

DCUSA Panel Meeting 222 (Open Session)

18 December 2024 at 10:00am

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

Attendee	Role	Company
Panel Members		
Simon Vicary [SV]	Panel Member (CHAIR)	DCUSA Ltd
Victoria Burkett [VB]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Donna Jamieson [DJ]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Karl Marylon [KM]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Clare Wagstaffe [CW]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Peter Waymont [PW]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Lee Wells [LW]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Kevin Woollard [KW]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Simon Yeo [SY]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Observers		
Alison Beard [AB]	Observer	SEC
Mark DeSouza Wilson [MDW]	Observer	BSC
Tim Ellingham [TE]	Observer	RWE
Nadir Hafeez [NH]	Observer	Ofgem
Lorna Mallon [LM]	Observer	REC
Donald Preston [DP]	Observer	SSEN
Code Administrator		
Richard Colwill [RC]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Angelo Fitzhenry [AF]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Melissa Kendall [MK]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
George Kestner [GK]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Hannah Proffit [HP]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Dylan Townsend [DT]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Apologies		
None		

1. Administration

Permission to record Meeting

- 1.1 The Panel RESOLVED to record this meeting to aid the Technical Secretariat in producing an accurate report of the meeting. The recording will be deleted once the minutes for the meeting are approved.

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. Points raised included:
- The Data Integration Platform (DIP)
 - DIP CR Consultation for DCR0001 'Addition of missing Non-Functional Requirements (NFRs) to the DIP Rules to reflect Market-wide Half Hourly Settlement (MHHS) design' was out for consultation until 20 December 2024.
 - The DIP Change Advisory Board would meet 21 January 2025 and anyone wishing to join the meeting should contact Elexon for more information.
 - Elexon are inviting responses to the consultation on the Risk Evaluation Methodology (REM) & Risk Evaluation Register (RER) draft documents for the 2025/26 Performance Assurance Operating Period. The REM sets out the methodology for identifying and scoring the significance of Settlement Risks and the RER documents the Settlement Risks and associated information. The consultation is open until 15 January 2025,
 - The Introduction to Elexon and the Energy Market Seminars would take place on 11 February 2025, 23 April 2025, 24 September 2025 and 26 November 2025. These would be in-person events and places were anticipated to be fully booked and so anybody wishing to attend was encouraged to contact Elexon to secure a place.
- 2.2 The Panel NOTED the BSC update.

Ofgem

- 2.3 NH provided the Panel with a verbal update on Ofgem related topics, which included:

- An update on the Expected Decision Dates ('EDD') for all DCUSA Change Proposals (DCPs) that were currently with the Authority for decision, including:
 - DCP 439 'Backdating Tariff Changes': the EDD was mid-February 2025 (13 February 2025)
- In addition, the status the following DCPs was confirmed as follows:
 - DCP 417 'Ability for the DCUSA Secretariat to Raise Change Proposals' had been approved on 19 November 2024;
 - DCP 441 'Proposal to increase the number of allowed Change Report alternative variations from two to three' had been approved on 6 December 2024;
 - DCP 438 'Rate of Return Change Proposal' had been approved on 6 December 2024;
 - DCP 437 'To Shorten the DUoS Pricing Notice Periods' had been sent back on 26 November 2024; and
 - DCP 445 'Implementation of Market-wide Half Hourly Settlement (MHHS) Arrangements' had been approved 26 November 2024.
- An update was provided on Energy Code Reform and the Code Manager selection process:
 - Ofgem had published a Consultation on 28 November 2024 which detailed how the Code Manager selection process would be run: there would be a three-stage process, followed by an implementation assurance phase.
 - This Consultation also set out Ofgem's proposed approach to determining whether to select code managers on a competitive or a non-competitive basis, based on considerations related to speed, delivery and value for money. This included DCUSA and other eligible candidates for the Electricity Technical Code and a deferred decision on the SEC.
 - Views were also being sought on the guidance document and accompanying forms that Ofgem intended to publish in fulfilment of their obligations under the Code Manager Selection Regulation 2024 and the proposed content of forthcoming regulations that would govern any competitive selection process.
 - Alongside this, the selection process had been launched for the first two Code Managers, with Elexon and RECCo invited to submit their candidates for the BSC and REC respectively.
 - This Consultation would be open until 30 January 2025.

