

DCUSA Panel Meeting 225 (Open Session)

19 March 2025 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 |
| Kevin Woollard [KW] | Panel Member | DCUSA Ltd |
| Simon Yeo [SY] | Panel Member | DCUSA Ltd |
| Observers | | |
| Maria Casey [MC] | Observer | IDCL |
| Mark DeSouza Wilson [MDW] | Observer | BSC |
| Andrew Enzor (AE) | Observer | Field Energy |
| Nadir Hafeez [NH] | Observer | Ofgem |
| Alice Johnson [AJ] | Observer | Ofgem |
| Robbie Lees [RL] | Observer | IDCL |
| Lorna Mallon [LM] | Observer | REC |
| Monique Pereira [MP] | Observer | Indigo Networks |
| Code Administrator | | |
| Craig Booth [CB] | Secretariat | ElectraLink Ltd |
| Richard Colwill [RC] | Secretariat | ElectraLink Ltd |
| Angelo Fitzhenry [AF] | Secretariat | ElectraLink Ltd |
| George Kestner [GK] | Secretariat | ElectraLink Ltd |
| Hannah Proffit [HP] | Secretariat | ElectraLink Ltd |
| Dylan Townsend [DT] | Secretariat | ElectraLink Ltd |
| Apologies | | |
| Lee Wells [LW] | Alternate Panel Member | DCUSA Ltd |

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 'Apologies' had been received from: Lee Wells.

Non-Confidential Minutes

- 1.4 The draft 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:
- MHHS would mean that Elexon would take on responsibility for a lot of additional data, and the BSC were currently consulting with stakeholders on how this should be used. This would run until 11 April 2025.
 - The BSC's 2025/26 Settlement Calendar had been published.
 - Introduction to the electricity market seminars held by Elexon will be held on 24 September 2025 and 26 November 2025.
 - Elexon has been named as the organisation that would fulfil the Flexibility Market Facilitator role, and that several workshops have been held to cover off a number of critical elements, and that the final workshop will focused on remaining governance and funding arrangements which is to take place on 27 March 2025.

- 2.2 The Panel NOTED the BSC update.

Ofgem

- 2.3 NH provided the Panel with a verbal update on Ofgem related topics. Points raised included:
- On DCUSA Change Proposals currently with Ofgem for decision, it was noted that Ofgem are intending on sending back DCP 439 'Backdating tariff decisions' for further work and that the letter setting this out would be issued on 2 April 2025.

- On recent decisions made by Ofgem with respect to DCUSA Change Proposals, it was noted that Ofgem had decided to send back DCP 440 ‘Consuming “de-energised” sites’ and the letter confirming this had been published on the Ofgem website ([Authority decision to send back DCP440: Consuming “de-energised” sites | Ofgem](#))
- On matters related to Energy Code Reform, it was noted that relevant persons from RECCo and BSCCo had been invited to submit licensing assessment forms on a non-competitive basis and the decision on preliminary Strategic Direction Statement (SDS) and related governance arrangements would be open for consultation until 28 March 2025 ([Consultation on the preliminary Strategic Direction Statement and code governance arrangements](#)).

2.4 The Panel NOTED the Ofgem update.

Smart Energy Code (SEC)

2.5 LM NOTED that no SEC modifications were being progressed that would affect the DCUSA.

2.6 The Panel NOTED the SEC update.

Retail Energy Code (REC)

2.7 LM presented the REC change update paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2025_0319_01). The paper was taken as read.

2.8 LM highlighted key points,

- DCP 419 / REC 216: A request for information had been issued to gather views on impact assessment.
- DCP 451 / I248: DCUSA had issued DCP 451 for consultation; REC had opted not to issue a simultaneous consultation due to timings, but instead would take a draft legal text to the next DCUSA working group meeting and flag this consultation in REC.
- With respect REC I0191 ‘De-energisation of disconnected meters’ it was noted that their current view is that it is not expected to have cross code impact, and also that it would be taken to the Change Issues Group on 3 April 2025.

2.9 DJ requested additional information regarding the API app and data flow. LM clarified that this was a web-based solution data flow.

