

DCUSA Panel Meeting 238 (Open Session)

15 April 2026 at 10:00am

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

Attendee	Role	Company
Panel Members		
Kevin Woollard [KW]	Alternate Panel Member [CHAIR]	DCUSA Ltd
Tim Ellingham [TE]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Donna Jamieson [DJ]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Kim-Marie Mortimer [KMM]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Urszula Thorpe [UT]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Clare Wagstaffe [CW]	Alternate Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Peter Waymont [PW]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Simon Yeo [SY]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Observers		
Mark Bellman [MB]	Observer	Scottish Power
Caroline Freimuller [CF]	Observer	REC
Nadir Hafeez [NH]	Observer	Ofgem
Zoe Halstead [ZH]	Observer	Ofgem
Blaine Jones [BJ]	Observer	Ofgem
Code Administrator		
Craig Booth [CB]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Richard Colwill [RC]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Angelo Fitzhenry [AF]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Andy Green [AG]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Melissa Kendal [MK]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
George Kestner [GK]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Hannah Proffit [HP]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd
Apologies		
Karl Maryon [KM]	Panel Member	DCUSA Ltd
Dylan Townsend [DT]	Secretariat	ElectraLink Ltd

1. Administration

Appointment of Chair for the meeting

1.1 The Panel RESOLVED that KEVIN WOOLLARD would take the Chair for the meeting.

Notice of recording of Meeting

1.2 The Panel NOTED that the meeting is being recorded purely to aid with the production of the minutes and that the recording will be deleted once the minutes for the meeting are approved.

Welcomes and Introductions

1.3 The Chair welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

Apologies

1.4 It was NOTED that 'Apologies' had been received from: KARL MARYLON and DYLAN TOWNSEND.

Non-Confidential Minutes

1.5 The draft minutes of the last meeting had been circulated ahead of this meeting. No comments had been received. The Panel AGREED that these minutes were a true and fair representation of the meeting.

Updated Actions

1.6 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 There was no BSC update this month.

Ofgem

2.2 NH provided the Panel with the following written statement on Ofgem related following topics:

1. *On 23 April 2026, we will be holding a webinar to provide an update on delivery of the energy code reform programme and to outline the key steps ahead.*

2. *On 2 April we published two consultations:*

- *Firstly on Consultation on the draft second preliminary Strategic Direction Statement (SDS) for industry codes.*
- *Secondly on Phase 1: transitional measures and code changes consultation.*

3. *On 23 March, the government and Ofgem published our joint response, to the May 2025 consultation on the code manager standard licence conditions and an update on the code modification appeals process*

4. *We started the code manager selection process for the phase 2 codes with our consultation closing end of January 2026. Next steps are to publish a decision in Q2 of this year on both candidate eligibility criteria and our determination between competitive versus non-competitive selection for these two codes*

My update on CPs with us for decision was on DCP 412 'Discounts from TCR charges for "peaky" final demand customers' where I confirmed that we are progressing our decision on DCP 412 and looking to do a Minded to consultation in June with our decision to follow in late summer/early Autumn.

2.3 In response to a question from a Panel member, NH was unable to provide additional information on which parties had applied to be considered as the new Code Manager at this time.

2.4 The Panel NOTED the Ofgem update.

Smart Energy Code (SEC)

2.5 There was no SEC update this month.

Retail Energy Code (REC)

2.6 CF presented the REC change update paper to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2026_0415_01). The paper was taken as read. CF highlighted key points, including the following:

- BSC P441 'Complex Site Classes Creation': this and the dependent code modifications were with Ofgem for decision and were anticipated to be included in the November 2026 release.
- REC I0228 'ECOES API for Export MPAN Creation at Scale': there was currently an open Information Request, and there was the possibility of DCUSA impact.
- REC R0207 'Import / Export MOA Charging Clarification': This was in the consultation phase but there were no anticipated DCUSA impacts.
- REC R0321 'DNOs Create Export MPANs for new housing developments': there were no anticipated DCUSA impacts.

