

# DCUSA Panel Meeting 211 (Open Session)

17 January 2024 at 10:00am

3rd Floor, Northumberland House, 303 306 High Holborn, London, WC1V 7JZ / MS Teams

Attendee	Role	Company
<b>Panel Members</b>		
Donna Jamieson [DJ]	Panel Member (Chair)	DCUSA Ltd
Victoria Burkett [VB]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Karl Marylon [KM]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Simon Vicary [SV]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Lee Wells [LW]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Simon Yeo [SY]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
<b>Observers</b>		
Mark Bellman [MB]	Observer	Electricity North West
Mark DeSouza Wilson [MDW]	Observer	BSC
Nadir Hafeez [NH]	Observer	Ofgem
Clare Wagstaffe [CW]	Observer	SSEN
<b>Code Administrators</b>		
Craig Boothe [CB]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Richard Colwill [RC]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Angelo Fitzhenry [AF]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Andy Green [AG]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Melissa Kendal [MK]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
George Kestner [GK]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Dylan Townsend [DT]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
<b>Apologies</b>		
Tim Ellingham [TE]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Donald Preston [DP]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Peter Waymont [PW]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd

## 1. Administration

---

### Permission to record Meeting

1.1 The Panel RESOLVED to record this Meeting.

### Welcomes and Introductions

1.2 The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

### Apologies

1.3 It was noted that 'Apologies' had been received from: Tim Ellingham, Donald Preston and Peter Waymont.

### Non-Confidential Minutes

1.4 The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed, and the Panel agreed that they were a true and fair representation of the meeting.

### Updated Actions

1.5 The Panel reviewed the new and open actions for the previous closed session Panel meetings and updates on all actions are set out in Appendix A.

## 2. Updates from the Industry Working Groups/Codes

---

### Balancing & Settlement Code (BSC)

2.1 MDW provided an update on items related to the BSC. Key points included the following:

- P432 'Half Hourly Settlement for CT Advanced Metering Systems': this had been approved on 16 January 2024. When implemented, this would introduce obligations for Current Transformer (CT) Advanced Meters for half-hourly settlement.
- BSCP509 'Changes to Market Domain Data': This had been approved for implementation on 29 February 2024. It would be possible for DTN to be used for appointments under P434 'Half Hourly Settlement for UMS Metering Systems', under which all unmetered supplies will have to be settled half-hourly.
- P463 'Introduce a Standard Change Process': the next working group would meet in February 2024.
- The next BSC Change Forum would take place on Tuesday, 23 January 2023. Details for this had been included and circulated via Newscast.

2.2 DT NOTED that the approval of BSC Modification P432 had minor implications for DCUSA as DCP 414 'Transitional Protection for NHH CT Customers affected by regulatory change', which was set to be implemented on 1 April 2024, had included a placeholder for a date so that it would align with the implementation of P432. This date could now be confirmed.

2.3 The Panel NOTED the BSC update.

## Ofgem

2.4 NH provided an update on items related to Ofgem. Key points included the following:

- An update on Change Proposals that sat with Ofgem:
  - DCP 411 'Charging De-energised sites': the Estimated Decision Date ('EDD') had been extended until 28 February 2024, due to the need to conduct additional legal checks.
  - DCP 392 'Charging of Third Party DNO Works to Transmission Connection Users': the EDD had been extended to 26 January 2024.
- Two consultations on Energy Code Reforms would be published shortly:
  - There would be a solo consultation on Ofgem's approach to the implementation of reforms, which would be published in February 2024; and
  - A joint consultation with DESNZ into Code Manager selection would be published in March 2024.
- A new head of Industry Codes, Gavin Bailey, had been appointed and would take office shortly.
- An update was provided on the Future Systems Operator: the Cross Code Working Group had completed the business rules and provisional legal text for institutional changes. Following a dedicated subgroup session with code managers in late December, Ofgem had asked Code Managers to consider the implementation constraints of the changes identified so far and the responses to this would be considered and a report on these published in late January or early February 2024. In response, DT noted that there were no code administrator constraints on the proposed amendments.

