

CUSC AMENDMENT PANEL
Governance Standing Group – February 2010
Terms of Reference

Introduction

1. This paper outlines the working arrangements and Terms of Reference for the Governance Standing Group (GSG).

Governance

2. The GSG is established as a Standing Group under the CUSC Amendments Panel and shall act in accordance with Section 8.18 of the CUSC. The GSG shall have regard for Core Industry Documents and other key Industry documentation.

Membership

3. The GSG shall comprise a suitable and appropriate cross section of experience and expertise from across the industry:
 - Chair Garth Graham
 - Technical Secretary (Bali Virk)
 - Alex Thomason
 - Barbara Vest
 - Robert Longden
 - Merel van der Neut Kolfshoten
 - Peter Bolitho
 - Kathryn Coffin
 - Stuart Cotten
 - Ofgem Representative

Meeting Administration

4. The frequency of GSG meetings shall be defined as necessary by the GSG chair to meet the scope, objectives and time-scales as defined by the Amendment Panel.
5. National Grid will provide technical secretary resource to the GSG and handle administrative arrangements such as venue, agenda and minutes etc.
6. The GSG will have a dedicated page under the CUSC section of the National Grid UK website. This will enable GSG information such as minutes and presentations etc to be available to a wider audience.

Scope and Objectives

7. The GSG is tasked to prepare a report for the CUSC Amendments Panel regarding the following areas:
 - Review of CUSC urgent process within section 8 & supporting guidance for the Panel and industry. Report to the Panel in June 2009.

- Review of the new CUSC Amendment Process introduced by CAP160 in light of the Transmission Access amendments. In terms of what worked well and any suggestions for improvements, e.g. Working Group vote process, alternatives in relation to unsupported proposals going forward to consultation, consultation process, templates etc
 - Support the CUSC Panel in relation to Ofgem's Industry Code Governance Review as directed by the CUSC Panel, including but not limited to:
 - Support the National Grid CUSC representative at the Code Administrators Working Group and develop ideas and suggestions.
 - Develop and recommend practical advice to improve transparency and accessibility for all parties in particular new parties
 - Prepare draft responses to ICGR consultations and other related consultations for consideration by the CUSC Panel
 - Review process for dealing with private and confidential responses
 - Review the current CUSC provisions for Working Group membership and nomination process
 - Review of current practices to ensure good industry practice, linked with supporting Ofgem's development of Code of Practice in the Code Administrators Working Group.
 - Review the process of CUSC and charging methodology interaction in light of the Transmission Access amendments.
 - Review the process for determining implementation dates and the transition process
 - Consider and make recommendations regarding the relevance and operation of post implementation evaluations
 - Consider the issues associated with the applicability and relevance of analysis undertaken during the process before a decision is made by the Authority
 - Review the validity and rejection of new Amendment Proposals – including the option of the CUSC Panel being able to refer a proposal to a Standing Group to understand / define the issue further. The ability for the Panel to manage new Amendment Proposals with existing workload.
 - Review the role of Standing Groups going forward including the ability to undertake Consultations on draft proposals to obtain industry opinion prior to raising an Amendment.
 - General review of the governance section to identify areas which will aid efficiency and transparency e.g. replacing existing Progress Report and Amendment Register and clarify of Section 8.
8. It should be noted that, in accordance with Section 8 of the CUSC, the GSG as a standing group under the Amendment Panel, cannot itself propose an amendment to the CUSC.

9. In considering the above issues, the GSG should be cognisant of any related developments that may progress in any other Industry forums.