

DCUSA Panel Meeting 228 (Open Session)

18 June 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
Peter Waymont [PW]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Simon Yeo [SY]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Observers		
Mark Bellman [MB]	Observer	ENWL
Colin Berry [CB]	Observer	BSC
Nadir Hafeez [NH]	Observer	Ofgem
Robbie Lees [RL]	Observer	Independent Distribution Connection Specialists Ltd
Lorna Mallon [LM]	Observer	REC
Donald Preston [DP]	Observer	SSEN
Code Administrator		
Richard Colwill [RC]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Andy Green [AG]	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		
Mark DeSouza Wilson [MDW]	Observer	BSC
Angelo Fitzhenry [AF]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Karl Marylon [KM]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Clare Wagstaffe [CW]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
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: Mark DeSouza Wilson, Angelo Fitzhenry, Karl Marylon, Clare Wagstaffe and Lee Wells.

Non-Confidential Minutes

- 1.4 The draft minutes of the last meeting had been circulated ahead of this meeting. No comments were received. The Panel AGREED that these minutes 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.
- 1.6 With respect to Action 227/06, LM and RC additionally discussed how best to resolve the issues around amending SDEC interfaces. LM NOTED that, whilst this could be progressed, adding new screens would have a cf.1 year implementation lead time. The Secretariat and REC AGREED to continue discussions

2. Updates from the Industry Working Groups/Codes

Balancing & Settlement Code (BSC)

- 2.1 CB provided the Panel with a verbal update on BSC related topics. Points raised included:
- The [Annual BSC Meeting and Energy Forum 2025](#) would take place on 10 July 2025. At this event the BSC would launch their flexibility vision and action plan. Any interested stakeholders were invited to attend.
 - P486 'Aligning BSC Terminology with the Terminology Introduced by P478': this had been approved and would go-live with M8.
 - P489 'Authority Led SCR Modification Consultation': the MHHS legal text and documentation had been approved.
- 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 the following:
- DCUSA Change Proposals:

- DCP 412' Allocation of banding for TCR Charges for 'Peak' Final Demand Customers': Due to complexity and dependence on other modifications, this was still awaiting the assignment of an EDD.
- DCP 446 'Emergency Disconnections': the EDD had been delayed until 31 July 2025.
- DCP 437 'To Shorten the DUoS Pricing Notice Periods': this had been received by Ofgem and a timeline would be provided in due course.
- DCP 440 'Consuming "de-energised" sites': this had been received by Ofgem and a timeline would be provided in due course.
- Energy Code Reform update:
 - The decision on code manager selection process had been published. Code Managers would be selected through a 3-stage process consisting of an initial eligibility assessment, a licencing assessment and an implementation assurance process
 - Alongside this, Ofgem had published their updated guidance on Code management section. Feedback had been reviewed and applications from RECCo and Elexon were being assessed with a view to making appointments on a non-competitive basis.
 - Additional consultations would be announced in due course.
- Joint Ofgem/DESNZ consultation covering Code Manager licence conditions and Code Modification appeals to the CMA: This was open and would run until 27 June 2025.

2.4 The Panel NOTED the Ofgem update.

Smart Energy Code (SEC)

2.5 LM NOTED that there were no SEC updates this month

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_0618_01). The paper was taken as read. LM highlighted key points, including the following:

- I0216 'REC Changes to tie in with DCP419' was due to go to consultation shortly.
- I0197 '- Introducing a process to provide updates during fault resolutions' the first working group would meet shortly. There was also the possibility of cross-code impacts.

2.8 The Panel NOTED the REC update.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 There was one matter arising.

- Change Report: DCP 451 'Suspending Registrations': Following the last Open Panel Meeting, the Panel had approved the amended legal text via ex-Committee decision and this Change Proposal was now Awaiting Implementation.