2.5 One Panel member asked for an update on the DUoS SCR, with NH confirming that the network charging team at Ofgem are currently actively working on this and that Ofgem representatives were participating in DCMDG and so the best source of updates would be via the DCMDG.

2.6 The Panel NOTED the Ofgem update.

## Smart Energy Code (SEC)

2.7 The Panel NOTED that no SEC representative was in attendance for this meeting and that no update was provided during this meeting.

## Retail Energy Code (REC)

2.8 The Panel NOTED that no REC representative was in attendance for this meeting and that no update was provided during this meeting.

## 3. Change Register

3.1 RC presented the Change Register updates to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2024\_0117\_01). RC explained which changes had changed status since the last Panel meeting as well as any that had moved into a new status since the paper was published. Key points included:

- DCP 429 'Obtaining an Independent Credit Assessment': This CP has finished the 'Consultation' phase and the 'Change Report' would be presented later in the January Panel Meeting.
- DCP 430 'Reducing Good Payment Record': This CP had been circulated for 'Voting', the deadline for responses for which had been 16 January 2024. Preliminary assessment of results looked like an approval.
- DCP 431 'Party Novation Process': This CP had been circulated for 'Voting', the deadline for responses for which had been 16 January 2024. This had been discussed already and might be rejected.
- DCP 432 'Amend the Recognised Credit Assessment Agency table in Schedule 1': This CP has finished the 'Consultation' phase and the 'Change Report' would be presented later in the January Panel Meeting.

3.2 RC stepped through the CP timetable tab. Key points included:

- DCP 429 'Obtaining an Independent Credit Assessment': the timeline for this had been brought forward.
- DCP 425 'Cost Apportionment Factor "cap" Methodology': the next working group for would meet on Friday, 19 January 2024, and it was anticipated that the Change Report would be presented at the February 2024 Panel Meeting.
- DCP 421 'Update the Tables in Schedule 15 of DCUSA': the timetable for had been delayed until February 2024 as additional time was needed to test the models and compile the results.
- DCP 420 'Include Car Charging Stations In The Definition For Non Final Demand': the proposed solution had proven unpopular and so additional solutions were being explored. The Panel NOTED that changes via TCR would also need to be progressed in parallel through BSC and CUSC to ensure code alignment and discussed whether Ofgem might delay this until these issues could be properly explored and solutions developed.
- DCP 417 'Ability for the DCUSA Secretariat to Raise Change Proposals': some additional refinement was required, and this CP would be presented at the February 2024 Panel Meeting.
- DCP 412 'Discounts from TCR charges for 'peaky' final demand customers': the legal text and consultation were still being pulled together. The proposed solution had evolved significantly since December 2023 and the new expectation was for this CP to be submitted in the April 2024 Panel Meeting, although this timeline remained subject to change.

3.3 The Panel NOTED the Change Register.

## 4. Initial Assessments

4.1 DT presented the Initial Assessment Cover Paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2024\_0117\_02). It was noted that the paper presented one new Change Proposal for Initial Assessment by the Panel as set out below.

### DCP 433 'Limitation for backdating of rebates / charges under Schedule 32'

4.2 The Panel NOTED that the intent of DCP 432 is to amend Schedule 32 to ensure that processes which may result in the backdating of rebates/charges are reflective of the limitations within the current industry arrangements.

4.3 For DCP 433, the Panel:

- ACCEPTED the referral of the CP;
- AGREED that the CP should be treated as a 'Standard' Change;
- AGREED that DCP 433 should be treated as a Part 1 Matter;
- AGREED that DCP 433 should be progressed to the Definition Phase and for a Working Group to be set up in order to further refine the proposed solution; and
- AGREE the progression of the CP in accordance with the proposed timetable recommended by the Secretariat.

**211/01 Initial Assessments:** The Secretariat to progress DCP 433 'Limitation for backdating of rebates / charges under Schedule 32' to the Definition Phase and to set up a Working Group in order to further refine the proposed solution.

