nationalgrid

Stage 03: Workgroup Report

Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC)

CMP223 Arrangements for Relevant Distributed Generators Under the Enduring Generation User Commitment

This proposal seeks to modify the CUSC such that distribution connected generators deemed to have an impact on the electricity transmission network are not faced with undue discrimination in the way security requirements under the CUSC Section 15 are passed on.

This document contains the discussions and conclusions of the Workgroup which formed in September 2013.

The Workgroup concludes:

WACM3 best facilitates the Applicable CUSC Objectives and therefore should be implemented.



High Impact:

Distribution-connected generators; DNOs

What stage is this document at?

01 Initial Written

02 Workgroup Consultation

Workgroup Report

04 Code Administrator Consultation

05 Draft CUSC Modification Report

Final CUSC Modification Report

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Any Questions?

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About this document

This is the final Workgroup Report, which includes the deliberations of the Workgroup, responses from the Workgroup Consultation and the final conclusions of the Workgroup.

Document Control

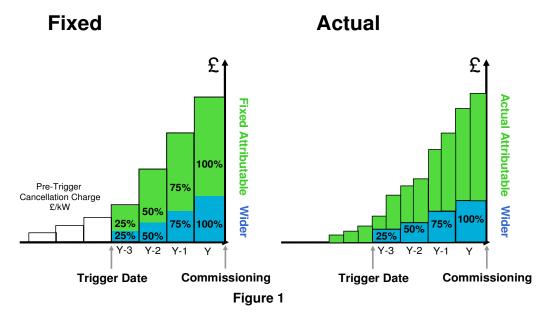
Version	Date	Author	Change Reference
0.1	31/03/2014	Code	Draft to Workgroup
		Administrator	
1.0	15/04/2014	Code	Final Workgroup Report
		Administrator	

- 1.1 This document summarises the deliberations of the Workgroup and describes the CMP223 Modification Proposal.
- 1.2 CMP223 was proposed by Carnedd Wen Onshore Wind Farm Ltd and submitted to the CUSC Modifications Panel for their consideration on 27th September 2013. The Panel determined that the proposal should be considered by a Workgroup and that they should report back to the CUSC Modifications Panel following a period for the Workgroup Consultation.
- 1.3 This proposal seeks to modify the CUSC such that distribution connected generators deemed to have an impact on the electricity transmission network are not faced with undue discrimination in the way that security requirements under the CUSC Section 15 are passed on.
- 1.4 The Workgroup first met on 18th October 2013 and the members requested a change to the Terms of Reference which was approved at the 25th October 2013 CUSC Panel meeting. A copy of the Terms of Reference is provided in Annex 1. The Workgroup considered the issues raised by the CUSC Modification Proposal and worked through the Terms of Reference. The Workgroup met again in November and December. The Workgroup discussions are documented in Section 4.
- 1.5 As part of the discussions, the Workgroup has noted that there are potential solutions to the defect CMP223 seeks to resolve that may be pursued outside of the CUSC process. Whilst these may be viable alternative solutions, the Workgroup has been tasked to develop the Proposer's solution, and look at potential alternatives that could be achieved through changes to the CUSC. Whilst the Authority can opt to implement a solution outside of the CUSC, such solutions are outside of the remit of the CUSC Modifications Panel and the CMP223 Workgroup.
- 1.6 At the post-Workgroup Consultation meeting on 24th February 2014, the Workgroup agreed on the Original and two Workgroup Alternative CUSC Modifications (WACMs). The Workgroup later agreed two more WACMs on 10th March 2014. The Original and four WACMs are detailed within Sections 5 and 6 of this report.
- 1.7 The Workgroup voted on 24th March 2014 by majority seven out of nine votes that WACM3 best facilitates the Applicable CUSC Objectives and therefore should be implemented.
- 1.8 This Workgroup Report and supporting material has been prepared in accordance with the terms of the CUSC. An electronic copy can be found on the National Grid Website via the following link;

http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Industry-information/Electricity-codes/CUSC/Modifications/CMP223/

