

DCUSA Panel Meeting 216 (Open Session)

19 June 2024 at 10:30am

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
Karl Maryon [KM]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Victoria Burkett [VB]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Kevin Woollard [KW]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Donald Preston [DP]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Observers		
Mark DeSouza Wilson [MDW]	Observer	BSC
Alison Beard [AB]	Observer	SEC
Lorna Mallon [LM]	Observer	REC
Nadir Hafeez [NH]	Observer	Ofgem
Code Administrator		
Andy Green [AG]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Alysson Peña [AP]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Dylan Townsend [DT]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Craig Booth [CB]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Richard Colwill [RC]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Angelo Fitzhenry [AF]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Apologies		
None		

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 no 'Apologies' had been received for this meeting.

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 open session Panel meeting 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 the Panel with a verbal update on BSC related topics, including:

- Elexon are hosting the next 'Introduction to the Electricity Market' seminar on the 11 September if anyone wishes to attend then they are able to sign up to attend if interested;
- Elexon are hosting a session related to the next steps for digitalisation that's going to be held on 11 July and welcome people to sign up to attend if interested;
- P474 'Governance, funding and operation of the DIP' was recently raised and has been issued for a one month long Authority Led SCR Modification Consultation on 17 June 2024, with responses invited by 17 July 2024.
- With respect to [Issue 111 'SMRA Liquidated Damages in MHHS Arrangements'](#), a formal date for the first meeting is yet to be confirmed but that one is expected to be held later in July.

2.2 The Panel NOTED the BSC update.

Ofgem

2.3 NH provided an update on Ofgem's approach to issuing code modification decisions during the pre-election period. The update was that having considered guidance from government, Ofgem will not be issuing decisions on code modifications during this period, prior to the General Election on 4 July 2024. However, exceptions may be made on a case by case basis where there is a specific need to issue the decision and Ofgem will notify codes prior to issuing any such decisions. In light of this approach, Ofgem

will also not be updating and publishing expected decision dates for code modifications with them for decision and these dates will be reset and published accordingly post General Election.

- 2.4 Ofgem is still progressing work in the background but is unable to comment at this time, this includes work following the closure of the two code reform consultations as well as the Future System Operator consultation.
- 2.5 The Panel asked NH whether or not Ofgem would be able to attend Change Proposal Working Group meetings, to which NH confirmed that, whilst attendance is still okay, they won't be able to provide any input during the meetings and will realistically just be listening. The Panel also asked if there is change of government, would this mean a further delay beyond just the pause whilst the election has yet to be held, to which it was noted that it could but that at this moment in time it was unknown if there would be an impact or not.
- 2.6 DT noted that given the delay in decision being made by the Authority, there was a risk that if DCP 435 'Party Novation Process' is approved and implemented after the changes proposed as part of the FSO related work coming into effect, then the proposed numbering would no longer be correct. DT went on to explain that following a previous conversation with NH, it was considered that if the numbering needed to be updated, then this was something that could be handled by Code Administrators as part of the implementation. DT asked whether the Panel had any issues with this approach, to which it was noted that this seemed to be a pragmatic approach and were happy for it to be used if needed, although noted that it went against previous advice.

Smart Energy Code (SEC)

- 2.7 AB explained that in terms of the SEC, there were no SEC modifications that impact the DCUSA but there is a SEC Panel engagement day coming up on 17 July if anyone wanted to attend.

Retail Energy Code (REC)

- 2.8 LM provided an overview to the Panel of a paper that was circulated in the meeting pack and asked if Panel members had any questions, to which it was noted that there were no questions at the time. LM noted that there is now a Change Issues Group which will be tasked with looking at specific issues over time. LM explained that there is work ongoing to finalise amendments to the REC Change Process.

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_0619_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.
- 3.2 RC presented the 'Timetables' tab and highlighted that the timetables for which were being moved and the reason for their movement.
- 3.3 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_0619_02). It was NOTED that there were no new Change Proposals for Initial Assessment by the Panel this month. as set out below.
- 4.2 The Panel noted the Initial Assessment Cover Paper.