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_0618_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 since the previous month:
- DCP 454 'Provide enduring targeted relief from residual charges for electric vehicle charging sites': This had progressed to the 'Definition' phase and a Working Group had been formed and was meeting accordingly.
 - DCP 437 'To Shorten the DUoS Pricing Notice Periods': Voting had completed and this was now Awaiting Authority Decision.
 - DCP 440 'Consuming "de-energised" sites': Voting had completed and this was now Awaiting Authority Decision.
 - DCP 451 'Suspending Registrations': This was now 'Awaiting Implementation'.
 - DCP 453 'Correction to Schedule 22': This was now 'Awaiting Implementation'.
- 4.3 RC presented the timetable tab and highlighted the following changes:
- DCP 420 'Include Car Charging Stations In The Definition For Non Final Demand': This now estimated an August Consultation with additional complexities due to crossovers with DCP 454, including a two-stage RFI.
 - DCP 419 'Pre-notification of Planned Supply De-energisations': There was a chance that this would be withdrawn and instead progressed through REC.
- 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_0618_03). The paper was taken as read. It was NOTED that two new Change Proposals had been tabled for Initial Assessment by the Panel this month.

DCP 455 'Align RAV price-inflation with that used in ED2'

- 5.2 RC presented the Change Proposal form for DCP 455. This Change Proposal recognised that ED2 PCFM uses a combination of RPI and CPIH to uplift from 2020/21 to outturn prices, and the change sought to align the prescribed calculation of RAV in Schedule 1, to retain consistency of credit cover calculation with ED2 PCFM.
- 5.3 RC NOTED that the proposer, MB, had joined the Open Panel meeting to answer any questions about the Change Proposal. In Particular, Paragraph's 2.1-2.4 provided the proposer's justification for progressing DCP 455 as a Part 2 Matter, but recognised that this was potentially contentious. The Panel NOTED that the decision as to whether to progress this Change Proposal, and whether this should be treated as a Part 1 or a Part 2 matter, ultimately lay with the DCUSA Panel.

5.4 The Panel SCRUTINISED DCP 455. No comments were raised.

5.5 For DCP 454 the DCUSA Panel RESOLVED to:

- ACCEPT the referral of the CP;
- AGREE that the CP should be treated as a 'Standard' Change;
- AGREE that the CP should be treated as a Part2 Matter;
- AGREE that the CP should be progressed to the Definition phase; and
- AGREE the progression of the CP in accordance with the proposed timescales.

DCP 456 'MHHS Incremental Changes for Go Live

5.6 RC presented the Change Proposal form for DCP 456. This Change Proposal was to progress those MHHS Programme changes affecting DCUSA that have been identified post M6 (catered for by DCP 445) and required by M8 (code implementation date).

5.7 RC NOTED that it was proposed that this Change Proposal would be treated as an 'Urgent' Change AND progressed directly to the Change Report stage.

5.8 The Panel SCRUTINISED DCP 456. No comments were raised.

5.9 For DCP 456 the DCUSA Panel RESOLVED to:

- ACCEPT the referral of the CP;
- AGREE that the CP should be treated as a 'Urgent' Change;
- AGREE that the CP should be treated as a Part 1 Matter;
- AGREE that the CP should be progressed to the Change Report phase; and
- AGREE the progression of the CP in accordance with the proposed timescales.

228/01 Initial Assessments: The Secretariat to (1) progress DCP 455 to the Definition phase via a working group, as agreed; and (2) progress DCP 456 to the Change Report phase as an 'Urgent' change, as agreed.

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_0618_04). It was NOTED that no new Change Reports were being tabled for approval this month.

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_0618_05). The paper was taken as read.

7.2 DT NOTED 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 The Panel SCRUTINISED the Housekeeping Log and NOTED that it now contained 10 separate items. The Panel RESOLVED that the Secretariat should seek to group these thematically and present the results of

this to the Standing Issues Group (SIG) with a recommendation of whether these were ready to be progressed as a Housekeeping Change Proposal/s to be implemented in the next DCUSA release.

228/02 Housekeeping Log: The Secretariat to seek to group currently agreed Housekeeping Items on the Housekeeping Log thematically and present the results of this exercise at a future meeting of the SIG with a recommendation of whether these were ready to be progressed as one or more Housekeeping Change Proposal/s to be implemented in the next DCUSA release

7.4 The Panel NOTED the Housekeeping Log.

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_2025_0618_06). The paper was taken as read.

8.2 The Secretariat confirmed that there were three new Accession Applications this month, from:

- E.ON UK Network Assets Limited (IDNO)
- Quality Heating Services Limited (SIP)
- Celltech Communications Limited (SIP)

8.3 The Secretariat NOTED that E.ON UK Network Assets Limited were currently in the process of receiving an Electricity Supply Licence from Ofgem.