- 2.1 National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) and the other Transmission Owners (TOs) undertake investment works to accommodate the needs of generators already connected and those expected to connect in the future to the electricity transmission network. However, a generator may decide to cancel its project or reduce its capacity after the associated works have already begun. This may result in unnecessary costs to other network users, which are ultimately borne by the end consumer.
- 2.2 User Commitment performs a vital function in ensuring adequate information is available to TOs to plan and develop the transmission network in a manner that is economical and efficient, and protects the interests of consumers and wider industry. User Commitment signals are also financially underwritten to incentivise the provision of accurate and timely information and to ensure that the risk of stranded transmission assets is placed on those parties best placed to mitigate and manage the risk.
- 2.3 Licensed Generators are required to be party to various industry codes, including the CUSC. In February 2011 NGET proposed a modification to the CUSC (CMP192) to introduce enduring User Commitment arrangements for generators based on specific local works and generic methodology for wider works. The proposal was further developed by the industry, with the final approval being given by the Authority. The User Commitment methodology introduced by CMP192 was implemented through a new section of the CUSC (Section 15) on 30 March 20121. Section 15 arrangements replaced the interim security arrangements which included both Final Sums (Local works only) and the Interim Generic User Commitment Methodology (IGUCM).
- 2.4 Section 15 applies to generation deemed to have an effect on the transmission system, both directly connected to the transmission network and embedded in a distribution network, before and after commissioning (referred to as pre and post commissioning).
- 2.5 For pre-commissioning generation, there is an Attributable liability which is specific to the investments for that project, and a Wider liability which is generic and applies to all generation on a zonal basis. Under the arrangements set out in Section 15, a Fixed or Actual calculation for the Attributable liability can be chosen depending on whether stability or cost-reflectivity is valued more (Figure 1). The party who has signed a Construction Agreement with NGET in relation to a generation project has this liability to NGET and the National Electricity Transmission System Operator (NETSO) and this 'backs off' the liability that the NETSO has to the relevant TO for the cost of abortive works. This is known as TO Final Sums and is detailed under the SO/TO Code (STC).
- 2.6 Security for this combined liability is required at a reducing rate as the generation project nears commissioning and passes consenting milestones. For example, presently 42% of the combined liability will be secured prior to key consents being granted, reducing to 10% once these are achieved. This is to reflect the reducing likelihood of termination by the generator as commissioning nears. In the event that a generator terminates their project and the resulting invoice levied for the liability under the Construction Agreement is not paid, NGET will draw down on the security and pursue the outstanding debt. In the event that the outstanding debt is unrecoverable, NGET has the ability through Special Licence Condition 6F to increase the amount of revenue it recovers from all transmission network users.

There was a twelve month transition period with the amendment proposal taking effect from 1 April 2013.



2.7 Generally, NGET does not have a contractual relationship with smaller distribution connected generators (apart from those with Bilateral Embedded Generation Agreements (BEGAs) or Bilateral Embedded Licence Exemptible Large Power Station Agreements (BELLAs), and so security and liability requirements are passed to the relevant DNO (both for the Attributable and wider works). For the security period ending 30th September 2014 the total liability requirement for such generation is £34.6m (including VAT), with an associated security requirement of £15.4m. For distributed generators with a BEGA only, the Wider liability and associated security requirement is applied directly to that generator, whilst the Attributable liability and associated security requirement is passed to the relevant DNO. It is a matter for the DNO to manage this liability through its relationship with the distributed generator, and this relationship is outside of the remit of the CUSC. This is illustrated in Figure 2.

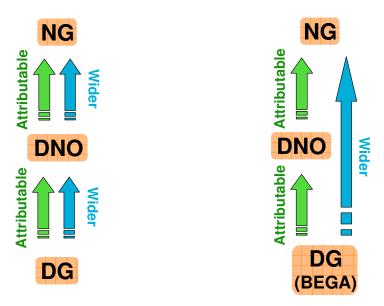


Figure 2 - relationship between NG, DNOs and DG

2.8 Post-commissioning, directly (transmission) connected generators and those distribution connected generators with BEGAs retain a wider liability to NGET, but are not required to provide security for it as the physical assets of their site are considered to be of sufficient value to minimise the risk of stranding in the event of insolvency. Post-commissioning distribution connected generators (excluding those with a BEGA) do not retain any liability to NGET.

- 3.1 The Proposer has put forward that since the new arrangements for generation user commitment have been codified in the Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC) as a result of the CUSC Modification Proposal (CMP) 192: "Enduring User Commitment"; that this has resulted in unintended consequences for distribution connected generators deemed to have an impact on the electricity transmission network ("relevant distributed generators").
- 3.2 As relevant distributed generators have the same type of impact on the electricity transmission network as generators that are directly transmission connected, they contribute to reinforcement requirements in the same manner.
- 3.3 Relevant distributed generators have no direct contractual relationship with National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET). Currently, under CUSC Section 15, Distribution Network Operators (DNOs) have been defined as 'Users' in relation to the cancellation charge. This means that the DNO will be liable to pay a cancellation charge to NGET upon the termination of a relevant distributed generation project, and will, in turn, look to pass this onto the relevant distributed generator. Similarly, the security arrangements in place to cover cancellation charge liabilities under CUSC Section 15 will apply to DNOs in relation to relevant distribution generators. However, the DNOs are not required to replicate these arrangements (which allow for a level of security lower than the cancellation liability to be posted) in their agreement with the relevant distributed generator.
- 3.4 A DNO has no provision for recovery in its Electricity Distribution Licence in the event of non-payment of the shortfall between security provided by a relevant distributed generator and the liability incurred upon termination by that generator. As a result the DNO would be left exposed, and to mitigate this risk, a number of DNOs have requested security cover for the full cancellation charge from relevant distributed generators with more onerous terms and conditions than those specified in CUSC Section 15. The Proposer has highlighted that this places relevant distributed generators at a disadvantage compared to transmission connected generators when entering the market and that this may therefore be considered as undue discrimination. Annex 2 contains the CMP223 Proposal Form which provides further detail on why the Proposer sees change to be necessary.
- 3.5 Further to the defect initially highlighted by the Proposer, the following additional concerns have been highlighted as part of the Workgroup process:
 - Inconsistencies between DNOs have been experienced in relation to how terms and conditions for security provision and liabilities are applied to relevant distributed generators. It is also unclear as to how DNO businesses that have not yet had to deal with the arrangements specified under CUSC Section 15 would apply this in relation to relevant distributed generators.
 - The manner in which some DNOs have passed through both liabilities and securities in a 'generator hub' scenario. In the event that a single construction agreement exists between NGET and a DNO for transmission works to facilitate multiple relevant distributed generators, the allocation of a cancellation charge upon the termination of relevant distributed generator projects is at the discretion of the DNO. For example, the Proposer has indicated that in relation to a project for



