

DCUSA Panel Meeting 214 (Open Session)

17 April 2024 at 10:00am

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

Attendee	Role	Company
Panel Members		
Donna Jamieson [DJ]	Panel Member (Chair)	DCUSA Ltd
Simon Vicary [SV]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Peter Waymont [PW]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Lee Wells [LW]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Simon Yeo [SY]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Observers		
Colin Berry [CB]	Observer	BSC
Chris Chapell [CC]	Observer	Energise Energy Solutions Ltd
Nadir Hafeez [NH]	Observer	Ofgem
Code Administrators		
Andy Green [AG]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
George Kestner [GK]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Alysson Peña [AP]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Hannah Proffitt [HP]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Dylan Townsend [DT]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Apologies		
Victoria Burkett [VB]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Richard Colwill [RC]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Mark DeSouza Wilson [MDW]	Observer	BSC
Angelo Fitzhenry [AF]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Donald Preston [DP]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Kevin Woollard [KW]	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: Victoria Burkett, Richard Colwill, Mark DeSouza Wilson, Angelo Fitzhenry, Donald Preston and Kevin Woollard.

Non-Confidential Minutes

1.4 The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and the Panel NOTED a number of minor amendments:

- As part of the Ofgem update, paragraph 2.4: the EDD for DCP 411 'Charging De-energised sites' should have read 11 April 2024 and not 8 April 2024 as recorded. Subsequent to the meeting this had again been delayed and was now anticipated for 19 April 2024.
- As part of the Ofgem update, the DESNZ Codes Reform consultation would close on 5 May 2024.

1.5 The Panel RESOLVED to amend the minutes accordingly and, with the exception of these, agreed that they were a true and fair representation of the meeting.

Updated Actions

1.6 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 CB advised that there were no updates to give this month but invited questions from the Panel.

2.2 The Panel NOTED the BSC update.

Ofgem

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

- An update was provided on Change Proposals that sat with Ofgem:
- DCP 411 'Charging De-energised sites': The EDD was anticipated for 19 April 2024.
- DCP 425 and DCP 435 had been received for decision yesterday and EDDs would be provided shortly.
- Other Ofgem activities included:
 - Energy Code Reform: The consultation issued by Ofgem related to code consolidation runs until 23 April 2024 and the joint Ofgem/DESNZ consultation related to code manager licences runs until 05 May 2025 and comments were invited from all

interested stakeholders. A Cross Code Change Working Group is being established to gather views on what the change process should look like across the codes in the future and that successful volunteers were being contacted. The intent is for the first meeting of the Cross Code Change Working Group to take place in May 2024.

2.4 The Panel NOTED the Ofgem update.

Smart Energy Code (SEC)

2.5 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)

2.6 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 DT presented the Change Register updates to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2024_0417_01). DT 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:

3.2 DT presented the CP 'Status Change' tab. Key points included:

- DCP 433 'Limitation for backdating of rebates/charges under Schedule 32': The Consultation had closed on 10 April 2024 and the Working Group would meet on 18 April 2024 to review the consultation responses and draft the change report.
- DCP 436 'Date change for the provision of Rota Load Block Alpha Identifiers': The consultation had closed on 12 April 2024 and the working group had met on 16 April 2024 to review responses.
- DCP 437 'To Shorten the DUoS Pricing Notice Periods': This had moved to the definition phase and a working group would meet shortly.
- DCP 438 'Rate of Return Change Proposal': This had moved to the definition phase and a working group would meet on 22 April 2024.
- DCP 428 'Zero REP-002/A Data': This had been issued for voting.
- DCP 425 'Cost Apportionment Factor "cap" Methodology': This had completed voting.
- DCP 434 'Credit Cover RAV in ED-2': This had completed voting.
- DCP 435 'Party Novation Process': This had completed voting.
- DCP 395 'Allocation of Smart Meter Communication Licence costs within LDNO Tariffs': This had been implemented on 1 April 2024.
- DCP 414 'Transitional Protection for NHH CT Customers affected by regulatory change': This had been implemented on 1 April 2024.

3.3 DT presented the 'Timetables' tab and highlighted that the timetables for the following CPs had changed:

- DCP 423 'LDNO Discounts for negative scaling': had a new proposed timetable and the consultation would be issued in April 2024.

- DCP 421 'Update the Tables in schedule 15 of DCUSA': the timetable had been delayed by a month. This was due to the incorrect formula in the CEPA modelling spreadsheet.
- DCP 417 'Ability for the DCUSA Secretariat to Raise Change Proposals': this had been delayed for a month due to legal drafting and comments from working group members.
- 428 'Zero REP-002/A Data': This had been expected to be issued for voting in March but had been delayed a month and was eventually issued for voting on 10 April 2024.