2.7 The Panel NOTED the REC update.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 There was one Matter Arising.

DCUSA Stakeholder Engagement Day June 2026)

3.2 The date of the DCUSA Stakeholder Engagement Day had been agreed by ex-Committee decision for Tuesday, 16 June 2026, which would be the day before the June DCUSA Panel and Board Meetings.

3.3 AF NOTED that, to date, 52 participants had expressed their interest in attending and confirmed that a suitably sized venue had been secured.

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_2026_0415_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 Changes tab and highlighted changes in status since the previous Panel meeting. The Panel NOTED the Status Changes tab.

- 4.3 RC presented the timetable tab and NOTED that one Change Proposal required amended timetables.
- DCP 467 'Online reporting tools for Category A and B defects': this had been delayed until June 2026 as it had been identified that a REC change would also be required.
- 4.4 The Panel SCRUTINISED the Change Register. Points raised included the following:
- DJ observed that DCP 420 'Provide targeted relief from residual charges for electric vehicle charging sites' and DCP 454 'Provide enduring targeted relief from residual charges for electric vehicle charging sites' were two interrelated Change Proposals that sought to respectively provide interim and enduring solutions to the problems relating to electric car charging. Neither of these Working Groups had met since late 2025 and DJ asked why no further progress was taking place. RC advised that additional impact assessments around TNUoS were required, which required additional information from NESO, and PROVIDED ASSURANCES that these Change Proposals were still being progressed and that the requests to NESO would be followed up on after the meeting.
 - NH asked for an update on DCP 461 'Reducing the Impact of Transmission Distribution Charges'. RC said that a working group was being scheduled and was anticipated to take place in April or May 2026. RC advised that this was a large change that would require input from numerous stakeholders.
- 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_2026_0415_03). The paper was taken as read. It was NOTED that one new Change Proposal had been tabled for Initial Assessment by the Panel this month.

DCP 473 'Non-consuming De-energised CT-Metered sites'

- 5.2 DCP 473 had been raised by Eastern Power Networks and would provide mechanisms for distributors to deal effectively with long term non-consuming CT-metered de-energised sites
- 5.3 PW NOTED that DCP 473 would replace DCP 463 'Charging non-consuming De-energised CT-Metered sites' as this would allow a wider breadth of possible solutions to be considered than would have been possible under the original Change Proposal. PW FURTHER NOTED that DCP 473 would build upon the work of DCP 463.
- 5.4 The Panel SCRUTINISED DCP 473. Points raised included the following:
- KW asked if, from a governance process perspective, DCUSA could run two CPs simultaneously that sought to address the same issue. The Panel RECEIVED ASSURANCES that they had the discretion to do this.
 - The Panel NOTED that there was a risk of another party picking up DCP 463 after it had been withdrawn, and AGREED to include a covering note that explained why it was being withdrawn when stakeholders were notified.

5.5 For DCP 473 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 Part 1 Matter;
- AGREE that the CP should be progressed to the Working Group phase; and
- AGREE the progression of the CP in accordance with the proposed timescales.

238/01 Initial Assessments: The Secretariat to: (1) progress DCP 473 to the WORKING GROUP phase, 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_2026_0415_04). The paper was taken as read. It was NOTED that four Change Reports had been tabled for approval by the Panel this month.

6.2 The Panel AGREED that the Cover Paper format should be amended to include Impacted Parties.

238/02 Change Reports (1): The Secretariat to amend the template for Change Reports cover paper to include the Impacted Parties within the cover paper, rather than this information only being included in the attachments.

DCP 470 'Independent Credit Assessments'

6.3 The Panel SCRUTINISED the Change Report for DCP 470. No comments were raised.

6.4 For DCP 470, the Panel RESOLVED to:

- AGREE that the Change Report for DCP 470 contained the level of information required to enable Parties to understand the impact of the proposed amendments and to vote on the CP;
- APPROVE the Change Report for issue to Parties on 16 April 2026;
- AGREE that the voting period should be 15 Working Days; and
- AGREE that the Parties that will be eligible to vote will be those identified as impacted Parties in the Change Report (Suppliers, DNOs, IDNOs, CVA Registrants).

