to us is that DCP175 is accepted. The outcome of the weighted vote is set out in the table below:

DCP175	WEIGHTED VOTING (%)							
	DNO		IDNO/OTSO		SUPPLIER		DG	
	Accept	Reject	Accept	Reject	Accept	Reject	Accept	Reject
CHANGE SOLUTION	100	0	n/a	n/a	100	0	n/a	n/a
IMPLEMENTATION DATE	72.7	27.3	n/a	n/a	100	0	n/a	n/a

The Authority’s decision

We have considered the issues raised by the proposal and the Change Declaration dated 17 September 2013. 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:

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 http://www.connectionterms.org.uk/assets/files/National.Terms.Of.Connection_4.Feb.2013.pdf

- implementation of the change proposal DCP175 will better facilitate the achievement of the General DCUSA objectives;⁴ and
- directing that the change be made is consistent with our principal objective and statutory duties.⁵

Reasons for our decision

We have decided to approve the proposed change as we consider that adoption of the proposal would better facilitate DCUSA General Objective 3.1.4, as outlined below.

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

We consider that the inclusion of version control numbers applicable to the NTC would help users to cross reference between versions of the DCUSA and the associated NTC. This would better facilitate the achievement of General Objective 3.1.4 in that code users would not require prior knowledge of when the NTC were last revised. This will bring about more efficient administration of the agreement and facilitate a more accessible and understandable approach.

Legal drafting

We note that the proposed legal text appended to the Change Report contains square-bracketing where it is intended that the version number and effective date are inserted. We understand that upon implementation of this legal drafting the square-bracketing will be removed and replaced with the current version number and effective date.

Decision notice

In accordance with standard licence condition 22.14 of the Electricity Distribution Licence, the Authority hereby directs that modification proposal DCP175: '*Add National Terms of Connection Version Control*' be made.

Andrew Burgess

Associate Partner, Transmission and Distribution Policy

Signed on behalf of the Authority and authorised for that purpose

⁴ 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.

⁵ 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.