## 5. Change Reports

5.1 DT presented the Change Report Cover Paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2024\_0117\_03). It was noted that the paper presented two Change Reports for approval this month.

### DCP 429 'Obtaining an Independent Credit Assessment'

5.2 DT and AG explained that the legal text provided alongside the Change Report in the pack of documents was not the final official version due to some last minute amendments to the text that had been under consideration by the Working Group. However, it was noted that the final version supplied by the DCUSA Ltd legal advisors was the same in terms of its content as was provided in the meeting pack.

5.3 The Panel NOTED that the intent of DCP 429 is to update DCUSA Schedule 1 Clause 2.6 that refers to the Company obtaining an Independent Credit Assessment from a recognised Credit Assessment Agency chosen by the User.

5.4 The Panel:

- DETERMINED that the Change Report contained the level of information required to enable Parties to understand the impact of the proposed amendments and to vote on the CP;
- DETERMINED that the Parties eligible to vote on the CP were those identified as 'Impacted Parties within the Change Report;
- DETERMINED that the voting period for the CP should be 15 Working Days, and
- APPROVED the Change Report for issue to Parties for voting on 18 January 2024.

## DCP 432 'Amend the Recognised Credit Assessment Agency table in Schedule 1'

5.5 The Panel were reminded that the intent of DCP 432 is to bring into effect the change from Graydon to Creditsafe ratings and to reflect the fact that Experian no longer provides Bronze, Silver or Gold reports.

5.6 The Panel:

- DETERMINED that the Change Report contained the level of information required to enable Parties to understand the impact of the proposed amendments and to vote on the CP;
- DETERMINED that the Parties eligible to vote on the CP were those identified as 'Impacted Parties within the Change Report;
- DETERMINED that the voting period for the CP should be 15 Working Days, and
- APPROVED the Change Report for issue to Parties for voting on 18 January 2024.

**211/02 Change Reports:** The Secretariat to: (1) progress DCP 429 'Obtaining an Independent Credit Assessment' to the voting stage; and (2) progress DCP 432 'Amend the Recognised Credit Assessment Agency table in Schedule 1' to the voting stage.

## 6. Housekeeping Log

6.1 DT presented the Housekeeping Log Summary Paper and Housekeeping Log to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2024\_0117\_04). The paper was taken as read.

6.2 DT advised that between the previous Panel meeting and the drafting of this paper, no new housekeeping items have been identified by either the Secretariat or any Party.

6.3 The Panel NOTED the Housekeeping Log.

## 7. Accession Applications

7.1 DT presented the Accession Applications paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2024\_0117\_05). It was noted that the paper presented one new Accession Application that had been received and vetted by the Secretariat. This application was from Fusion Elec Limited in the Party Category of Safe Isolation Provider.

- 7.2 DT NOTED that the MPID of Fusion Elec Limited (FUEL) had not yet gone live in MDD, nor was it due to go live in the next release of MDD but had been confirmed to have been reserved by the Applicant, FUSION ELEC LTD, via the MDD Coordinator. DT explained that this was in line with the expectations set out in relevant REC information page on the REC Portal which describes the process to be followed, one of which is to 'Set up a Market Participant Identifier (MPID)' which notes that an entity without an MPID would need to "request/reserve/agree a unique MPID" and that the next step is for the entity to 'Demonstrate the ability to successfully send and receive Market Messages through the Data Transfer Network (DTN)'. To that end, it was noted that the Secretariat had also received confirmation that the Applicant was currently progressing through the DTS Accession process in order to achieve that step.
- 7.3 The Secretariat NOTED that the Panel could choose to either: provisionally approve the application; or to delay approval until such time as the applicant had formally requested for their reserved MPID to be added to MDD.
- 7.4 The Panel SCRUTINISED the Accession Application and RESOLVED to prepare the relevant Accession Agreement paperwork for signing and progress the Accession Application following the meeting.