2.4 The Panel SCRUTINISED the Ofgem update. One Panel member requested an update on changes to debt management and standing charges. NH advised that this was a broad area and invited specific questions by email.

2.5 The Panel NOTED the Ofgem update.

Smart Energy Code (SEC)

2.6 AB NOTED that no SEC modifications were being progressed that would affect the DCUSA.

2.7 The Panel NOTED the SEC update.

Retail Energy Code (REC)

2.8 LM presented the REC change update paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2024_1218_01). The paper was taken as read.

2.9 LM highlighted key points, including:

- The CCSG tracker was presented and LM highlighted that R207 'Import / Export MOA Charging Clarification' was currently out for impact assessment.
- Ofgem had issued a decision to reject R170 'Withdrawal of Service Termination Issue Reporting Guidance (STRIG) from REC Governance'. This issue was instead now being addressed via C3-0091 'Changes to Metering Expert Panel Terms of Reference to support alternate R0170 solution'.
- A future change would upgrade the service terminations guidance document to become a Category 2 document, so would go through the full REC change process.

2.10 The Panel NOTED the REC update.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 There were no Matters Arising.

4. Change Register

4.1 RC presented the Change Register updates to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2024_1218_02). The paper was taken as read. 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.

4.2 RC NOTED that a number of typographical errors had been identified in the original document pack and FURTHER NOTED that an amended version had been circulated ahead of the meeting and uploaded to the DCUSA website. In particular, he provided the following confirmations:

- DCP 433: the implementation date was 19 November 2024, not 27 June 2024;
- DCP 441: the implementation year was 2025, not 2205; and
- DCP 417: the implementation year was 2025, not 2205.

4.3 With respect DCP 437 'To Shorten the DUoS Pricing Notice Periods', the Panel noted that Ofgem had decided to send it back to the Panel for further work as they had been unable to make a decision and had requested additional analysis on customer impacts and other relevant factors. The Panel discussed the need to gather this information and the potential methods for doing so, such as issuing a Request for Information (RFI) or conducting further consultations. Panel members noted the importance of understanding the feasibility of being able to gather the required analysis The Panel agreed on the importance of setting a backstop date to ensure that the additional work is completed by the Working Group in a timely manner. This would help in providing a clear timeline for when the Change Proposal could be resubmitted to Ofgem to make a decision ahead of the tariffs for 2027/28 being published at the end of 2025. It was suggested that the Change Report should be finalised and voted on by July 2025 to allow sufficient time for Ofgem to make a decision implementation before the end of the year.

4.4 RC presented the timetable tab and highlighted the following changes:

- DCP 419 'Pre-Notifications of Planned Supply De-Energisations': the Working Group were exploring potential alternative approaches, such as the creation of an App to allow any planned work to be pre-notified; meetings were being scheduled with REC to explore the feasibility of this.
- DCP 412 'Allocation of banding for TCR Charges for 'Peak' Final Demand Customers': this had been delayed as the working group was scrutinising the amended legal text following legal review. This was now anticipated to be progressed in February 2025.

4.5 The Panel NOTED the Change Register updates.

5. Initial Assessments

5.1 RC presented the Initial Assessment Cover Paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2024_1218_03). The paper was taken as read. It was NOTED that there were no new Change Proposals for Initial Assessment by the Panel this month.

5.2 The Panel NOTED the Initial Assessment paper.

6. Change Reports

6.1 RC presented the Change Report Cover Paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2024_1218_04). It was noted that three new Change Reports were being tabled for approval this month.

6.2 RC NOTED that the voting period for each Change Report had been calculated based on the usual 15 Working Day period and so includes the three Bank Holidays within the voting period (i.e., Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day). The Panel NOTED that the 2nd of January was a Bank Holiday in Scotland and RESOLVED to extend the voting period for each by an additional day to incorporate this.

DCP 440 'Consuming "de-energised" sites'

6.3 The Panel SCRUTINISED DCP 440. Points raised included NOTING a typographical error in Paragraph 4.17 '...Working Gorup...'. The Panel AGREED to correct this, but otherwise to progress DCP 440 accordingly.