DCP 471 'Lead Time for DCPs'

6.5 The Panel SCRUTINISED the Change Report for DCP 471 and NOTED that SIP a should be eligible to vote on this Change Proposal. The Panel AGREED to add SIP Parties to the list of Impacted Parties.

6.6 For DCP 471, the Panel RESOLVED to:

- AGREE that the Change Report for DCP 471 contained the level of information required to enable Parties to understand the impact of the proposed amendments and to vote on the CP;
- APPROVE the Change Report for issue to Parties on 16 April 2026;
- AGREE that the voting period should be 15 Working Days; and

- AGREE that the Parties that will be eligible to vote will be those identified as impacted Parties in the AMENDED Change Report (DNOs, IDNOs, Suppliers, CVA Registrants, Gas suppliers, OTSO Parties, and SIPs).

DCP 472 'DCMDG & SIG Agenda Timings'

6.7 The Panel SCRUTINISED the Change Report for DCP 472 and NOTED that SIP a should be eligible to vote on this Change Proposal. The Panel AGREED to add CVA Registrants, Gas suppliers, OTSO parties and SIPs Parties to the list of Impacted Parties.

6.8 For DCP 472, the Panel RESOLVED to:

- AGREE that the Change Report for DCP 472 contained the level of information required to enable Parties to understand the impact of the proposed amendments and to vote on the CP;
- APPROVE the Change Report for issue to Parties on 16 April 2026;
- AGREE that the voting period should be 15 Working Days; and
- AGREE that the Parties that will be eligible to vote will be those identified as impacted Parties in the AMENDED Change Report (DNOs, IDNOs, Suppliers, CVA Registrants, Gas suppliers, OTSO parties and SIPs).

DCP 459 'DNO invoices to Embedded DNO's – LATE PAPER

6.9 The Panel SCRUTINISED the Change Report for DCP 459. No comments were raised.

6.10 The Panel RESOLVED to:

- AGREE that the Change Report for DCP 459 contained the level of information required to enable Parties to understand the impact of the proposed amendments and to vote on the CP;
- APPROVE the Change Report for issue to Parties on 16 April 2026;
- AGREE that the voting period should be 15 Working Days; and
- AGREE that the Parties that will be eligible to vote will be those identified as impacted Parties in the AMENDED Change Report (DNOs, IDNOs).

238/03 Change Reports (2): The Secretariat to progress the Change Report for: (1) DCP 470, and to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period to Impacted Parties (Suppliers, DNOs, IDNOs, CVA Registrants); (2) DCP 471, and to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period to Impacted Parties (DNOs, IDNOs, Suppliers, CVA Registrants, Gas suppliers, OTSO Parties, and SIPs); (3) DCP 472, and to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period to Impacted Parties (DNOs, IDNOs, Suppliers, CVA Registrants, Gas suppliers, OTSO parties and SIPs); and (4) DCP 459, and to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period to Impacted Parties (DNOs and IDNOs).

7. Housekeeping Log

7.1 GK presented the Housekeeping Log Summary Paper and Housekeeping Log to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2026_0415_05). The paper was taken as read.

7.2 GK NOTED that, as agreed at the last meeting, two housekeeping items had been added to the Housekeeping Log.

7.3 GK NOTED that between the previous Panel meeting and the drafting of this paper, no new housekeeping items had been identified by a Party or by the Secretariat.

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_2026_0415_06). The paper was taken as read.

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

- Edge Utility Networks Limited (IDNO)
- Sphere Energy Connect Limited (IDNO)

8.3 The Panel NOTED that Edge Utility Networks Limited and Sphere Energy Connect Limited had met the criteria to accede to the DCUSA in the category of an IDNO.

8.4 The Panel NOTED that Sphere Energy Connect Limited had requested that their Accession Agreement be progressed in wet ink format, rather than via DocuSign.

8.5 The Panel SCRUTINISED the Accession Application and supporting evidence and AGREED to APPROVE: (1) Edge Utility Networks Limited; and (2) Sphere Energy Connect Limited's Accession to the DCUSA.

237/04 Accession Applications: The Secretariat to progress the Accession Applications for (1) Edge Utility Networks Limited; and (2) Sphere Energy Connect Limited, by drafting and sending the applicants an Accession Agreement and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have recommended that they countersign the Accession Agreement.