Where can I find more information on CMP192?

Documentation for CMP192 can be accessed at the National Grid website at:

http://www.nationalgrd. com/uk/Electricity/ Codes/systemcode/a mendments/amendm ent_archive/151-200/



Where can I find more information on User Commitment Methodology?

Further guidance and implementation of User Commitment Methodology on the Nation Grid website using the following: http://www2.nationalgrid.com/UK/Services/Electricity%20connections/policies%20and%20guidance/

which a DNO has requested a new transmission connection to form a hub for multiple embedded generation projects, a policy has been adopted by the DNO whereby any element of cancellation charge liabilities for which it does not hold security are not discretely assigned to individual generators. This means that a (non-terminating) relevant distributed generator project may incur a charge following the termination of other projects terminating, a risk that parties with an agreement with NGET would not face.

4 Solution

- 4.1 The Proposer's original solution seeks to rectify the defect (detailed in the CMP223 Proposal Form see Annex 2) by adapting existing arrangements, or creating direct contractual relationships between the relevant distributed generators and NGET so that the terms and conditions for securities and liabilities in relation to related transmission works can be passed on in the same way as they are to other "Users" specified in CUSC Section 15. Under the Proposer's solution, the relating terms and conditions would be in force until either:
 - (i) for generation projects that commission, the later of the transmission works or the relevant distributed generator commissioning; or
 - (ii) for generation projects that terminate their proposed connection, the date at which the final cancellation charge is paid.
- 4.2 Under this solution, the term "relevant distributed generators" would be defined within the CUSC, and changes made to enable these to be treated as "Users" under Section 15 "User Commitment Methodology". This solution does not intend that relevant distributed generators becoming party to or becoming compliant with the wider terms of the CUSC. The Proposer's view is that the primary relationship for connection and use of the network for distributed customers is with a DNO.
- 4.3 A contractual agreement would be required to specifically cover security and liability arrangements to be in place between NGET and the relevant distributed generators. In the event of a relevant distributed generator terminating NGET would pursue this party directly for the cancellation charge. In the event of stranded assets NGET would be able to make use of the recovery mechanism set out under Special Licence Condition 6F of the Transmission Licence.
- 4.4 Finally, the Proposer requested that the Workgroup considers the merits of applying a de minimis threshold. Such a threshold would mean that sub 1MW generators would be exempt from User Commitment. The Proposer suggested that this may ease the administrative burden on NGET and smaller generators, and may further assist smaller parties who may be affected by the current arrangements disproportionately as they are usually the most cash constrained investors.

5.1 The Workgroup discussed the original proposal and solution and explored other potential solutions put forward by the Proposer and other Workgroup Members.

Option 1 - Original Proposal: CUSC Modification to define "relevant distribution generator" as a User for the purposes of receiving Section 15 user commitment.

Applicability

Section 15 of the CUSC defines the categories of Users which the section applies to. The Workgroup discussed whether this could be broadened to include a category for relevant distributed generators. The Proposer's intention is for these entities to only be required to comply with Section 15 (in addition to any existing requirements in place where a BEGA (Bilateral Embedded Generation Agreement) or BELLA (Bilateral Embedded Licence Embedded Exemptible Large Power Station Agreement) is in place). However, in relation to those parties without an existing agreement the Workgroup recognised that if a new category of User accedes to the CUSC then the impact on each CUSC section will need to be reviewed. For example, in order to define a new "User" (even if restricted to a certain section) a change needs to be made to Section 1 of the CUSC. The Workgroup noted that for this change to work as desired, then clauses in Sections 1, 5, 7, 8, 11, and 15 of the CUSC would need to apply to relevant distributed generators in a similar manner to which these apply to BELLA parties.