3.4 The Panel NOTED the Change Register updates.

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_0417_02). It was NOTED that the paper presented one new Change Proposal for Initial Assessment by the Panel as set out below.

DCP 439 'Backdating Tariff Changes'

4.2 The Panel NOTED that the intent of DCP 439 is to add a sensible backstop to backdating. In particular, to mandate that any adjustment will not be backdated beyond the date of the next Final Reconciliation settlement run at the time of implementing the change or the most recent migration date (to or from MHHS); whichever is the shorter, as it should be possible to identify and correct any incorrectly allocated charges during this period.

4.3 The Panel SCRUTINISED DCP 439. Points raised included the following:

- PW noted that he was the Proposer of DCP 439 and explained that the rationale behind DCP 439 was that there was a discrepancy between what is set out with the DNOs Charging Statements, being that charges can be retrospectively applied up to a maximum of 6 years as compared to what is considered to be the industry norm of using the next Final Reconciliation settlement run at the time of implementing the change which is currently set at 14 months. PW advised that his view as the Proposer was that alignment to the next Final Reconciliation settlement run at the time of implementing the change is a reasonable timescale for identifying and addressing problems and that going beyond that period requires manual intervention and could be susceptible to other issues.
- PW asked if DCP 439 should be progressed an Urgent Change. The Panel NOTED that this would dependent upon meeting the criteria set out within the DCUSA. The Panel also considered impact this status designation would have and considered whether this could be applied at a later date. The Panel sought clarity through examining DCUSA Clause 10.7 'Criteria for Urgent Change Proposals', before concluding that the impact of this designation would be minimal. Consequently, the Panel RESOLVED that DCP 439 should be progressed according to the published deadline, and FURTHER RESOLVED that they would continue to monitor its progress to ensure that it was progressing to schedule.

4.4 For DCP 439, the Panel:

- ACCEPTED the referral of the CP;

- AGREED that the CP should be treated as a 'Standard' Change;
- AGREED that the CP should be treated as a Part 1 Matter;
- AGREED that the CP 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
- AGREED the progression of the CP in accordance with the proposed timetable recommended by the Secretariat.

214/01 Initial Assessments: The Secretariat to progress DCP 439 'Backdating Tariff Changes' 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_0417_03). It was noted that there were no Change Report for approval this month.
- 5.2 The Panel NOTED the Change Report Paper.

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_0417_04). The paper was taken as read.
- 6.2 DT NOTED 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.

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_0417_05). The Paper was taken as read.
- 7.2 DT NOTED that two new Accession Applications had been received and vetted by the Secretariat from applicants wishing to accede to DCUSA. These applications were from:
- Charged Electric Vehicles Limited
 - Energise Energy Solutions Limited
- 7.3 DT NOTED that since the preparation of this pack, REC had advised that Charged Electric Vehicles Limited were not yet ready to proceed, but that Energise Energy Solutions Limited had completed everything that they needed to at this stage.
- 7.4 PW NOTED that the title of the REC Accreditation date should be renamed to REC Accession date, to better reflect their relationship with REC.
- 7.5 The Panel SCRUTINISED the Accession Application for Energise Energy Solutions Limited and RESOLVED to APPROVE the Accession Application. The Panel and instructed the Secretariat to prepare the relevant

Accession Agreement paperwork for signing and progress the Accession Application following the meeting.

214/02 Accession Applications: The Secretariat to progress the Accession Application for Energise Energy Solutions Limited, by drafting and sending the applicant an Accession Agreements and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have instructed them to countersign these Accession Agreements.

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_0417_06). The paper was taken as read. DT highlighted the following points to the Panel:

- The 74th meeting had taken place on 28 March 2024 and had been well attended.
- It was noted that following discussions over the last few months, in which alignment was reached across all distributors as to the data and time period to be used in the process of reviewing and determining the charging bands as well as the allocation of Final Demand Sites to each of those charging bands for the next onshore transmission system owner price control period, the Secretariat has now published the final output on the DCUSA website.
- Most of the meeting was dedicated to Ofgem providing a detailed update on their future priorities in terms of DUoS reform, which effectively mirrored the update provided to the membership of the Charging Futures Forum a week earlier.
- Additionally, an update had been provided on the Private Network Subgroup, whose terms of reference were being confirmed.