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_2025_0319_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 presented the Status change tab and highlighted the following changes:

- DCP 419 'Pre-Notifications of Planned Supply De-Energisations': a RFI had been issued.
- DCP 437 'To Shorten the DUoS Pricing Notice Periods': this had progressed to the Definition phase and a Working Group had been formed.
- DCP 450 'Managing the effects of surplus residual charge in the CDCM': this had progressed to the Definition phase and a Working Group had been formed.
- DCP 451 'Suspending Registrations': this had progressed to the Definition phase and a Working Group had been formed and a consultation has just been issued.
- DCP 412 'Allocation of banding for TCR Charges for 'Peak' Final Demand Customers': This had progressed to the voting phase, which has recently closed and a Change Declaration would be issued shortly to confirm the outcome of Party voting.
- DCP 441 'Proposal to increase the number of allowed Change Report alternative variations from two to three': this had been Implemented.
- DCP 417 'Ability for the DCUSA Secretariat to Raise Change Proposals': this had been Implemented.
- DCP 447 'NTC Section Footers': this had been Implemented.

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

- DCP 443 'Excess Capacity': the Working Group needed additional time to consider and review the modelling work which members of the Working Group had put together.
- DCP 419 'Pre-notification of Planned Supply De-energisations': additional time would be required to ensure cross-code alignment. Due to cross code impact with REC identified.
- DCP 325 'Reviewing the requirements of Sections 35A ('Provision of Cost Information'), 35B ('Production of the Annual Review Pack'), Schedule 15 ('Cost Information Table') and Schedule 20 ('Production of the Annual Review Pack')': The Working Group require more time to finalise legal text and Change Report, which is now expected to be delivered to the April Panel meeting.

4.4 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_2025_0319_03). The paper was taken as read. It was NOTED that one new Change Proposals had been tabled for Initial Assessment by the Panel this month.

DCP 452 'Correct application of Forward Cost Pricing EDCM charges to users connected directly to a Grid Supply Point'

5.2 RC provided background behind this, explaining that the proposal sets out to correct an oversight in DCUSA which results in customers connecting directly to Grid Supply Point incorrectly facing a locational FCP charge relating to assets downstream of their connection.

5.3 DT explained that given the broad and somewhat unknown scope of the current DUoS SCR, the Panel would be required to make an assessment as to whether it impacts or conflicts with the DUoS SCR and

the notify the Authority of their assessment as well as what was captured within the Change Proposal form itself.

5.4 The Panel SCRUTINISED DCP 452. Comments raised included the following.

- The Panel NOTED that delaying workstreams until certainty could be provided by Ofgem could add months to the timeline, and FURTHER NOTED that the CPs conclusions should be progressed or otherwise used to inform next steps, even if Ofgem were to decide that the CP could not proceed in the usual way.
- The Panel NOTED that there was currently no way of ascertaining the scope of the DUoS SCR and AGREED that the CP should be progressed on a business-as-usual footing until any direction given by Ofgem to the contrary.

5.5 NH NOTED that from an Ofgem's perspective, the best course of action would be for DCUSA to follow due process, (i.e., that they should provide their assessment as to whether this CP was or was not in scope of the SCR, and for Ofgem to then inform the Panel if they agreed with these views). NH FURTHER NOTED that Ofgem retained the power to progress CPs even if they were within scope of the SCR under circumstances where they felt that this would be beneficial or appropriate.

5.6 For DCP 452 the DCUSA Panel RESOLVED to INSTRUCT the Secretariat to notify the Authority of the Panel's assessment of whether the CP falls within scope of the DUoS SCR, alongside the representations made by the Proposer in the CP form; and:

- 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 that a Working Group should be formed to scrutinise and progress this solution; and
- AGREED the progression of the CP in accordance with the proposed timescales.

225/01 Initial Assessments: The Secretariat to: (1) notify the Authority of the Panel's assessment of whether the DCP 452 falls within scope of the DUoS SCR and the reasons for that assessment as well as the representations made by the Proposer; and (2) progress DCP 452 to the Working Group Phase.

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_2025_0319_04. It was NOTED that one new Change Report was being tabled for approval this month.

DCP 446 'Emergency Disconnections'

6.2 It was noted that DCP 446 would enable distributors to charge customers covered by section 2 of the National Terms of Connection ("NTC") for emergency deenergisations or disconnections that are required for safety reasons or are requested by emergency services.