Workgroup Presentations

The presentation slides used at the first Workgroup meetings are available on National Grid's website at the link below:

http://www.nation algrid.com/uk/Ele ctricity/Codes/syst emcode/workingst andinggroups/wg/ CAP223/

Structure of Contractual Relationship

- 5.3 The Workgroup considered whether parties with a BEGA or a BELLA would need to have the new user commitment contract. A number of members considered that this would be unnecessary administration, since the terms of the new contract could be incorporated in the BEGA and BELLA templates.
- 5.4 In order to enable a direct relationship between NGET and the relevant distributed generators without a BEGA or BELLA the Workgroup explored whether this could be incorporated into existing forms of contracts (BELLAs/BEGAs) or if a new contract would be required to specifically cover security and liability arrangements will be needed. The Proposer suggested that the new contract could be based upon a simplified version of the existing BELLA contract.
- 5.5 In addition, it was recognised that the terms of NGET's agreements with DNO's would need to be modified to reflect the new relationship between NGET and relevant distributed generators. For example, the security and liability requirements terms would need to be removed, and additional terms added to allow termination of a Construction Agreement upon the relevant distributed generator failing to meet the terms of the new User Commitment agreement.
- 5.6 The Workgroup considered that some relevant distributed generators may prefer dealing with a single party rather than having a separate contract with NGET in addition to their contract with the DNO. The Workgroup suggested that relevant distributed generators (that would not be required to sign a BEGA or BELLA under the existing arrangements) are given the choice of either contracting directly with NGET or receiving securities and liabilities indirectly via the DNO.

Impact on the Contract Administration Process

- 5.7 The Workgroup recognised that maintaining and administering additional contracts for a new category of customer would be very burdensome for NGET. However, this would depend upon the nature of the administrative process and the volume of relevant distributed generators that require contracts.
- 5.8 NGET assessed the financial materiality for the administrative process associated with providing such a new form of contract. The resource requirement was estimated for progressing a simple non-contentious development which did not change as being approximately 2 days per User, based on:
 - Write contract, check and send out

2 hours

• Post-signing administration, including liability profile

2 hours

- Securities calculation and creation and checking of Appendices 2 hours
- Transactional administration, credit checking, databases, etc. 1 day
- 5.9 NGET also highlighted that there could be additional workload required in the event of customer queries, modification applications, changes to security requirements, date changes, etc. These were estimated as an additional 2.5 days per user, based on:
 - Queries and changes to contract before signing

2 hours

Changes to transmission investment plans

1 hour

Changes to security templates, seeking legal views, admin

2 days

- 5.10 It is worth noting that for BELLA and BEGA parties, some of the tasks listed above are already undertaken to some extent. It is therefore envisaged that the additional administrative burden associated with additional terms being added to these to apply the arrangements under Section 15 of the CUSC will be substantially less for these parties.
- 5.11 In the case of BEGA parties, a Workgroup member considered that the Proposal should actually reduce the administrative burden on NGET, DNOs and distribution connected generators by bringing the attributable and wider securities together under a single Cancellation Charge Statement issued to the relevant DG. They also considered that the Proposal would remove the delay in passing securities through the DNO intermediary giving the DG the full 28 days to secure the due amount.
- 5.12 The Workgroup noted that the requirement for Statements of Works was becoming more prevalent for distribution connected generation. The Workgroup noted that an increasing volume of applicants could be a large administrative burden on NGET, DNOs, and TOs. As the total volume of work required by NGET to administer the proposed new contracts would increase in line with this, it was agreed that it was important to gain an understanding of the amount of developers requiring Statements of Works for their projects throughout GB.
- 5.13 The Workgroup noted that the vast majority of Statement of Works applications received by NGET to date are from Scotland, and in the past 3 years the volume of Statement of Works applications from Scotland only have been:

- 1 September 2010 31 August 2011 36
- 1 September 2011 31 August 2012 41
- 1 September 2012 31 August 2013 58
- 5.14 The volumes are increasing year on year and it was noted that for every Statement of Work Stage 1 application there is an almost 100% progression to Stage 2, which effectively doubles the figures and the level of transactions.

De-Minimis Capacity Level for Application of Section 15 of the CUSC

- 5.15 The Proposer suggested that a de minimis capacity level for a relevant distributed generator could be introduced to limit the additional administrative burden introduced by the proposed new contract. Under this arrangement, liabilities and securities would only be placed on generators which are larger than the set de minimis capacity and have an impact on transmission network reinforcement needs (i.e. require a Statement of Works).
- 5.16 The Workgroup queried how the deminimis capacity level would be determined, and how this would be justified. The Workgroup identified two different approaches that could be used to set a de minimis capacity level:
 - a flat level such as 1MW; or
 - via linking to the MW levels used by the DNOs to judge when a new generator should be assessed through the Statement of Works process.
- 5.17 It was noted that the approach linking to the Statement of Works process would be flexible taking account of geographical differences and the level would not be fixed. If the DNO has identified multiple parties which have triggered the Statement of Works then all parties would provide security. Appropriate governance would be required to be in place and the outcomes visible.
- 5.18 One Workgroup member commented that at present it is not logical to split a project but an unintended consequence of introducing a de minimis capacity level is that projects in the future may be split in order to avoid User Commitment. However, it was also noted that a 1MW threshold would be established under the proposed Requirement for Generators ('RfG') connection European Network Code and therefore such unintended consequences would not be particular to the de minimis level.
- 5.19 It was also noted that a potential future improvement could be to link the de minimis capacity level to the forthcoming Requirement for Generators Network Code definition of generation types. For example, the de minimis capacity level could be linked to lower limit for Type "B" generation. In addition to this, as Type "B" generation would be defined as generation of between 1MW and 10MW which is connected at less than 110kV, it was considered that this could provide justification for the use of a flat 1MW level.