6.4 For DCP 440, the Panel:

- Subject to correcting the typographical error in Paragraph 4.17, AGREED that the Change Report contained sufficient detail and information for Parties to understand the Change Proposal and to be able to vote on the Change Proposal;
- DETERMINED that Parties should be invited to vote on the Change Proposal for a period of 15 Working Days (where Working Days does not include 02 January alongside the three other Bank Holidays).
- DETERMINED that the Parties eligible to vote were those that were identified as impacted parties within the Change Report.

DCP 447 'NTC Section Footers'

6.5 For DCP 447, the Panel:

- AGREED that the Change Report contained sufficient detail and information for Parties to understand the Change Proposal and to be able to vote on the Change Proposal;

- DETERMINED that Parties should be invited to vote on the Change Proposal for a period of 15 Working Days (where Working Days does not include 02 January alongside the three other Bank Holidays).
- DETERMINED that the Parties eligible to vote were those that were identified as impacted parties within the Change Report.

DCP 448 'Supercustomer Billing'

6.6 For DCP 448, the Panel:

- AGREED that the Change Report contained sufficient detail and information for Parties to understand the Change Proposal and to be able to vote on the Change Proposal;
- DETERMINED that Parties should be invited to vote on the Change Proposal for a period of 15 Working Days (where Working Days does not include 02 January alongside the three other Bank Holidays).
- DETERMINED that the Parties eligible to vote were those that were identified as impacted parties within the Change Report.

222/01 Change Reports: The Secretariat to progress: (1) DCP 440; (2) DCP 447 and (3) DCP 448 to the Voting phase. In all three cases, the voting period is to be 15 Working Days (where Working Days does not include 02 January alongside the three other Bank Holidays).

7. Housekeeping Log

- 7.1 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_1218_05). The paper was taken as read.
- 7.2 DT NOTED that one new Housekeeping Item had been identified by a Party.

Correct Party/person referencing in Schedule 31 'Embedded Capacity Register'

- 7.3 DT explained that the item had been brought to the Secretariat's attention by Eastern Power Networks and was related to Paragraph 3.2 of Schedule 31, which states that "Any person (whether or not a Party) may, at any time, apply to the Panel requesting that the Agreed Version is altered...", but that Paragraph 3.3.1, which explains what information the Secretariat is to include when inviting representations or objections with respect to the request, states that we are to ensure we set out "identity of the Party that made the request".
- 7.4 The Panel noted that the paper set out the Secretariat's view on a proposed amendment, which given the text in paragraph 3.2, which states 'Any person', that it would make sense for paragraph 3.3.1 to also reference 'person' or even non-capitalised 'party'.
- 7.5 The Panel RESOLVED to add the item to the Housekeeping Log.

222/02 Housekeeping Log: The Secretariat to add the item 'Correct Party/person referencing in Schedule 31 "Embedded Capacity Register"' to the Housekeeping Log

- 7.6 One Panel member (PW) advised that ahead of the next meeting he would contact the Secretariat to table an additional Housekeeping Item.

8. Accession Applications

- 8.1 DT presented the Accession Applications paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2024_1218_06). The paper was taken as read.
- 8.2 The Secretariat confirmed that there were no new Accession Applications this month.
- 8.3 The Panel NOTED the Accessions Applications paper.

9. Derogation Application 'Production of the Annual Review Pack'

- 9.1 DT presented the Derogation Application paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2024_1218_07). The paper was taken as read.
- 9.2 DT provided additional background in respect of the Derogation Application:
 - This Derogation Application was being raised as Ofgem had issued guidance to DNOs with respect to the process DNOs should follow to manage excessive surplus residual charges when setting final tariffs for the 2026 to 2027 charging year. One of these is for DNOs to request a derogation from Ofgem related to the 15 months notice period.
 - If Ofgem grant a derogation as a result of a DNO requesting one, then that only covers them for the Charging Methodology Models and not for production of the Annual Review Pack (ARP), which is solely governed under the DCUSA. Therefore, a DCUSA derogation would be needed to cover the ARP.
 - It was noted that DNOs intend on raising a Change Proposal in January 2025 to provide a long-term solution this problem in the future.
 - A revised paper had been circulated as a Late Paper to incorporate Party feedback from the single response received.
- 9.3 The Panel SCRUTINISED the Derogation Application. Points raised included:
 - The Panel discussed the comment received and NOTED that the comment had been written in the spirit of voicing concerns in terms of the process failures that may lead to a Derogation being required whilst also accepting that it was necessary for it to be progressed.
 - NH sought and received clarifications on the impact that this Derogation would have.
- 9.4 The panel noted the contents of the paper and the representations received. They determined to grant the derogation to the Parties listed within the application, specifying that it would only take effect if Ofgem grants derogations for setting charges.