6.3 The Panel SCRUTINISED DCP 446.

- The Panel NOTED that they had previously agreed to consider both the recent send back for DCP 440 and the send back expected for DCP 439 but as the latter was not yet available, they weren't yet in a position to consider if changes to their considerations were necessary for this report. Some Panel Members who were involved in the development of the CP, FURTHER NOTED that Ofgem had participated in this Working Group and so should be aware of its progress and conclusions.

6.4 The Panel RESOLVED to approve DCP 446, and to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period and that the Parties that will be eligible to vote will be those identified as impacted Parties in the Change Report.

225/02 Change Reports: The Secretariat to approve the Change Report for: (1) DCP 446, and to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period to Impacted Parties (DNOs).

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_2025_0319_05). The paper was taken as read.
- 7.2 DT NOTED that notes that between the previous Panel meeting and the drafting of this paper, no new housekeeping items have been identified by a Party or by the Secretariat.
- 7.3 DT NOTED that ENWL had recently raised a potential item to do with a calculation in Schedule 22 but that and so there may be one next month for the Panel to consider.
- 7.4 The Panel NOTED the Housekeeping Log.

8. Accession Applications

- 8.1 GK presented the Accession Applications paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2025_0319_06). The paper was taken as read.
- 8.2 The Secretariat confirmed that there were seven new Accession Applications this month, from:
 - Engage Services (ESL) Ltd (SIP)
 - Momentum Utility Services Ltd (SIP)
 - Powertec Electrotechnical Services Ltd (SIP)
 - Scope Utility Solutions Ltd (SIP)
 - Scorpia Energy Supply Ltd (Supplier)
 - Smart Pay Energy Ltd (Supplier)
 - Stark Connect Ltd (SIP)
- 8.3 The Secretariat PROVIDED ASSURANCES that they had completed relevant checks and that:
 - Scorpia Energy Supply Ltd and Smart Pay Energy Ltd were in a position to accede to the DCUSA in the Supplier Party Category;

- Momentum Utility Services Ltd and Scope Utility Solutions Ltd had completed REC testing and were in a position to accede to the DCUSA in the SIP Party Category;
- Stark Connect Ltd was a qualified MOA so was in a position to accede to the DCUSA in the SIP Party Category; and
- REC Code Manager has provided assurances that Engage Services (ESL) Ltd and Powertec Electrotechnical Services Ltd have both sufficiently progressed with REC's SIP qualification for them to have confidence in the seriousness of their applications and that they will complete qualification in the upcoming weeks/months.

8.4 The Panel SCRUTINISED The Accession Applications and NOTED that both Supplier Accession Applications were missing the Emergency SRN number and that before the Accession Agreements could be progressed, the Emergency SRN numbers would need to be included.

8.5 The Panel SCRUTINISED the applications and, subject to Scorpia Energy Supply Ltd and Smart Pay Energy Ltd providing an Emergency SRN number, RESOLVED to APPROVE each Accession Application and instructed the Secretariat to prepare and issue an Accession Agreement for each applicant and advise the Board that the Panel have recommended that they countersign each Accession Agreement on behalf of all Parties.

225/03 Accession Applications: The Secretariat to progress the Accession Applications for: (1) Engage Services (ESL) Ltd; (2) Momentum Utility Services Ltd; (3) Powertec Electrotechnical Services Ltd; (4) Scope Utility Solutions Ltd; (5) Scorpia Energy Supply Ltd, pending confirmation of an Emergency SRN number; (6) Smart Pay Energy Ltd, pending confirmation of an Emergency SRN number; and (7) Stark Connect Ltd, 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.

9. CACoP Headline Report

9.1 RC provided a verbal update with respect to the last meeting of the CACoP forum, and NOTED that forum members had been provided with the cross-code survey results and analysis was still ongoing. RC also noted that the forum would be publishing an end-of-year report for 2024 shortly, which would inform the development of future priorities.

9.2 The Panel NOTED the CACoP Headline Report.

10. DCMDG Headline Report

10.1 RC presented the DCMDG Headline Report to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2025_0319_07). The paper was taken as read.

10.2 RC Highlighted key points, including the following:

- Ofgem would be providing updates on the DUoS SCR and an update on its Cost Recovery Review, which were expected shortly.
- With respect to DCP 420 'Provide targeted relief from residual charges for electric vehicle ("EV") charging sites' the Chair raised with DCMDG members that the Working Group had had been looking at various solutions, but that the preferred solution would take some time to implement. Members had noted that an interim solution had been presented, which would

provide a short-term fix until the full solution could be identified and that this would be brought to their attention in more detail during the March meeting.