5.20 The Workgroup discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the flat level and Statement of Works options. These are outlined in Table 1 below:

De minimis level set to:	Advantages	Disadvantages
Flat 1MW	 Its transparent It is predictable Same treatment for all Links to European legislation for Type B generators and above 	 It is not linked to a requirement for transmission investment. It may capture less users than it needs to (where a Statement of Works is triggered, but a generator is <1MW).
Statement of Works	 Linked to requirement for transmission investment Would avoid users who did not create a liability 	It is not transparent.It is variable by location.It is not codified.

Table 1

- 5.21 It was suggested that in Southern Scotland (the area covered by the Scottish Power Distribution network), distribution connected generation have a larger impact on the transmission network than similar sized generators in England and Wales. Therefore if a de minimis level was introduced which was linked to Statement of Works there may be a larger proportion of distribution connected generation in Scotland which require direct contracts with NGET than in England and Wales.
- 5.22 It was also questioned whether having a de minimis level such as 1MW means that no securities would be passed on to generators below 1MW by DNOs. It was stated that currently within North Scotland (the area covered by the Scotlish Hydro Electric Power Distribution network), there are no securities required from <1MW generators, but generators are provided with a connection date consistent with the completion date of the transmission reinforcement works which would have resulted from completion of the Statement of Works process. It was noted that this was not a common approach across all DNOs, and that some DNOs would require security from <1MW generators if they had a Statement of Works impact.
- 5.23 The workgroup noted that there would be a level below which it would not be cost-effective for NGET or the relating DNO to seek security, as the transactional cost of obtaining this would be greater than the amount being secured. Whilst this level would not be public, the workgroup considered that it would be referenced in any correspondence between NGET/DNO and Ofgem when justifying why security had not been sought.

Post-Commissioning Liabilities

- 5.24 During the development of Section 15 of the CUSC through the CMP192 Workgroup, it was agreed to not require post-commissioning User Commitment from distributed generators for two reasons: as a result of UK Government policy (a direct consequence of licence exemptions), and also due to the lack of an enduring contractual relationship with the NETSO to enforce it. It was noted that the introduction of the new contract proposed under Option 1 would establish a contractual relationship between relevant distributed generators and NGET, removing one of the reasons for excluding them from post-commissioning liabilities.
- 5.25 One of the principles of Section 15 is that a 1MW change has the same effect on transmission investment plans regardless of whether it is from a pre- or

post-commissioning user. It was questioned whether this principle meant that distributed generators who accede to the CUSC, and hence have a contractual relationship with NGET, should also be required to provide post-commissioning User Commitment in the same way as a directly (transmission) connected generator. It was noted that users with a BEGA had a post-commissioning liability at present, and that this would require further investigation. However, it was also noted that the new contract would only be in force pre-commissioning, and would not therefore provide a channel for post-commissioning liabilities.

5.26 The Proposer clarified that this had not been considered in the Original proposal, and that it was not their intention for relevant distributed generators to be subjected to post-commissioning liabilities.

Credit and Security Provisions

- 5.27 It was questioned whether distribution connected generation would be subject to similar credit requirements as transmission connected generation or whether they would be more or less onerous. The Workgroup considered that whether the generator's contract is with the DNO or NGET they would likely have very similar credit requirements. Although, it was pointed out that around 80% of schemes within North Scotland (the area covered by the Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution network) would have to provide credit through a cash deposit or letter of credit anyway, as they are Special Purpose Vehicles and hence would unlikely be in a position benefit from credit or alternative security arrangements.
- 5.28 It was noted that the current security percentages of 100%, 42% and 10% were calculated from historical data of directly connected developments. The introduction of a new contractual relationship for relevant distributed connected generation could allow these percentages to be assessed to see if they remained appropriate for distributed generators. However, at present there is insufficient data to undertake this.