8.2 The Panel NOTED the DCMDG Headline Report.

9. SIG Headline Report

9.1 DT presented the SIG Headline Report paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2024_0417_07). The paper was taken as read. Key points included:

- DIF 74 'Proposal to increase the number of allowed alternatives': SV as the person who submitted the new issue, explained that this had emerged following the issues faced by the DCP 406 Working Group where there had been two solutions proposed, each with two identical options for specific parts of the solution, therefore a total of four variations (one original and three alternatives) needed to be put forward but that under the current rules, this wasn't possible and so the group had to resort to an unusual method to achieve the same outcome.
- One Panel member noted that given this situation is extremely rare, it would be wise to consider whether introducing the option of more than two alternatives, as is currently allowed, would do more harm than good and questioned where the line would be drawn in terms of number of alternates that could be proposed.
- Other Panel members, noted their view that they'd have a strong preference to avoid the situation that occurs in the CUSC, where there is no restriction at all and so there have been instances of very large numbers of alternative proposals being put forward and therefore requiring assessment, both by industry as well as Ofgem.

9.2 The Panel NOTED the SIG 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_0417_09). The paper was taken as read.
- 10.2 DT NOTED that the only update since the last Meeting was that, as agreed in the last Panel meeting an item related to 'Ofgem's Open Letter regarding Data Best Practice and its future in Codes' had been added to the Horizon Scan, and that additional commentary should be added to the relevant tab to summarise this.
- 10.3 NH NOTED that Ofgem had recently initiated some pieces of work that might need to be added to the Horizon Scan:
- Ofgem had recently published an update on reform to the electricity connections process following proposals from the electricity system operator (ESO);
 - There had been some movement recently with respect to the CUSC and the management of the transmission connection queue following the approval of CUSC Modification Proposal CMP 376 and wondered whether something similar would be needed for the DCUSA, although the Panel noted that the DCUSA only contains the Connection Charging Methodology unlike the CUSC which contains other connection related matters; and
 - Ofgem had recently published an Open letter on strategic transmission charging reform, which followed on from an initial open letter published on 11 September 2023 in which Ofgem welcomed engagement from stakeholders on the future role and design of electricity transmission network charging and why reform may be required.
- 10.4 The Panel RESOLVED to add additional commentary to the Horizon Scan in respect of any items noted above that may impact upon the DCUSA.

214/03 DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan: Secretariat to review the following items for inclusion in or updating of the DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan:

- **Reform to the electricity connections process**
- **Management of the transmission connection queue**
- **Open letter on strategic transmission charging reform,**

10.5 The Panel NOTED the Horizon Scan.

11. Post Panel update and open Q&A session

- 11.1 DT provided a verbal report of the Post Panel update and open Q&A session that had been held after the last Open Panel meeting. Key points included:
- This meeting had run through all open CP's and other matters and provided an opportunity for Contract Managers to ask questions or raise any concerns.
 - It was noted that the session attracted four attendees, although this meeting had been held the day after the Easter holiday weekend, so this had likely depressed attendance.
 - A slate of subsequent meetings had been scheduled for the rest of the calendar year 2024.

11.2 The Panel NOTED the Post Panel update and open Q&A session report.

12. Any Other Business

12.1 Two items of Other Business were raised.

AoB 1: Production of a Tarriff Movement Explainer

12.2 DJ noted that during a recent conversation with AF, AF had confirmed that the Tarriff Movement Explainer being produced by CEPA/TNEI would be available by the end of April and that in future years, it is expected to be delivered by the end of January as it is to become a new standard deliverable as part of the arrangements agreed between DCUSA Ltd and CEPA/TNEI.

AoB 2: YouTube video mentioning the DCUSA

12.3 DJ NOTED that the Secretariat had passed on details to her of a video on YouTube which contained a discussion titled 'Should Electricians Cut Fuse & Meter Seals?', which included information about the new Safe Isolation Provider role within the REC and DCUSA arrangements and how this impacts electricians. It was noted that the video made comments regarding the DCUSA and information on the website.

12.4 The Panel agreed that they would watch this video and may discuss the contents during a future meeting if they believe there is benefit in doing so.

13. Date of next meeting: 15 May 2024 at 10:00am

13.1 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
213/02	<u>Updates from the Industry Working Groups/Codes: All Code Managers:</u> The Secretariat to reach out to the REC and SEC Code Managers to consider if there were better ways of working together and sharing updates of each other's activities.		Update 17 April 2024: REC had advised that Lorna Mallon would take over for Collette Bowe, and SEC were being contacted. KEEP OPEN
213/04	<u>Initial Assessments:</u> The Secretariat to add placeholder to the Housekeeping Log to review and revisit references in the DCUSA related to distributors price controls.	ElectraLink	Update 17 April 2024: This would be completed after the meeting. KEEP OPEN
214/01	<u>Initial Assessments:</u> The Secretariat to progress DCP 439 'Backdating Tariff Changes' to the Definition Phase and to set up a Working Group in order to further refine the proposed solution.	ElectraLink	
214/02	<u>Accession Applications:</u> The Secretariat to progress the Accession Application for Energise Energy Solutions Limited, by drafting and sending the applicant an Accession Agreements and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have instructed them to countersign these Accession Agreements.	ElectraLink	
214/03	<u>DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan:</u> Secretariat to review the following items for inclusion in or updating of the DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reform to the electricity connections process Management of the transmission connection queue Open letter on strategic transmission charging reform. 	ElectraLink	