**211/03 Accession Applications: The Secretariat to progress the Accession Application for Fusion Elec Limited, by drafting and sending to the applicant an Accession Agreement and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have instructed them to countersign the Accession Agreement.**

## 8. DCMDG Headline Report

- 8.1 DT presented the DCMDG Headline Report paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2024\_0117\_06). The paper was taken as read. Key points included:
- The private networks sub-group had discussed the implementation and effects of CUSC modification CMP 425 'Billing Demand Transmission Residual By Site'. It was agreed that it provides a useful steer in terms of the principle that customers on a private network should be able to choose their own supplier without complexity or additional input above that which would normally be expected from customers but that the actual solution was unlikely to be easily transposed for the purposes of distribution charging arrangements had been accepted. The Panel FURTHER NOTED that CMP 425 had been progressed very quickly.
  - Emergent Energy had delivered a presentation to the private networks sub-group that set out their intent to raise a CP relating to codifying arrangements for their DCUSA innovation sandbox trial and what this means for the work of the private networks sub-group.
  - The private networks sub-group were very keen to obtain a steer from Ofgem with regard to whether the Authority was satisfied with the scope of their intended work and their progress to date but that Ofgem attendance has been patchy. It was considered that this was of particular relevance due to the sub-groups intent to issue an RFI in order to understand how large the private network sector is and what types might exist.
- 8.2 The Panel NOTED the DCMDG Headline Report.

## 9. IWG Headline Report

9.1 RC presented a verbal IWG Headline Report to the Panel. Key points included:

- IWG was continuing to produce best-practice guidelines for how to deal with asbestos boards.
- IWG was continuing to consider the feasibility for creating a unified reporting URL which has been implemented by a DNO and is used by meter operators to report urgent problems through. The advantage of this over the current telephone number would be that it would be possible for photographs to be uploaded and shared, which would reduce the likelihood of DNO personnel not having the right equipment when attending to rectify problems. UKPN in particular had provided examples of benefits that they had realised through using this new system.
- IWG was monitoring the impact that the BBC's switching off of the radio service, which supports Radio Teleswitch meters, and which is scheduled to occur in March 2024.
- IWG had discussed the importance of corporate memory in resolving safety issues and whether these could be better institutionalised.
- IWG had discussed Cage Clamp Isolators and there was a view that these were less desirable than Double Pole Isolators and so would be soliciting industry views on these with the intent of producing some best practice guidance around when and how these should be used.

9.2 The Panel NOTED the IWG Headline Report.

## 10. DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan

10.1 DT presented the DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel\_2024\_0117\_07). The paper was taken as read.

10.2 DT NOTED that the timelines for the DUoS SCR had been extended by roughly a year to reflect that Ofgem were still in the process of developing their thinking in terms of the scope and scale of the review and it was therefore likely that the original estimated timeframe was incorrect but at this stage was still on an unknown timeline.

10.3 One Panel member questioned whether it would be wise to add an item related to the removal of references to Fax or Facsimile communications as this was being actively discussed by other industry codes. DT explained that when this had last been considered it had been decided to retain references to this communication method in case anybody wished to utilise these, but that this was increasingly an archaic and irrelevant communication medium. The Panel discussed whether and how DCUSA could be updated to remove references to fax communications and RESOLVED that the Secretariat would review how this was currently referenced within the DCUSA and report back on whether this could be updated through a housekeeping change or whether a separate Change Proposal would be required.

**211/04 DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan: The Secretariat would review the DCUSA requirements with regards to references to circulating communications by Fax, with the aim of progressing a review to remove Fax communications as a communication method.**



10.4 The Panel NOTED the Horizon Scan.

## 11. Any Other Business

11.1 Two items of Other Business was raised, as follows:

### **AOB 1: 'Updating Biographies and Photographs on the DCUSA website'**

11.2 DJ NOTED that her biography on the DCUSA website needed to be updated due to moving to a new company and would provide the Secretariat with the updated information in due course. The Secretariat suggested that this was a good opportunity to remind Panel members that the website does include short biographies and photographs for each of them and that it would be beneficial to ensure these were up to date. The Secretariat agreed to provide links to the relevant areas of the website for Panel members to review and noted that any updates can be provided via email which would then be actioned on the website.

