

DCP 255 Working Group Minutes

Meeting Name	DCP 255 Working Group
Meeting Number	01
Date	07 December 2015
Time	10:00
Venue	Web- Conference

Attendee	Company
Neil Magrath [NM] (Chair)	UK Power Networks
Gwen MacIntyre [GM]	SSE
Paul McGimpsey [PM]	Scottish Power
Peter Turner [PT]	Northern Powergrid
Claire Hynes [CH] (Secretariat)	ElectraLink

Apologies	Company
Brian Hoy [BH]	ENWL
Jason Raymond [JR]	Premier Energy

1 ADMINISTRATION

- 1.1 The Working Group reviewed the “Competition Law Do’s and Don’ts”. All Working Group members agreed to be bound by the Competition Laws Do’s and Don’ts for the duration of the meeting.
- 1.2 The Working Group reviewed the DCP 255 Terms of Reference (ToR). All Working Group members agreed to the terms and the work plan set out in the document for the duration of the Working Group.

2 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

- 2.1 NM was appointed as the Chair of the Working Group.

3 ANALYSIS OF THE DCP 255 CHANGE PROPOSAL (CP)

- 3.1 The Working Group noted that this CP seeks to incorporate changes to the Electricity (Connection Charges) Regulations (ECCR) 2002 in to the Common Connection Charging Methodology (CCCM). The DCUSA Panel designated this CP as a self-governance (Part 2 Matter) change and directed the Working Group to only make changes to the CCCM that are a direct consequence of the amendments to the ECCR.

4 REVIEW OF THE DCP 255 DRAFT LEGAL TEXT

- 4.1 The Working Group considered that their review of the draft legal text was constrained by the fact that the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) have not published their final legal drafting on the amendments to the ECCR. The expected publication date of the DECC legal drafting is mid-February 2016 and the legal text is expected to come in to effect on the 06 April 2016.

4.2 The Working Group considered that as the ECCR is a statutory instrument it goes in to more detail than will be required to be inserted in to the methodology.

4.3 The Working Group agreed to:

- consider whether the wording at Clause 1.29 adequately covers inter-distributor connections:

“Where, in order to provide your connection;

- *we propose to utilise existing Distribution System assets that were previously installed to provide a connection to **another Customer**, and”;*
- Check whether connectees are entitled to a refund if they have paid in whole or in part under the 2016 regulations;
- Consider adding a reference of five to ten years to the ECCR Prescribed Period definition;
- Check whether the DECC regulations will apply only to second connectees or all subsequent connectees within the 10 year period that use up capacity created by the wider reinforcement of the network paid for by the initial connectee;
- Check whether other changes in the ECCR not currently captured in the DCP 255 draft legal text should be inserted such as how DNOs will estimate the cost of the ICP connection and contact the customer to provide the refund, Section 22 agreements and inter-distributor connections (IDNOs); and
- Check whether the second comer rule does not apply in certain circumstances such as a large development where one party provides the information for the whole site and specific plots are provided to individual developers who pay to be connected to the infrastructure on the site.

ACTION 01/01: ALL

4.4 The Working Group defined a new term ‘ECCR Prescribed Period’ which can be referred to in the draft legal text in multiple locations but only requires a change to the definition to reflect it throughout the text. The second comer rule is expected to be extended to apply from 5 years to 10 years after the assets were installed. The Working Group debated whether the ‘ECCR Prescribed Period’ should contain more specific language. It is expected that the new DECC regulations will set out when the 10 year period starts and ends which the current regulations do not define for the 5 year period. If the ECCR Prescribed Period does not just refer to the ECCR then both the current and new regulations will need to be captured in its definition.

4.5 The Working Group agreed to seek the proposers views on the changes that they have made to the draft legal text.

ACTION 01/02: ELECTRALINK

5 NEXT STEPS

5.1 The DCP 255 Working Group agreed the next steps as follows:

- The Working Group has scheduled its next meeting on the 14 January 2016 to consider members views on the draft legal text questions set out above.

- The Working Group agreed to draft the Change Report and final legal text after DECC has published it's final legal drafting in mid-february 2016.

6 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 6.1 There were no items of any other business.

7 NEXT MEETING

- 7.1 The next meeting is scheduled for 10:00am on Thursday, 14 December 2016 via web-conference.

8 ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 - DCP 255 Draft Legal Text

APPENDIX A: SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**NEW AND OPEN ACTIONS**

Action Ref.	Action	Owner	Update
01/01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> consider whether the wording at Clause 1.29 adequately covers inter-distributor connections; Check whether connectees are entitled to a refund if they have paid in whole or in part under the 2016 regulations Consider adding a reference of five to ten years to the ECCR Prescribed Period definition. Check whether the DECC regulations will apply only to second connectees or all subsequent connectees within the 10 year period Check whether other changes in the ECCR not currently captured in the DCP 255 draft legal text should be inserted Check whether the second comer rule does not apply in certain circumstances 	All	
01/02	Seek the proposers views on the changes that	ElectraLink	

	they have made to the draft legal text.		
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