10.3 The Panel NOTED the DCMDG Headline Report.

11. SIG Headline Report

11.1 RC presented the SIG Headline Report to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2025_0319_08). The paper was taken as read.

11.2 RC highlighted key points, including:

- SIG had discussed three DIFs that had been previously raised by Scottish Power Energy Retail are being re-opened as new issued following a request to do so. The three issues were noted as being:
 - DIF 76 (MPAN and GSP group correction and charge);
 - DIF 77 (Meter Bypass Notification Process); and
 - DIF 78 (Use of generators at new developments before site can be connected to the network), although Panel Members noted that the paper incorrectly stated the title for DIF 78 as being (Credit Cover Clarifications).
- RC noted that Invitations to join SIG sub-groups on these issues would be progressed shortly.

11.3 The Panel SCRUTINISED the SIG Headline Report and RESOLVED that an updated version of the paper be added to the meeting pack on the website after the meeting to correct the mistake in the title for DIF 78.

225/04 SIG Headline Report: The Secretariat to update the circulated paper to correct the title given to DIF 78 to be that of 'Use of generators at new developments before site can be connected to the network' instead of 'Credit Cover Clarifications', and upload an updated version to the website.

11.4 The Panel NOTED the SIG Headline Report.

12. DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan

12.1 GK presented the DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2025_0319_09). The paper was taken as read.

12.2 GK NOTED that, as agreed at the previous meeting, the item 'DESNZ CP 2030 Action Plan had been added to the Horizon Scan.

12.3 The Panel APPROVED the updated DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan.

13. Any Other Business

13.1 Five items of 'Other Business' were raised.

AoB (1): DCMDG Chair

13.2 DT NOTED that following internal discussion around resources, that there was agreement that RC would potentially take over as the Chair of the DCMDG, but noted that Paragraph 4 in Schedule 28 of the DCUSA states that the DCMDG Chair needed to be an independent appointment by the Panel for a 12-

month term. DT requested for the Panel to consider appointing RC as the DCMDG Chair moving forwards.

- 13.3 The Panel AGREED that RC would Chair DCMDG and that CB would be the technical secretariat for the next 12-month term.

AoB (2): 'DCP 440 "send back" decision next steps'

- 13.4 DT NOTED that Ofgem had issued a send-back letter for DCP 440 ([Authority decision to send back DCP440: Consuming "de-energised" sites | Ofgem](#)) . This letter was addressed to the DCUSA Panel, who would need to decide next steps, albeit, the Secretariat had already started planning to reconvene the Working Group but wanted to confirm that this was how the Panel wished to deal with the send back.
- 13.5 The Panel AGREED to reconvene the DCP 440 Working Group to further develop the solution in line with the contents of Ofgem's send back letter.

225/05 AoB (2): 'DCP 440 "send back" decision next steps': The Secretariat to reconvene the working group for DCP 440 to further develop this solution in response to Ofgem's Send-back decision.

AoB (3): Send-Back DCP 439 'Backdating Tariff Changes'

- 13.6 The Panel NOTED that a send-back letter was expected from Ofgem shortly with respect to DCP 439 'Backdating Tariff Changes' and AGREED to review and agree next steps via ex-committee decision by email upon receipt of this letter.

225/06 AoB (3): 'DCP 439 "send back" decision next steps': Upon publication, the Secretariat to circulate the send-back letter for DCP 439 to the Panel via email for ex-committee decision on next steps.

AoB (4): Change Declaration process

- 13.7 RC noted that he had identified a potential inefficiency in the process of issuing Change Declarations:
- When collating votes and submitting a breakdown of votes to Ofgem, the breakdown was attached as an appendix to the Change Report, which was a simple solution.
 - However, the Party Change Declaration form required the entire change report to be transposed into a different template, which then added the voting breakdown via an additional subsection. This was an unnecessary additional step, one which contained room for transposition errors.
 - RC asked for the Panel's thoughts on if and how this might be presented differently. For example, adding a one page summary with the Change Report, that provided a breakdown of the result of the votes and any comments received.
- 13.8 PW noted that Ofgem had requested a standardised process for all codes and suggested that Secretariat could discuss this with Ofgem and bring back any proposals or suggestions that needed Panel authorisation
- 13.9 Panel AGREED that Secretariat could explore options for improving the Change Declaration process.