**211/05 AoB 'Updating Biographies and Photographs on the DCUSA website': The Secretariat to provide links to the relevant areas of the website containing Panel member biographies and photographs and ask Panel members to review and where necessary, provide updated biographies/photographs to the Secretariat for inclusion on the DCUSA website.**

### **AOB 2: 'DCUSA Disputes Committee'**

11.3 DT NOTED that:

- the Disputes Committee currently contained very few members, despite an additional round of voting having been held to drum up attention;
- with reference to the terms of reference, process and responsibilities of the Disputes Committee, Panel Members could be co-opted to the Disputes Committee if necessary;
- the Disputes Committee would shortly be called upon to address a dispute relating to Residual Charging Bands;
- the Residual Charging Bands dispute would require the participation of a Supplier Member, as the quoracy requirements were for three members, including one Distributor and one Supplier member.

11.4 SV volunteered to participate in this Dispute. DT AGREED to provide further information in due course to those Panel members elected by the Supplier Parties.

**211/06 AoB 'DCUSA Disputes Committee': The Secretariat would circulate information about the terms of reference and process for Panel members to stand in as Disputes Committee members where quoracy would otherwise be an issue.**

## 12. Date of next meeting: 21 February 2024 at 10:00am

12.1 The next meeting will be held in person at ElectraLink's offices, 3rd Floor, Northumberland House, 303-306 High Holborn, London, WC1V 7JZ and via Microsoft Teams.

## Appendix A: Summary of Actions

### New and Open Actions – Open Session

Ref No.	Action	Owner	Update
207/08	<p><u>Review of Updated Templates</u>: Following feedback at the September 2023 Open Panel, the Secretariat would amend the Change Proposal form and circulate an updated copy to Panel Members for comment ahead of final approval at the October 2023 Open Panel.</p> <p>Update 18 October 2023: The October 2023 Open Panel RESOLVED that the Secretariat would additionally delete the 'Legal Text' example section from the template.</p>	ElectraLink	<p>Update: 18 October 2023: These were tabled and presented at the October Open Panel and updated versions would be circulated for further comments. KEEP OPEN</p> <p>Update: 15 November 2023: Due to competing priorities, this had been deferred and not been progressed this month. KEEP OPEN</p> <p>Update 17 January 2024: This remained ongoing. KEEP OPEN</p>
208/04	<p><u>Review of Updated Templates</u> – The Secretariat to amend the Change Proposal Form template in-line with Panel's views expressed during and within the minutes of the October 2023 Panel meeting.</p>	ElectraLink	<p>Update: 15 November 2023: As per Action 207/08, due to competing priorities, this had been deferred and not been progressed this month. KEEP OPEN</p> <p>Update 17 January 2024: This remained ongoing. KEEP OPEN</p>
209/02	<p><u>Accession Applications</u>: The Secretariat would Progress the Accession Application for (1) Fulmar Services Limited; and (2) Radius contracting Limited, pending confirmation of a live MPID or Radius Contracting Limited, by advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have instructed them to countersign the Accession Application.</p>	ElectraLink	<p>Update 17 January 2024: Something was delaying the receipt of a live MPID for Radius Contracting Limited. LEAVE OPEN</p>
209/04	<p><u>AoB Item 1: 'Rota Disconnections'</u>: The Secretariat to draft a letter formally complaining about the gaps in Rota Disconnections data and circulate to the Panel for comment and approval, before sending it to the Chair for signing and issue.</p>	ElectraLink	<p>Update: 17 January 2024: Letter has been circulated, currently being amended based on Panel comments. KEEP OPEN</p>
211/01	<p><u>Initial Assessments</u>: The Secretariat to progress DCP 433 'Limitation for backdating of rebates / charges under Schedule 32' to the Definition Phase and to set up a Working Group in order to further refine the proposed solution.</p>	ElectraLink	