Closed Actions – Open Session

Ref No.	Action	Owner	Update
213/01	<u>Updates from the Industry Working Groups/Codes: BSC:</u> MDW to provide links for online sessions		Update 17 April 2024: MDW had provided these and these would be circulated along with another update. Update 17 April 2024: CLOSED
212/01	Initial Assessments: The Secretariat to: (1) progress DCP 434 'Credit Cover RAV in ED-2' to the Change Report Phase; (2) progress DCP 435 'Party Novation Process v2' to the Change Report Phase; (3) subject to a single proposer being agreed, progress DCP 436 'Date Change for the provision of Rota Load Block Alpha Identifiers' to the Definition Phase and to set up a Working Group in order to further refine the proposed solution; and (4) subject to Ofgem confirming that this could proceed without impacting upon the DUoS SCR, progress DCP 437 'To Shorten The DUoS Pricing Notice Periods' to the Definition Phase and to set up a Working Group in order to further refine the proposed solution.	ElectraLink	Update 20 March 2024: These had all progressed to the extent that they could be, but DCP 437 was being delayed as this required confirmation of impacts upon Ofgem's DUoS SCR, which was expected to be provided on 21 March 2024. NH advised that Ofgem were likely to approve this to go ahead but would provide written confirmation as per the timeline. The Panel RESOLVED to keep his Action open until this written confirmation was received. KEEP OPEN Update 17 April 2024: DCP 437 paused whilst Ofgem confirmed, this was now going ahead. CLOSED
212/02	<u>Change Reports: 'DCP 428':</u> As the Legal text for DCP 428 had not been available ahead of the February 2024 Open Panel Meeting, the amended Legal text will need to be reviewed and approved by the Working group, after which the Panel will review and approve/reject this through an ex-Committee Decision via email.	ElectraLink	Update 20 March 2024: This was still waiting legal response. The Panel Agreed that this should be circulated by email for ex-Committee decision at the earliest opportunity. KEEP OPEN Update 17 April 2024: This had been completed. CLOSED
213/03	<u>Initial Assessments:</u> The Secretariat to: (1) progress DCP 438 'Rate of Return change to the Definition Phase and to set up a Working Group in order to further refine the proposed solution; and (2) Add a Placeholder to the Housekeeping Log to review and revisit ED1 definitions once the scope of these has become known.		Update 17 April 2024: This had been completed. CLOSED
213/05	<u>Title and Intent Statement Amendment:</u> The Secretariat to amend the title and intent statements of DCP 436 as agreed and to continue to progress it in line with its proposed timetable.		Update 17 April 2024: This had been completed. CLOSED
213/06	<u>Change Reports:</u> The Secretariat to: (1) CORRECT THE TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR (REFERENCE TO DCP 417) AND progress DCP 425 'Cost Apportionment Factor "cap" methodology' to the voting stage; (2) CIRCULATE DCP 434 'Credit Cover RAV in ED-2's LEGAL TEXT TO THE PANEL FOR EX-COMMITTEE SCRUTINY AND		Update 17 April 2024: This had been completed. CLOSED

	APPROVAL AND THEN progress DCP 434 to the voting stage; and (3) progress DCP 435 'Party Novation Process' to the voting stage		
213/07	<u>Housekeeping Log</u> : The Secretariat to (1) prepare the Housekeeping Summary and Log as a combined single document for future Panel Meetings; and (2) add the item 'Correction of typographical error in Section 1C paragraph 10.26.3' to the Housekeeping Log		Update 17 April 2024: This had been completed. CLOSED
213/08	<u>Accession Applications</u> : The Secretariat to progress the Accession Application for (1) Renantis Energy Trading Srl. UK Branch; (2) ICD Energy Metering Services Limited; and (3) E E Solutions Limited, by drafting and sending the applicants Accession Agreements and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have instructed them to countersign these Accession Agreements.		Update 17 April 2024: This had been completed. CLOSED
213/09	<u>Party Withdrawal Notice</u> : The Secretariat to progress the withdrawal of Eco Green Management Limited from the DCUSA.		Update 17 April 2024: The Secretariat Noted that Ofgem's confirmation of the license termination was dated 2 April 2024, but other than this, this had been completed. CLOSED