9. CACoP Headline Report

9.1 RC presented the CACoP Headline Report to the Panel, which had been circulated prior to the meeting. See paper (Panel_2026_0415_07). The paper was taken as read.

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_2026_0415_08). The paper was taken as read.

10.2 RC highlighted key points, including the following:

- Ofgem had made a send back decision on DCP 446 'Emergency Disconnections' and further work would be required.
- Ofgem's decision on the Debt Relief Scheme had been discussed and a change would be raised to progress this.
- An update had been presented on Allowed Revenue for 2028/29, which would be the first year of ED3.

10.3 PW had a query in relation to the following text within the DCMDG headline report:

'The group discussed the DCP 414 / DCP 458 process for non half hourly CT customers, particularly what information DNOs need from Suppliers and how it should be provided. It was agreed that using the existing spreadsheet template would be helpful, and the Secretariat will locate and update the original guidance email and recirculate it with up to date DNO contact details.'

PW queried the reference to providing up to date DNO contact details, noting that he did not believe such details had been provided to the Secretariat. Following discussion, it was agreed that future communications will not include DNO contact information. Instead, they will state that where Suppliers do not already have an appropriate contact, they should contact the relevant DNO DCUSA Contract Manager to identify the correct point of contact.

10.4 The Panel NOTED the DCMDG 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_2026_0415_09). The paper was taken as read.

11.2 AG highlighted key points, including the following:

- SIG had discussed the ECR Change Request process. The two main conclusions had been that: (1) the text was unclear over whether only members could submit representations, which was particularly relevant as a non-DCUSA member had recently provided a representation; and (2) an alternative would be to update the DCUSA legal text to reflect a similar process on how voting for change reports works, as this would give a clear outcome for approval/rejection.
- While both positions had received support there was no consensus for the Secretariat to raise a CP to progress either of them. This would be discussed at the next ECR subgroup and would likely lead to a CP being raised in the near future

11.3 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_2026_0415_10). The paper was taken as read.

12.2 GK NOTED that, as agreed at the previous meeting, the timelines for the DUoS SCR and MHHS had been updated.

12.3 The Panel NOTED the Horizon Scan.

13. Any Other Business

13.1 Two items of 'Other Business' were raised.

AoB 1 'DCP 466'

13.2 RC NOTED that the Change Report for DCP 466 'Tariff Band to Follow Capacity' would be finalised shortly. In order to be progressed in time for the setting of the next round of tariff bands, RC asked if this Change Report could be circulated by email for scrutiny and approval as soon as it was available, rather than waiting until the next Meeting. The Panel AGREED to this request.

238/05 AoB 1 'DCP 466': The Secretariat to circulate the Change Report for DCP 466 'Tariff Band to Follow Capacity' to the Panel by email so that it could be progressed by ex Committee decision. This would allow it to come into effect ahead of the setting of the next bands.

AoB 2 'KEVIN WOOLLARD retirement'