8.4 The Secretariat NOTED that, subsequent to the circulation of the Meeting Pack, the following comments had been received in respect of the SIP Applications:

- Celltech Communications Limited: on 20 May 2025 the Applicant provided the following: *'EMO accreditation through the CoMCoP audit has been achieved. The SIP BSA and testing have been completed and submitted to REC 4 weeks ago. Both have been reviewed by the REC qualification team too and the 3 short follow ups they had have also been responded to, we're just waiting to hear back from them with what should be the confirmation of qualification. The MDD change request forms have also been submitted in anticipation of receiving the qualification.'*
- Quality Heating Services Limited: on 22 May 2025 the Applicant provided the following: *'We have received confirmation from REC this morning that our internal testing submission has been approved. The next step outlined is to proceed with accession to DCUSA.'*

8.5 The Panel SCRUTINISED The Accession Applications. The Panel AGREED that, in line with past custom and practice, they would provisionally approve E.ON UK Network Assets Limited' Accession Application but delay progressing this until the licence was confirmed. The Panel FURTHER AGREED to APPROVE (1) Quality Heating Services Limited, and (2) Celltech Communications Limited's Applications to Accede to the DCUSA.

228/03 Accession Applications (1): The Secretariat to progress the Accession Applications for: (1) Quality Heating Services Limited, and (2) Celltech Communications 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.

228/04 Accession Applications (2): The Secretariat to progress the Accession Applications for E.ON UK Network Assets Limited by (1) seeking confirmation from Ofgem that the applicant has been granted an Electricity Supply Licence; and (2)

once these confirmations have been received, 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. DCMDG Headline Report

9.1 RC presented the DCMDG Headline Report to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2025_0618_07). The paper was taken as read.

9.2 RC highlighted key points, including:

- Ofgem had provided updates on: the DUoS SCR; their recent send-back decisions and subsequent lessons learned exercises to prevent these situations reoccurring in the future; and their cost-recovery plans, which were expected to be published in the Summer.
- There had been a presentation related to cost apportionment for connections where the boundary between Distribution and Transmission is in play. This related to the fact that DNOs are not explicitly funded for all transmission reinforcement costs linked to connections on the distribution network, with costs historically assumed to be covered by Customer Contributions. While ESO/NGET recovers reinforcement costs via increased GSP exit charges, this does not apply to all cases.
- The Panel sought clarification on which code would be best placed to address this problem, as there had been a DCUSA change raised in this space previously but where it was ultimately decided that it wasn't something that could be handled under the vires of the DCUSA. It was noted that it might be something to be picked up under the CUSC or potentially a combination of both. The Panel requested for the Secretariat to review the previous change raised in this space to ensure that a solution is developed by the correct code.
- There was also a discussion at the DCMDG related to the recently identified issues with the data flows and items held within EMDS as compared to what had been included within the MHHS Swagger documentation. Members had been advised that this issue had already been covered by the MHHS Stakeholder Group as well as the SIG and that it might be of interest to DCMDG members.

228/05 DCMDG Headline Report: The Secretariat to review the previous change raised around cost apportionment for connections where the boundary between Distribution and Transmission is impacted, to ensure that this was being picked up by the correct code.

9.3 The Panel NOTED the DCMDG Headline Report.

10. IWG Headline Report

10.1 RC presented a verbal IWG Headline Report to the Panel, key points included:

- A subgroup was looking at how to draft consistent letters for when access to metering was restricted. This would take the form of recommended template letters, although the use of these would not be mandatory.
- IWG had discussed how organisations could process meter disconnections under circumstances where they were unable to access meters.

10.2 The Panel NOTED the IWG Headline Report.

11. SIG Headline Report

11.1 AG presented the SIG Headline Report to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2025_0618_08). The paper was taken as read.

11.2 AG highlighted key points, including:

- SIG had received an update on DIF 80 'De-energised sites': following a review the proposer had advised that necessary investigatory work had been completed and that next steps were being considered. Consequently, this issue could be closed.
- SIG had continued work on DIF 82 'How IDNOs Are Invoiced DUoS by Host DNO', including the issues of how MHHS would affect the templates that were sent from IDNOs to DNOs, billing, systems and MPAN migration. In particular, was currently a manual process and there was scope for considerable efficiency gains through adopting standardised templates and invoice formats. Decisions on next steps were deferred to a future date. DJ NOTED that the IDNO's had also been discussing these issues within their own forum.