Timeline for the Recovery Process under Option 1

5.29 The following diagram, shows the timelines of events upon the relevant distributed generators ('DG') terminating in each of these scenarios under Option 1. The left hand side shows illustrates the process for DG choosing to contract with the DNO, while the right hand side illustrates the process for DG choosing to contract directly with NGET.:

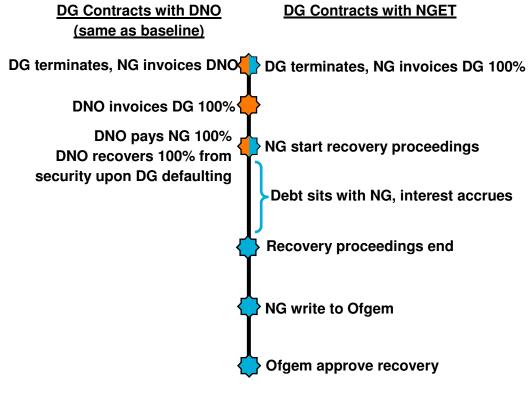


Figure 3

5.30 The Workgroup discussed whether the proposal would have an impact on the liabilities that existing relevant distributed generators have. It was noted that as distributed generation are included in the calculation of the wider liability zonal figures if they have a BEGA or BELLA, they are already captured and therefore are unlikely to have a noticeable effect.

Consequential and Related Modifications

- 5.31 NGET has an adjustment mechanism in its transmission licence (Special Licence Condition: 6F) which enables the recovery of liabilities in the event NGET is unable to recover 100% of the generator's liability following termination of its transmission connection agreement. The Workgroup noted the need for a change to Special Licence Condition 6F in order to allow NGET to recover relevant distributed generators liabilities, if that was the option to be taken forward.
- 5.32 It was noted that this approach means that the risk was being socialised by the Transmission Network Use of System (TNUoS) customers and that small parties do not pay TNUoS charges and queried whether this is cost reflective. It was also noted that the Embedded Distributed Generation Benefit review may address this in its consideration of transmission charging for embedded generation.
- 5.33 If an existing contract was to be utilised it was highlighted that there is currently ongoing contract changes in respect to BEGAs and BELLAs

participating in the Balancing Mechanism and a separate project to improve Statement of Works process.

Interim Solutions & Potential Solutions Outside of the CUSC

- 5.34 Separately the Workgroup have also explored whether there was any viable interim solutions to address the CMP223 defect as they recognised that the CUSC governance process may take up to 12 months, from its date of submission to the CUSC Panel to its eventual implementation (if approved by the Authority in due course). Whilst the following provides a summary of these, please note that such interim solutions are being developed outside of the CUSC Modification process, and as such lie outside the scope of the enduring solution being developed by the Workgroup.
- 5.35 The Workgroup briefly discussed whether a letter of comfort from Ofgem (enabling the DNOs to recover any financial exposure that may be incurred as a result of replicating the provisions under Section 15 of the CUSC) could be obtained as an interim solution. It was suggested that a question should be raised in the Workgroup Consultation to seek views as the DNO's are unable to socialise the risk. A Workgroup member advised that the DNO Commercial Operations Group (COG) was planning to discuss User Commitment and how to apply a consistent approach. It was agreed that data provided by DNOs to this workgroup could be shared with Ofgem at an aggregated level to support the DNO's request for an interim letter of comfort. Discussions on interim arrangements do not form part of this CUSC modification proposal.
- 5.36 The Workgroup considered whether a solution would be to include an additional clause in the Construction Agreement to state that the DNO will pass on the same security payment profile to its customers that it received from NGET. It was suggested that NGET may not be able to legally impose such criteria on the DNO. In addition, whilst this could potentially resolve the pass-through of the security profiles, it does not address the shortfall between security provided and liability upon termination in the event of non-payment. This is because the DNO has no provision for recovery in the Electricity Distribution Licence, and this is the root cause of the problems experienced by relevant distributed generators.
- 5.37 It was noted that a solution to the CMP223 defect could be to modify the DNO Licence to mirror the recovery mechanism set out in NGET Special Licence Condition 6F and make relevant Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement (DCUSA) changes. However, the Workgroup members agreed that this option was out of scope of the CUSC and hence could not be considered. In addition the Workgroup agreed that a review of credit arrangements for small parties is out of scope for CMP223.
- 5.38 The Workgroup also discussed whether, if DNO licences were changed to allow them to recover the shortfall, it would be appropriate for the abortive costs of assets on the transmission system to be recovered from distribution network customers. Some members considered that this would not be justified, as the risk associated with wider transmission works would be placed only on a specific (DNO) geographical area.

Finalised Original Proposal

5.39 After the Workgroup consultation, the Proposer finalised their Original proposal to allow the Workgroup to decide on any formal Workgroup Alternatives they would like to raise. A number of aspects of the proposed new user commitment contract were discussed during this process.