222/03 Derogation Application 'Production of the Annual Review Pack': The Secretariat to communicate the decision of the Panel to approve the derogation and conditions of the derogation to relevant parties.

10. Embedded Capacity Register Change Request Notice

- 10.1 RC presented the Embedded Capacity Register ('ECR') Change Request Notice paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2024_1218_08). The paper was taken as read.

- 10.2 RC provided additional background and explained that the main purpose of the proposed amendment is to include to the Overhead Line Point of Connection which a scheme is or will be connected.
- 10.3 The Panel SCRUTINISED the ECR Change Request Notice and NOTED that this ECR had been presented with a lack of visibility of what other requests had been made over the recent past but also over the time the process had been in place and RESOLVED that, in the future, a an ECR Change Request Register be created and tabled as a standing item to allow proper monitoring and oversight over ECRs.
- 10.4 Based on the representations received, the Panel decided to defer this request to the SIG for further consideration as it interacts with ongoing work related to the enhancements being made to the DNOs Long Term Development statements as well as was similar to other recent ECR Change Requests. This approach ensures that the request is not lost and is revisited in future SIG meetings for Parties to consider in more detail.

222/04 ECR Change Request Notice: The Secretariat to progress the ECR Change Request Notice related to the inclusion of an item for Overhead Line Point of Connection to the SIG for further consideration.

11. CACoP Headline Report

- 11.1 DT presented the CACoP Headline Report to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2024_1218_09). The paper was taken as read and DT highlighted key points, including:
- A bill of £280, split across all codes, for maintaining the CACoP website would be passed to codes.
 - In 2025, Elexon would take over Chairing and Secretariat responsibilities for the CACoP forum.
 - The CACoP forum had progressed the Cross-Code survey, and the results were now in the process of being shared. It was noted that at the point in time of the meeting, only the raw data results had been made available but that a complete breakdown of responses would be circulated in due course. DT noted that initial analysis suggested that DCUSA had received 10 responses, all of which had been positive, with some points related to areas of improvement also included.
 - Ofgem would be issuing a consultation on industry codes needing to adhere to the data best practice guidance and in light of this, the DCUSA Code Administrator drafted a new CACoP Principle 17, which focuses on following Data Best Practice Guidance. At the same time, the DCUSA Code Administrator also drafted updates to Principle 12, which relates to the completion of a cross-code survey and reporting of metrics to Ofgem, given this task may now fall under the remit of the forum instead of Ofgem. Both sets of text had been included in the paper for the Panel to comment on.
 - It was noted that the Panel did not have any comment on either of the new Principle 17 or the amendments to Principle 12.
 - The next CACoP Forum meeting is scheduled for February 2025.

11.2 The Panel NOTED the CACoP Headline Report.

12. DCMDG Headline Report

- 12.1 DT presented the DCMDG Headline Report to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2024_1218_10). The paper was taken as read.

- 12.2 DT noted that the last meeting was held on 21 November 2024, where the group reviewed the forward work plan and issues log. Ofgem provided updates on CDCM and EDCM issues, cost recovery charges, and regulatory arrangements for IDNOs. Members also discussed the implementation of Market-wide Half Hourly Settlement (MHHS) arrangements and the potential impact of the Clean Power 2030 Plan on DUoS charges.
- 12.3 The Panel noted the contents of the paper and that the next DCMDG meeting is scheduled for 19 December 2024.

13. SIG Headline Report

- 13.1 RC presented a verbal SIG Headline Report to the Panel.

Load Managed Areas and LLFCs

- 13.2 RC noted that this issue concerned LLFCs for primary and secondary MPANs in load managed areas. It was identified that both MPANs should have LLFCs reflecting their location in load managed areas. An RFI was initially considered but later determined to be handled offline. The group decided to address the issue offline, with further discussions to be held as needed.