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_0619_03). It was noted that the paper presented the following two Change Reports for approval this month:
- DCP 441 ‘Proposal to increase the number of allowed Change Report alternative variations from two to three’
 - DCP-438 ‘Rate of Return Change Proposal’

DCP 441 ‘Proposal to increase the number of allowed Change Report alternative variations from two to three’

- 5.2 With respect to DCP 441, the Panel NOTED that the intent of DCP 441 is to change the number of alternative variations that can be added by the Panel to a Change Report from two to three.
- 5.3 For DCP 441, 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 all Parties would be eligible to vote on the CP and requested that this fact be reflected in the Change Report and attached voting form as both documents currently stated, that only DNOs, IDNOs and Supplier were identified as ‘Impacted Parties’;
 - 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 20 June 2024.

216/01 Change Reports: The Secretariat to update the DCP 441 Change Report and voting form to state that all Parties are Impacted Parties’ and then progress DCP 441 to the Voting phase on 20 June 2024 for a period of 15 Working Days.

DCP-438 ‘Rate of Return Change Proposal’

- 5.4 With respect to DCP 438, the Panel NOTED that the intent of DCP 438 is to update the rate of return as the previous legal text is out of date.
- 5.5 For DCP 438, 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, in addition to DNOs, IDNOs and Suppliers that were identified as 'Impacted Parties' in the Change Report, CVA Registrants would also be 'Impacted Parties' and should therefore also be eligible to vote on the CP and requested that this fact be reflected in the Change Report and attached voting form as both documents currently stated, that only DNOs, IDNOs and Supplier were identified as 'Impacted Parties';
- 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 20 June 2024.

216/02 Change Reports: The Secretariat to update the DCP 438 Change Report and voting form to state that, in addition to DNOs, IDNOs and Suppliers that were identified as 'Impacted Parties' in the Change Report, CVA Registrants would also be 'Impacted Parties' and then progress DCP 438 to the Voting phase on 20 June 2024 for a period of 15 Working Days.

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_0619_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.
- 6.3 One Panel member raised a query with respect to the defined term 'MPAS' within the DCUSA and wondered whether this was correct. It was noted that during discussion in a recent Working Group, it was highlighted that in the DCUSA, the term MPAS is defined as MPAS "has the meaning given to that term in the Distribution Licence, and which includes the Electricity Retail Data Service under the REC and the Supplier Meter Registration Service under the BSC.". However, the Panel member believed that MPAS is not actually defined within the Distribution Licence and requested for this to be investigated.
- 6.4 **POST MEETING NOTE:** The Secretariat has conducted a search of the Distribution Licence and determined that MPAS is not defined in the Distribution Licence, and therefore the term and its meaning in the DCUSA is likely in need of an amendment. The Secretariat will include this point in the Housekeeping Log paper for consideration by the Panel at their next meeting.

216/03 Housekeeping Log: The Secretariat to include the relevant information about the term MPAS as defined in the DCUSA and how this is referenced in the Distribution Licence in the Housekeeping Log paper for consideration by the Panel at their next meeting.

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_0619_05). The Paper was taken as read.
- 7.2 DT NOTED that one new Accession Application had been received and vetted by the Secretariat from an applicant wishing to accede to DCUSA in the Supplier Party Category. It was noted that the application was from UC Energy Ltd.

- 7.3 The Panel SCRUTINISED the Accession Application for UC Energy Ltd 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.

216/04 Accession Applications: The Secretariat to progress the Accession Application for UC Energy Ltd, by drafting and sending the applicant an Accession Agreement and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have instructed them to countersign these Accession Agreement.

8. DCMDG Headline Report

- 8.1 DT presented the DCMDG Headline Report to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2024_0619_06). The paper was taken as read and it was noted the Panel had no questions or comments.
- 8.2 The Panel NOTED the DCMDG Headline Report.

9. DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan

- 9.1 DT presented the DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2024_0619_07). The paper was taken as read.
- 9.2 DT NOTED that no updates had been made since the last meeting and sought feedback from the Panel as to whether there were any items that should be added, removed or updated.
- 9.3 The Panel did not have anything to add during the meeting and therefore NOTED the contents of the Horizon Scan.

10. Post Panel update and open Q&A session

- 10.1 RC 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 about 6 attendees, and that a number of questions had been asked and answered during the session.
- 10.2 The Panel NOTED the Post Panel update and open Q&A session report.