- 5.40 Some respondents considered that the security percentages of 42% preconsents and 10% post-consents were only appropriate in the absence of any other data. To address this issue, noted in paragraphs 5.26 and 5.27 of this report, NGET undertook analysis using their own dataset of 31 generator projects from February 2007 to March 2011 of BEGA/BELLA users who terminate/slip. It was noted that this dataset did not contain projects without a direct relationship with NGET, i.e. all sites under Statement of Works.
- 5.41 The graph below shows the results from this analysis:

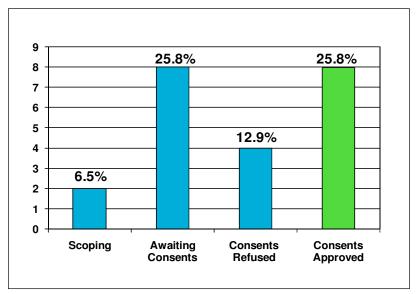


Figure 4

5.42 The analysis showed that, prior to consent, 45% of projects terminated or slipped (6.5 + 25.8 + 12.9 = 45), whilst after consent that dropped to 26%. The Workgroup agreed that, although not a complete dataset as it did not have smaller Statement of Works sites, this would be more relevant to the new contracts proposed than the original security percentages within CUSC Section 15. Table 2 below shows the current security percentages introduced under CMP192 and the proposed security percentages under CMP223.

	Current	Proposed for DG
Pre-consents	42%	45%
Post-consents	10%	26%

Table 2 - Security percentages

- 5.43 One Workgroup member stated that there would be a significant impact on generators with BEGAs, which currently pay 10% directly to NGET for security for their Wider liability, should this be increased to 26%. This was noted by the workgroup.
- 5.44 NGET provided a further breakdown of the dataset to allow the DNOs to assess whether it was representative of all received connection applications. This is shown below.

MW	Total	Built	Terminated
	(31 sites)	(22 sites)	(9 sites)
Max	315	315	126
Min	1.9	1.9	11.7
Average	56.4	59.4	49.1

Table 3

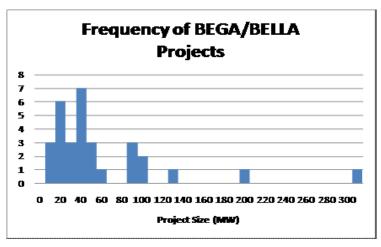


Figure 5

- 5.45 DNO members of the Workgroup considered that the dataset was not entirely representative of the entire population of connection applications that they receive annually. The workgroup agreed, however, that it was more representative than the existing 42% and 10% security figures that had been calculated from a dataset of all generators during the CMP192 process.
- 5.46 The Workgroup questioned the appropriateness of using the percentages presented in the analysis. The Workgroup noted that it could not justify ignoring the analysis, as it specifically covered at least part of the population of DG, however it may not be robust enough for Ofgem to accept the proposal. DNO members of the Workgroup stated that there was no further data to justify the analysis as, prior to the introduction of CMP192, DG users had limited user commitment and hence did not terminate their projects as readily. This was questioned, as a decision on consents for a DG site would still drive a termination and this could be used to assess risk likelihood. DNO members stated that they did not keep records of why DG projects terminated, although one member stated that they had had 18 terminations in the previous year.
- 5.47 It was suggested that in the absence of supporting data from DNOs, the figures identified should be used in the proposal and presented to the Panel, but that the implementation process included specific timescales for DNOs to provide more information prior to go-live. This would give advance notice to DNOs that they should start to record this data as soon as practicable to meet the deadline, and if no data is forthcoming the proposed security percentages would be used. It was also suggested that Ofgem may request data as part of their impact assessment on CMP223, although the Workgroup noted that this data had been requested several times before.
- 5.48 The Workgroup agreed that all options should include a requirement for DNOs to provide data to NGET on rate and stage of DG terminations annually, and that NGET should keep the security percentages under review in a similar manner to the current 42% and 10% figures, i.e. at the mid- and end-points of the Price Control Period, to ensure accuracy but avoid volatility.
- 5.49 The Workgroup discussed whether or not the proposed new contract should be mandatory or optional. It was considered by some members that, if the contract were to be made optional, the defect identified by the proposer would remain for those users who did not sign up to the new contract. This could mean that the proposal could not be approved by the Authority as the defect would remain. The proposer agreed that the contract should be mandatory for relevant distributed generators.
- 5.50 The use of a de minimis level was considered, and whether it was required if the contract was to be mandatory. The Workgroup considered that if the application of the contract was linked to the Statement of Works process, this would create a de facto de minimis level as only those projects that were likely

to have a material impact on the transmission system would be included by DNOs. The process for how this would happen was discussed, and the Workgroup concluded that the appropriate linkage would be for the distributed generator to have to sign the contract as part of accepting Stage 2 of the Statement of Works process. This is the point at which the TO has identified that there is an impact, and the DNO is requiring the distributed generator to sign a connection agreement.