ENA Project on Fuse Upgrades

- 13.3 RC explained that the ENA is undertaking investigations into whether or not SIPs or MEMs can perform 60A to 80A fuse upgrades when on-site and that the SIG was identified as a suitable forum for initial discussions and possible consultations. Members had agreed to support the ENA by facilitating initial discussions/consultations and ensuring that any resulting changes are appropriately managed.
- 13.4 The Panel NOTED the SIG Headline Report.

14. DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan

- 14.1 DT presented the DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2024_1218_11). The paper was taken as read.
- 14.2 The Panel NOTED that this would be circulated with the draft Budget, and RESOLVED that it be 'tidied up' ahead of circulation.
- 14.3 The Panel SCRUTINISED the Horizon Scan. The Panel NOTED various Ofgem workstreams that were scheduled to run throughout 2025 and NH proposed adding commentary in respect of the latest announcements relating to Code Manager selection. The Panel AGREED to amend the Horizon scan accordingly.
- 14.4 The Panel APPROVED the updated DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan.

15. Any Other Business

- 15.1 There were no items of 'Any Other Business' raised.

16. Date of next meeting: 15 January 2025 at 10.00am

- 16.1 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
222/01	<u>Change Reports:</u> The Secretariat to progress: (1) DCP 440; (2) DCP 447 and (3) DCP 448 to the Voting phase. In all three cases, the voting period is to be 15 Working Days (where Working Days does not include 02 January alongside the three other Bank Holidays).	ElectraLink	
222/02	<u>Housekeeping Log:</u> The Secretariat to add the item ‘Correct Party/person referencing in Schedule 31 “Embedded Capacity Register”’ to the Housekeeping Log	ElectraLink	
222/03	<u>Derogation Application ‘Production of the Annual Review Pack’:</u> The Secretariat to communicate the decision of the Panel to approve the derogation and conditions of the derogation to relevant parties.	ElectraLink	
222/04	<u>ECR Change Request Notice:</u> The Secretariat to progress the ECR Change Request Notice related to the inclusion of an item for Overhead Line Point of Connection to the SIG for further consideration.	ElectraLink	

Closed Actions – Open Session

Ref No.	Action	Owner	Update
221/01	<u>Initial Assessments:</u> The Secretariat to progress: (1) DCP 446 ‘Emergency Disconnections’, to the Definition phase and to set up a Working Group to further refine the proposed solution; (2) DCP 447 ‘NTC Section Footers’ to the Change Report phase; and (3) DCP 448 ‘Supercustomer Billing’ to the Definition Phase via a Working Group to further refine the proposed solution but that the Working Group are to be instructed to only agree on proposed legal drafting and that a consultation would not be required to be conducted as part of their process;	ElectraLink	Update 18 December 2024: These had been progressed. CLOSED
221/02	<u>Accession Applications:</u> The Secretariat to progress the Accession Applications for: (1) Field Force Utility Services Limited; and (2) Providor Limited, by drafting and sending the applicant an Accession Agreement and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have recommended that they countersign each Accession Agreement.	ElectraLink	Update 18 December 2024: These had both been completed. CLOSED
221/03	<u>Withdrawal Notice:</u> The Secretariat to progress Orsted Power Sales (UK) Ltd’s withdrawal from DCUSA to take effect on 4 December 2024.	ElectraLink	Update 18 December 2024: This had been completed. CLOSED

221/04	<u>Derogation Application ‘Production of the Annual Review Pack’:</u> The Secretariat to issue out notice that the Derogation Application had been approved by the Panel and include the update regarding the fact that it is reliant upon DCP 437 being approved, and that with Ofgem’s intention being to send-back DCP 437 for further work, that it is unlikely to ever become effective and thus would not be used in all likelihood.	ElectraLink	Update 18 December 2024: This had been confirmed and notices issued accordingly. CLOSED
221/05	<u>2025 DCUSA Panel meeting dates:</u> The Secretariat to confirm DCUSA Meeting Dates for 2025 and to organise these meetings accordingly.	ElectraLink	Update 18 December 2024: These had been confirmed. CLOSED