211/02	<b>Change Reports:</b> The Secretariat to: (1) progress DCP 429 'Obtaining an Independent Credit Assessment' to the voting stage; and (2) progress DCP 432 'Amend the Recognised Credit Assessment Agency table in Schedule 1' to the voting stage.	ElectraLink	
211/03	<b>Accession Applications:</b> The Secretariat to progress the Accession Application for Fusion Elec Limited, by drafting and sending to the applicant an Accession Agreement and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have instructed them to countersign the Accession Agreement.	ElectraLink	
211/04	<b>DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan:</b> The Secretariat would review the DCUSA requirements with regards to references to circulating communications by Fax, with the aim of progressing a review to remove Fax communications as a communication method.	ElectraLink	
211/05	<b>AoB 'Updating Biographies and Photographs on the DCUSA website':</b> The Secretariat to provide links to the relevant areas of the website containing Panel member biographies and photographs and ask Panel members to review and where necessary, provide updated biographies and photographs to the Secretariat for inclusion on the DCUSA website.	ElectraLink	
211/06	<b>AoB 'DCUSA Disputes Committee':</b> The Secretariat to circulate information about the terms of reference and process for Panel members to stand in as Disputes Committee members where quoracy would otherwise be an issue.	ElectraLink	

#### Closed Actions – Open Session

Ref No.	Action	Owner	Update
207/04	<u>Accession Applications (1)</u> : The Secretariat would liaise with REC Code Manager regarding the flow chart that shows what the requirements and obligations were for SIPs start to operate in the market and to either publish it or provide a link to it on the DCUSA website alongside the DCUSA Accession Application form.	ElectraLink	<p>Update: 18 October 2023: The Secretariat had been in discussions with the REC Code Manager and this was in the process of being obtained. KEEP OPEN</p> <p>Update: 15 November 2023: Following feedback, this action was still ongoing. An updated flow chart was available had linked to a news announcement on the website; however, discussions were continuing around what this could be better presented in the future.</p> <p><b>KEEP OPEN</b></p> <p>Update 17 January 2024: The news item has been updated to match the REC processes and hyperlinks to the flow chart on the REC website.</p> <p><b>CLOSED</b></p>

207/07	<p><u>2023 Panel Elections:</u> The Secretariat Would: (1) proceed with organising the 2023 Panel Elections as recommended; and (2) hold The Disputes Committee elections in parallel with the Panel Election.</p>	ElectraLink	<p>Update: 18 October 2023: The Official Panel Elections had taken place and, due to the Supplier Member position being contested, would need to go to a second voting round. Three roles remained unfilled (the CVA Registrant Member, the CVA Registrant Alternate and the Supplier Alternate). For operational reasons the Disputes Committee election had not taken place but would be issued shortly. KEEP OPEN</p> <p>Update: 15 November 2023: the results of the Panel Elections had been finalised and circulated. Additional nominations for the Disputes Committee were being sought and this would be raised at the next DCMDG meeting. KEEP OPEN</p> <p>Update 17 January 2024: This has been completed and an update provided during the AoB session of the January Open Panel Meeting. CLOSED</p>
210/01	<p><u>Initial Assessments:</u> The Secretariat would progress DCP 432 'Amend the Recognised Credit Assessment Agency table in Schedule 1' in line with the recommended process.</p>	ElectraLink	<p>Update 17 January 2024: This had been completed. CLOSED</p>
210/02	<p><u>Change Reports:</u> The Secretariat would: (1) progress DCP 430 'Reducing Good Payment Record' to the voting stage; and (2) progress DCP 431 'Party Novation Process' to the voting stage.</p>	ElectraLink	<p>Update 17 January 2024: These had been progressed as agreed. CLOSED</p>
210/03	<p><u>Accession Applications:</u> The Secretariat would Progress the Accession Application for (1) Dollymans Storage Limited; (2) Advanced Electricity Networks Limited; and (3) Independent Distribution Connection Specialists, by advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have instructed them to countersign the Accession Application.</p>	ElectraLink	<p>Update 17 January 2024: This had been progressed as agreed. CLOSED</p>