

DCP 329 Working Group Meeting 02

25 April 2019 at 10:00am

Web-Conference

Attendee	Company
Working Group Members	
David Spillett (DS)	ENA
Chris Barker (CB)	BU-UK
Peter Waymont (PW)	UKPN
Richard Brady (RB)	WPD
Richard Hill (RH)	British Gas
Rebecca Cailes (RC)	BU-UK
Peter Turner (PT)	NPg
Jason Sheridan (JS)	Ofgem
Code Administrator	
Angelo Fitzhenry (Chair)	ElectraLink
Richard Colwill [RJC] (technical secretariat)	ElectraLink

Apologies	Company
Graham Cotton (GC)	ESP Utilities Group
Donna Townsend (DT)	ESP Electricity Limited
Richard Hill (RH)	Centrica

1. Administration

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed the members to the meeting.
- 1.2 The Working Group reviewed the “Competition Law Guidance”. All Working Group members agreed to be bound by the Competition Law Guidance for the duration of the meeting.
- 1.3 The Working Group noted that they were happy with the minutes from the previous meeting held on 7th January 2019. These minutes can be found as Attachment 1.

2. Purpose of the Meeting

- 2.1 The Chair set out that the purpose of the meeting was to review the consultation responses received and review the legal text.

3. Review of DCP 329 Consultation Responses

- 3.1 The Working Group reviewed and responded to the feedback received from the DCP 329 consultation. The feedback received and the Working Group responses can be found as Attachment 2 of these minutes. Key points noted were:
 - All respondents stated that they understood the intent of DCP 329.
 - All respondents acknowledged that the current wording is open to interpretation. Some respondents indicate a literal interpretation of the wording and others add some assumptions to their interpretation.
 - The responses indicate that the companies have procedures to receive and respond to requests to de-energise.
 - Based on the responses received, there have been very few instances where customers have contacted Distributors to de-energise their equipment.
 - NPg submitted an alternative solution to the legal text as below:
 - 5.1 If, in the reasonable opinion of:
 - 5.12 the Customer, the condition or manner of operation of the Distribution System or the Connection Equipment poses an immediate threat of injury or material damage to any person or property (including the Customer’s Installation), then the Customer should use all reasonable endeavours to immediately report the situation to the Company.
 - Most of the responses received believe that this change would better facilitate the DCUSA General Objectives. One respondent raised concerns that the proposed alternative legal text solutions are still ambiguous and provided an alternative solution which the Working Group will consider.

- The Working Group notes that the National Skills Academy is undertaking work regarding introducing a centralised register of authorised personnel - a scheme similar to Lloyd's Register's NERS scheme whereby electricity engineers can elect to be technically assessed for authorisation to work on distribution systems in the event of an emergency. The Secretariat took an action to investigate this work further.
- The Working Group concluded that clarity was needed and that the current legal text would need to be reviewed and amended accordingly.

ACTION 02/01: Secretariat to investigate the work undertaken by the National Skills Academy to see if there is an opportunity to utilise this regarding de-energisation of Distributor equipment.

4. Review of DCP 329 Draft Legal Text

- 4.1 The Working Group reviewed the draft legal text options that were included in the consultation. The proposed solutions were as below:
1. Keep current text and define "prior agreement"
 2. Remove the current text "with the prior agreement of the Company" and replace with "Customer shall have the right subject to clause 8.1 of Section 3".
 3. Replace "with the prior agreement of the Company" with "using authorised and safe means" (to be defined)
 4. Leave as is
- 4.2 After review of the above consultation responses, the options above and the proposed new legal text submitted by NPg, the Working Group considered using the proposed legal text from NPg as a starting point for discussion. A question was raised regarding whether their proposed legal text was removing the text in regard to the customer having the right, with the prior agreement of the Company, to De-energise or whether there was additional text to be added. PT took an action to review the proposed legal text internally and provide an update to the group.

Post meeting note:

- 4.3 Regarding the action above in 4.2, PT has provided an update that the text regarding the customer having the right to De-energise was removed because they couldn't envisage a situation where it was safe for the customer to De-energise Company equipment.

ACTION 02/02: The Working Group to provide feedback on what they believe the legal text should state, considering the original intent of this CP as set out in Attachment 4.

5. Work Plan

- 5.1 An updated DCP 329 Work Plan can be found as attachment 3.

6. Agenda Items for the next meeting

- 6.1 The Working Group agreed to add the following items to the agenda for the next meeting;
- Review and agree legal text.
 - Agree next steps regarding producing the Change Report.

7. Any Other Business

- 7.1 There were no items of AOB and the Chair closed the meeting.

8. Date of Next Meeting –

- 8.1 The date of the next meeting has been scheduled for 9th May 2019 via teleconference.

9. Attachments

- Attachment 1 – DCP 329 Minutes from 7th January 2019
- Attachment 2 – DCP 329 Consultation feedback and Working Group responses
- Attachment 3 – DCP 329 Work Plan
- Attachment 4 – DCP 329 Change Proposal

New and open actions

Action Ref.	Action	Owner	Update
02/01	Secretariat to investigate the work undertaken by the National Skills Academy to see if there is an opportunity to utilise this regarding de-energisation of Distributor equipment.	ElectraLink	
02/02	The Working Group to provide feedback on what they believe the legal text should state, considering the original intent of this CP as set out in Attachment 4.	ElectraLink	

Closed actions

Action Ref.	Action	Owner	Update
01/01	The Secretariat to draft a consultation document and circulate to the Working Group by 17 th January.	ElectraLink	Completed