
Meeting Name	DCUSA Panel
Meeting Date	21 January 2009
Paper Title	Initial Assessment Report – DCP 038
Purpose of Paper	For Decision
Synopsis	This paper presents a Change Proposal that has been submitted to the DCUSA Secretariat and requests agreement on its progression.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This paper refers a DCUSA Change Proposal (DCP) to the DCUSA Panel for agreement on its progression.
- 1.2 The CP has been assessed by the Secretariat in accordance with Section 10.11 of the DCUSA. The CP has met the requirements and ElectraLink has prepared a recommendation for consideration by the Panel.

2 SUMMARY OF CHANGE PROPOSAL FOR CONSIDERATION

- 2.1 DCP 038 – ‘De-energisation by Non-Industry Parties’ is attached as Appendix 1. The following table shows a summary of the CP:

CP Status	Standard
Change Synopsis	The change seeks to allow Suppliers to establish a scheme of third party access to equipment for the purposes of facilitating electricians to perform de-energisations and associated works to enable them to carry out work for customers in a safe and efficient way.
Parties Impacted	Distributors, Suppliers & IDNOs
Part 1 / Part 2	Part 1
Authority Consent	Required
Proposed Implementation	Next release following Authority Consent

3 DCP 038 – DE-ENERGISATION BY NON-INDUSTRY PARTIES

- 3.1 DCP 038 has been raised by EDF Energy Networks. The CP seeks to find a solution agreeable to both Distributors and Suppliers to address comments made by electricians/non-Industry Parties that they find it difficult to arrange de-energisations and re-energisations in order to do works on customer installations.
- 3.2 Regulatory opinion has sought Distributor approval to a scheme that enables non-Industry Parties to work on their fuses and connect new cable tails from meters. However, the proposer notes that Distributors are of the opinion that the energisation status is the commercial responsibility of Suppliers and that Distributors cannot grant permission to break and remake meter seals or grant permission to make new connections to

meters, which the work that customers wish electricians to perform may involve.

- 3.3 The proposer considers therefore that while there may be some technical aspects that the Distributor can give approval to, the main route for authorising changes in energisation should be through the Supplier and DCP 038 seeks to agree and formalise as a standard process. Therefore the intent of the CP is to permit Suppliers to establish and enter into, at their cost, a governed scheme of periodic competence evaluation and authorisation whereby non-industry participants, acting on behalf of the supplier, or its Customer(s) as agent(s) of the Supplier shall be individually permitted to carry out De-energisation Works and/or Re-energisation Works, physical work on metering assets.
- 3.4 The Proposer considers that the Change Proposal will better facilitate DCUSA Objective 1¹ on the basis that Distribution Networks would be more economical as the introduction of such a scheme by Suppliers will go some way towards reducing the volume of unlawful activity which results in costs of re-sealing. The Proposer further considers that DCUSA Objective 2² will be better facilitated because allowing electricians to perform work at the metering point will create a level playing field among Suppliers, who will not be considered to be holding up works if their hub is not delivering the customer's desired outcome.

4 PROGRESSION OF DCP 038

- 4.1 It is recommended that the CP be categorised as a Part 1 matter in accordance with Clause 9.4 of the Agreement as it is likely to have a "significant impact on the interests of electricity consumers". It is recommended that the CP should be entered into the Definition Phase and that a Working Group be established to assess and develop the CP.
- 4.2 A proposed timetable for the progression of the proposal is outlined below:

Activity	Latest Date
Panel Meeting – IA agreed	21 January
Working Group Assessment & Legal Review	26 January
Panel Meeting – CR agreed	22 April
Party Voting	23 April – 07 May
Change Declaration	18 May
Authority Determination	11 May – 22 June
Implementation	25 June

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

The DCUSA Panel is invited to:

- Consider whether to accept the referral of DCP 038;
- Agree that the CP should be treated as a Part 1 matter;
- Agree that the CP should be progressed through the Definition Phase; and

¹ The development, maintenance and operation by the DNO Parties and IDNO Parties of efficient, coordinated, and economical Distribution Networks.

² The facilitation of effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity and (so far as is consistent therewith) the promotion of such competition in the sale, distribution and purchase of electricity.

- Agree the progression of the CP in accordance with the timetable set out in Section 4.2

6 APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 – DCP 038