13.3 AF and The Panel THANKED Kevin Woollard for his past service and wished him a happy retirement.

13.4 KW thanked DCUSA for their past support and offered best wishes for the future.

14. Date of next meeting: 20 May 2026 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
234/01	Housekeeping Log: The Secretariat to progress a Housekeeping Amendment to incorporate the open Housekeeping Items within the June 2026 DCUSA Release.	ElectraLink	Update 21 January 2026: This will be taken to SIG for approval ahead of a change being raised. No action until April/May 2026. KEEP OPEN
237/05	Embedded Capacity Register Change Request Notice: The Secretariat to send minutes and feedback from Party Managers from the ECR Subgroup Meeting that will further scrutinise this ECR Change Request Notice, scheduled for 24 March 2026, to the Panel, so that they can make an ex-Committee decision on whether or not to approve this Change Request.	ElectraLink	Update 15 April 2026: The ECR change is still open. The two parties that didn't support the amendment have not changed their position and believe that a solution which doesn't involve creating additional tables within the ECR is potentially possible. The proposer has shared examples with the ECR subgroup to review and the ECR subgroup will meet again at the end of April to discuss options. KEEP OPEN
238/01	Initial Assessments: The Secretariat to: (1) progress DCP 473 to the WORKING GROUP phase, as agreed.	ElectraLink	
238/02	Change Reports (1): The Secretariat to amend the template for Change Reports cover paper to include the Impacted Parties within the cover paper, rather than this information only being included in the attachments.	ElectraLink	
238/03	Change Reports (2): The Secretariat to progress the Change Report for: (1) DCP 470, and to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period to Impacted Parties (Suppliers, DNOs, IDNOs, CVA Registrants); (2) DCP 471, and to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period to Impacted Parties (DNOs, IDNOs, Suppliers, CVA Registrants, Gas suppliers, OTSO Parties, and SIPs); (3) DCP 472, and to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period to Impacted Parties (DNOs, IDNOs, Suppliers, CVA Registrants, Gas suppliers, OTSO parties and SIPs); and (4) DCP 459, and to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period to Impacted Parties (DNOs and IDNOs).	ElectraLink	

238/04	Accession Applications: The Secretariat to progress the Accession Applications for (1) Edge Utility Networks Limited; and (2) Sphere Energy Connect Limited, by drafting and sending the applicants an Accession Agreement and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have recommended that they countersign the Accession Agreement.	ElectraLink	
238/05	AoB 1 'DCP 466': The Secretariat to circulate the Change Report for DCP 466 'Tariff Band to Follow Capacity' to the Panel by email so that it could be progressed by ex Committee decision. This would allow it to come into effect ahead of the setting of the next bands.	ElectraLink	

Closed Actions – Open Session

Ref No.	Action	Owner	Update
237/01	Initial Assessments: The Secretariat to: (1) progress DCP 471 to the Change Report phase, as agreed; (2) progress DCP 472 to the Change Report phase, as agreed.	ElectraLink	Update 15 April 2026: Completed. CLOSED
237/02	Change Reports: The Secretariat to progress the Change Report for: (1) DCP 452, and to issue for Voting for a three-week voting period to Impacted Parties (DNOs, IDNOs, Suppliers, CVA Registrants).	ElectraLink	Update 15 April 2026: Completed. CLOSED
237/03	Housekeeping Log: The Secretariat to add the new items: (1) Determination of a Credit Allowance Factor (CAF) for users that do not have a Credit Rating from an Approved Credit Referencing Agency that is Ba3 / BB- or above'; and (2) Definition of 'Independent Credit Assessment', to the Housekeeping Log. However, both of these items would also be flagged to the Working Group for DCP 470 'Independent Credit Assessments' as this was addressing the same area and these might better be incorporated within this Change Proposal.	ElectraLink	Update 15 April 2026: These items have been added to the Housekeeping Log. In addition, in terms of addressing through DCP 470: (1) This is out of scope of DCP 470; and (2) This has been incorporated within DCP 470 and so will be addressed by this Change Proposal. CLOSED
237/04	Accession Applications: The Secretariat to progress the Accession Applications for (1) JF Developments (Sussex) Limited; (2) Grid Line Power Networks Limited; and (3) Torfaen Maintenance Services Limited, by drafting and sending the applicants an Accession	ElectraLink	Update 15 April 2026: Completed. CLOSED

	Agreement and advising the DCUSA Board that the Panel have recommended that they countersign the Accession Agreement.		
237/06	DCUSA Monthly Horizon Scan: The Secretariat to: (1) add the recently published Code Consolidation dates to the commentary section of the relevant item; and (2) review and update the DUoS SCR timeline based on recent developments, as agreed.	ElectraLink	Update 15 April 2026: Completed. CLOSED
237/07	AoB 1 'Charging deenergised sites for DuOS': PW to raise a Change Proposal that would widen the scope and replace the previous Change Proposal DCP 463 'Charging non-consuming De-energised CT-Metered sites' to change the national terms to prevent parties from sitting on excess capacity by adding additional charges under these circumstances.	PW	Update 15 April 2026: This has been raised and has been presented for Initial Assessment at the April 2026 Open Panel Meeting as DCP 473. CLOSED