11. Any Other Business

- 11.1 RC raised an item of other business related to whether or not the Panel would be happy to approve a change to the title and intent statement for DCP 412 'Discounts from TCR charges for 'peaky' final demand customers'. RC noted that the solution now being proposed is that for customers that meet the criteria developed by the Working Group that the customer would be moved down to the next lowest residual charging band and that the current title and intent statement contained the word 'discount' but that moving down a band might not be considered to be a discount. The Panel discussed this question and agreed that the title should be updated to 'Allocation of banding for TCR Charges for

'Peak' Final Demand Customers'. The Panel also agreed that the intent statement should be replaced with "The intent of this CP is to consider the residual charge for 'peak' customers, removing the disproportionate impact of allocating residual charges on the basis of the Agreed Supply Capacity".

11.2 In agreeing to the changes above, the Panel raised a concern that in re-banding a customer, it is possible that a customer's charges could increase and that this might occur in the circumstances where negative residual charges occur, or for other reasons which would mean that higher charges are seen within lower bands where the opposite would normally be the case.

11.3 It was agreed to raise this point for discussion during the next meeting of the DCP 412 Working Group.

12. Date of next meeting: 17 July 2024 at 10:30am

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
213/04	Initial Assessments: 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
216/01	Change Reports: The Secretariat to update the DCP 441 Change Report and voting form to state that all Parties are Impacted Parties’ and then progress DCP 441 to the Voting phase on 20 June 2024 for a period of 15 Working Days.	ElectraLink	
216/02	Change Reports: The Secretariat to update the DCP 438 Change Report and voting form to state that, in addition to DNOs, IDNOs and Suppliers that were identified as ‘Impacted Parties’ in the Change Report, CVA Registrants would also be ‘Impacted Parties’ and then progress DCP 438 to the Voting phase on 20 June 2024 for a period of 15 Working Days.	ElectraLink	
216/03	Housekeeping Log: The Secretariat to include the relevant information about the term MPAS as defined in the DCUSA and how this is referenced in the Distribution Licence in the Housekeeping Log paper for consideration by the Panel at their next meeting.	ElectraLink	
216/04	Accession Applications: The Secretariat to progress the Accession Application for UC Energy Ltd, by drafting and sending the applicant an Accession Agreement and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have instructed them to countersign these Accession Agreement.	ElectraLink	

Closed Actions – Open Session

Ref No.	Action	Owner	Update
213/02	Updates from the Industry Working Groups/Codes: All Code Managers: 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.	ElectraLink	Update 17 April 2024: REC had advised that Lorna Mallon would take over for Collette Bowe, and SEC were being contacted. KEEP OPEN Update 19/06: Completed
214/03	DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan: Secretariat to review the following items for inclusion in or updating of the DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan:	ElectraLink	Update 19/06: Completed

	<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. 		
215/01	Initial Assessments: The Secretariat to progress DCP 440 'Consuming "de-energised" sites' to the Definition Phase and to set up a Working Group in order to further refine the proposed solution.	ElectraLink	Update 19/06: Completed
215/02	Initial Assessments: The Secretariat to progress DCP 441 'Proposal to increase the number of allowed Change Report alternative variations from two to three' to the Report Phase and to carry out some analysis with respect to the number of previous Change Proposals which have progressed with one or two alternative solutions in line with the description in the Panel minutes.	ElectraLink	Update 19/06: Completed
215/03	Change Reports: The Secretariat to update the DCP 433 Change Report in line with the comments made by the Panel and captured in the minutes and then progress DCP 433 to the Voting phase on 16 May for a period of 15 Working Days.	ElectraLink	Update 19/06: Completed
215/04	Change Reports: The Secretariat to update the DCP 436 Change Report in line with the comments made by the Panel and captured in the minutes and then progress DCP 436 to the Voting phase on 15 May for a period of 10 Working Days.	ElectraLink	Update 19/06: Completed
215/05	Change Reports: The Secretariat to update the DCP 417 Change Report in line with the comments made by the Panel and captured in the minutes and then re-issue the updated documents via email to the Panel for an ex-committee decision.	ElectraLink	Update 19/06: Completed
215/06	Accession Applications: The Secretariat to progress the Accession Application for Field Gaia Ltd, by drafting and sending the applicant an Accession Agreement and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have instructed them to countersign these Accession Agreement.	ElectraLink	Update 19/06: Completed