11.3 The Panel NOTED the SIG Headline Report.

12. DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan

12.1 DT presented the DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2025_0618_09). The paper was taken as read.

12.2 DT NOTED that there were no updates or changes to the DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan this month.

12.3 The Panel SCRUTINISED the DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan. The Panel and NH NOTED that the review of standing charges for domestic customers would take place in Summer 2025, although timeframes remained uncertain.

12.4 The Panel NOTED the DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan.

13. Any Other Business

13.1 No items of 'Other Business' were raised.

14. Date of next meeting: 16 July 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
227/05	Accession Applications (2): The Secretariat to progress the Accession Applications for Fortify Electrical Services Limited by (1) seeking confirmation from the REC Code Manager that the applicant has completed SIP testing; and (2) once these assurances have been received, 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. This action will remain open until the August 2025 meeting unless it is completed before this date.	ElectraLink	Update 18 June 2025: The Secretariat were currently awaiting confirmation from the REC Code Manager that this testing process had been completed. KEEP OPEN
227/06	DCMDG Headline Report: The Secretariat to raise the Panel's concerns at the next DCMDG around SDEP contract managers not knowing where to best redirect communications in relation to the information Suppliers are providing to distributors as part of the requirements introduced by DCP 414 notifications and obtain opinions from this forum on what the best possible solution would be.	ElectraLink	Update 18 June 2025: This had been discussed at DCMDG and, whilst there had been agreement that a change was required, no consensus had emerged as to whether this should be initiated by DCUSA or by REC. DCUSA and REC Representatives were continuing discussions. KEEP OPEN
228/01	Initial Assessments: The Secretariat to (1) progress DCP 455 to the definition stage via a Working Group, as agreed; and (2) progress DCP 456 to the Change Report stage, as agreed	ElectraLink	
228/02	Housekeeping Log: The Secretariat to seek to group currently agreed Housekeeping Items on the Housekeeping Log thematically and present the results of this exercise at a future meeting of the SIG with a recommendation of whether these were ready to be progressed as one or more Housekeeping Change Proposal/s to be implemented in the next DCUSA release	ElectraLink	
228/03	Accession Applications (1): The Secretariat to progress the Accession Applications for (1) Celltech Communications Limited, and (2) Quality Heating Services Limited, by drafting and sending the applicants Accession Agreements and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have recommended that they countersign each Accession Agreement.	ElectraLink	
228/04	Accession Applications (2): The Secretariat to progress the Accession Applications for E.ON UK Network Assets Limited by (1) seeking confirmation that the applicant has been granted an Electricity Supply Licence by Ofgem; and (2) once these assurances have been received, by drafting and sending the applicant an Accession Agreement and	ElectraLink	

	advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have recommended that they countersign each Accession Agreement.		
228/05	DCMDG Headline Report: The Secretariat to review the previous change raised around cost apportionment for connections where the boundary between Distribution and Transmission is impacted, to ensure that this was being picked up by the correct code.	ElectraLink	

Closed Actions – Open Session

Ref No.	Action	Owner	Update
227/01	Initial Assessments: The Secretariat to (1) Amend the text of CP 454 to delete all text in the ‘Purpose of Change Proposal’ section beyond the words ‘...Charging Sites’, as agreed in the meeting; and (2) progress DCP 454 to a Working Group as agreed.	ElectraLink	Update 18 June 2025: This had been progressed as agreed. CLOSED
227/02	Change Reports (1): The Secretariat to progress the Change Report for: (1) DCP 437, and to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period to Impacted Parties (Suppliers/DNOs/IDNOs/CVA Registrants); (2) DCP 440, and to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period to Impacted Parties (Suppliers/DNOs/IDNOs/CVA Registrants); and (3) DCP 453, and to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period to Impacted Parties (DNOs/IDNOs);	ElectraLink	Update 18 June 2025: These were all progressed as agreed. CLOSED
227/03	Change Reports (2): The Secretariat to finalise the Change Report for DCP 451 and then: (1) arrange ex-Committee approval by email to approve the revised legal text; and (2) to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period to Impacted Parties (Suppliers/DNOs/IDNOs).	ElectraLink	Update 18 June 2025: This had been approved by ex-Committee decision and progressed as agreed. CLOSED
227/04	Accession Applications (1): The Secretariat to progress the Accession Applications for United Living Connected 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 June 2025: This had been progressed as agreed. CLOSED