AoB (5): Panel and Board member biographies and photographs on the website

13.10 GK NOTED that, as discussed at past Panel Meetings, all Panel and Board members' biographies and photographs had been updated.

14. Date of next meeting: 16 April 2025 at 10.00am

14.1 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 |
|---------|---|-------------|---|
| 223/01 | <u>Initial Assessments:</u> The Secretariat to progress: (1) DCP 449 to the Change Report Phase. | ElectraLink | <p>Update 19 February 2025: The Change Report for DCP 449 had been progressed in line with the usual procedures. However, the Post-Panel Q&A Session had received several questions around the usage of the telephone line and what message had been played to anybody that phoned it, and had taken actions to investigate further. The Panel NOTED that the Post-Panel Q&A Session was not mandated to accept questions or take actions, and so this was Out of Process. In any case, no statistics for phone usage or details of the answerphone message were available as this line had been disconnected several years earlier. The Panel RESOLVED: (1) to add an additional explanatory line to clarify this, to be agreed via Ex-Committee Decision, and (2) that the Secretariat should be reminded of the process for scrutinising Change Proposals, and that the Post-Panel Q&A Sessions were not part of this process. KEEP OPEN</p> <p>Update 19 March 2025: The legal text had been updated and would be circulated to the Panel for ex-Committee decision after the March 2025 Meeting. KEEP OPEN</p> |
| 225/01 | <u>Initial Assessments:</u> The Secretariat to: (1) notify the Authority of the Panel's assessment of whether the DCP 452 falls within scope of the DUoS SCR and the reasons for that assessment as well as the representations made by the Proposer; and (2) progress DCP 452 to the Working Group Phase. | ElectraLink | |
| 225/02 | <u>Change Reports:</u> The Secretariat to approve the Change Report for: (1) DCP 446, and to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period to Impacted Parties (DNOs). | ElectraLink | |

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|--------|---|-------------|--|
| 225/03 | Accession Applications: The Secretariat to progress the Accession Applications for: (1) Engage Services (ESL) Ltd; (2) Momentum Utility Services Ltd; (3) Powertec Electrotechnical Services Ltd; (4) Scope Utility Solutions Ltd; (5) Scorpia Energy Supply Ltd, pending confirmation of an Emergency SRN number; (6) Smart Pay Energy Ltd, pending confirmation of an Emergency SRN number; and (7) Stark Connect Ltd, 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 | |
| 225/04 | SIG Headline Report: The Secretariat to update the circulated paper to correct the title given to DIF 78 to be that of 'Use of generators at new developments before site can be connected to the network' instead of 'Credit Cover Clarifications', and upload an updated version to the website. | ElectraLink | |
| 225/05 | AoB (2): 'DCP 440 "send back" decision next steps': The Secretariat to reconvene the working group for DCP 440 to further develop this solution in response to Ofgem's Send-back decision. | ElectraLink | |
| 225/06 | AoB (3): 'DCP 439 "send back" decision next steps': Upon publication, the Secretariat to circulate the send back letter for DCP 439 to the Panel via email for ex-committee decision on next steps. | ElectraLink | |

Closed Actions – Open Session

| Ref No. | Action | Owner | Update |
|---------|---|-------------|---|
| 224/01 | Updates from the Industry Working Groups/Codes: Ofgem: Ofgem to confirm what the publication date for the decisions on sent-back Change Proposals would be. | Ofgem | Update 19 March 2025: Completed. CLOSED |
| 224/02 | Initial Assessments: The Secretariat to progress: (1) DCP 450 to the Working Group Phase; and (2) DCP 451 to the Working Group Phase. | ElectraLink | Update 19 March 2025: Completed. CLOSED |
| 224/03 | Change Reports: The Secretariat to approve the Change Report for: (1) DCP 412, and to issue for Voting for a three week voting period to Impacted Parties (Suppliers, DNOs and IDNOs). | ElectraLink | Update 19 March 2025: Completed. CLOSED |
| 224/04 | Accession Applications: The Secretariat to progress the Accession Applications for: (1) Aidien Limited; and (2) Vital Energi Power Networks 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 19 March 2025: Completed. CLOSED |