- 5.51 The Proposer confirmed the Original Proposal as having the following aspects:
 - A new BELLA-style contract for distributed generators to accede to the CUSC for the purposes of receiving Section 15 user commitment security and liability arrangements directly from NGET.
 - The contract applies CUSC Section 15, along with the administrative sections (1, 5, 7, 8, 11)
 - Mandatory for all distributed generators at Stage 2 of the Statement of Works process, or through BEGA/BELLA application
 - Applies security percentages of 45% pre-consent and 26% post-consent
 - All existing pre-commissioning DG users with Section 15 liabilities to have their contract with the DNO reopened such that they are moved to the new user commitment contract with NGET, and are allowed the choice of Fixed or Actual liability
 - Contract lapses upon commissioning date of the DG (except where a BEGA/BELLA is in place), i.e. post-commissioning DG are not CUSC users
 - Transparent UK-wide application by NGET
 - DNOs to provide annual figures to NGET on number of DG terminations, and at what stage they terminated (before or after key consents granted)

6

Option 2

- 6.1 The Workgroup considered an alternative solution whereby the root cause of the defect (namely the potential shortfall in securities that the DNO could not recover) would be recovered by NGET through a licence mechanism on behalf of the DNO. The Workgroup considered a number of potential approaches that this could take.
- 6.2 The Workgroup noted that for all approaches, NGET would have to invoice for the full liability in order to trigger the necessary contractual recovery processes by the DNO.
- 6.3 One idea was that the DNO would be allowed to invoice NGET for the shortfall once the DNO has demonstrated to NGET that is has pursued all avenues to recover any shortfall in liabilities in relation to a relevant distributed generator terminating. The Workgroup queried how the DNO would demonstrate that they have exhausted all practical options for debt recovery and would the standard industry practice of issuing debt recovery letters be sufficient. Some members considered that this option would require NGET having an oversight of DNO accounts, which the DNOs would be unlikely to accept, whilst some members considered that 'Good Industry Practice' should be sufficient to address NGET concerns.
- 6.4 The Workgroup considered whether there would be a cashflow implication for the DNO in having significant numbers of unpaid invoices outstanding from relevant distributed generators, as the invoicing from NGET would be instantaneous on termination of the relevant distributed generator. The Workgroup considered that a possible solution may be to manage the payment due date in the contract to allow for the time taken by debt recovery processes, but that this may have unintended consequences and that the implementation would require further investigation.
- 6.5 The NGET representative noted that it would have to provide evidence to Ofgem before it would be allowed to recover the shortfall, and therefore proposed an alternative whereby the DNO would demonstrate directly to Ofgem that it had pursued the bad debt. There was some discussion over whether the DNO would prefer to justify it's processes to NGET or Ofgem, and some members considered that NGET might require a more onerous demonstration as Ofgem would hold it accountable. However, it was considered that NGET would simply pass the justification provided on to Ofgem when requesting recovery through the licence.
- 6.6 A question was raised as to whether there was "Good Industry Practice" with regards to debt recovery procedures. The NGET representative considered that there was not, but there were standard actions that could be taken when a company attempts to recover an unpaid invoice. To inform the debate, the NGET representative explained their internal process.
- 6.7 NGET has a number of options available to pursue an unpaid invoice, and makes a decision on the most appropriate course of action on a case by case basis. Each course of action has different risks and benefits, and NGET will make the decision based on a number of factors, including the likelihood, speed and level of cost recovery. These are standard options available to any company such as issuing a winding-up petition, drawing down on security, pursuing litigation, etc., but these depend to some extent on the terms of the contract between NGET and the defaulting party.

- 6.8 The Workgroup considered that smaller relevant distributed generators may present a larger risk of non-recovery than large relevant distributed generators as large projects are more likely to be sold on to another company. However, the Workgroup also recognised that the overall risk of asset stranding as a result of an individual smaller project terminating could be lower because the termination may not change the works required on the transmission system due to other projects requiring the same investment. The Workgroup explored whether a Letter of Comfort from Ofgem would be still required by the DNOs, but it was assumed that there would be no grounds for the DNOs to pass through different security profiles without this.
- 6.9 The Workgroup considered timelines for the approaches, shown in Figure 4.

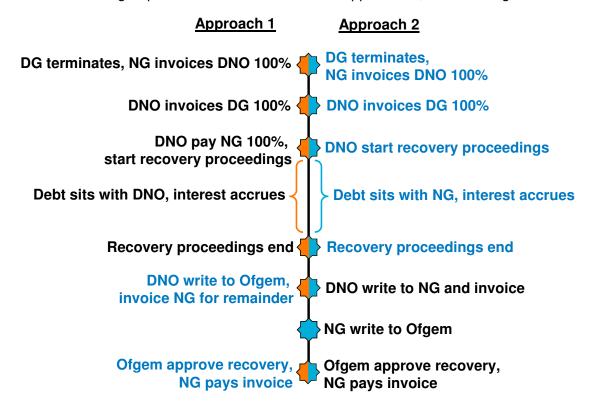


Figure 6

- 6.10 The Workgroup agreed that the DNO was unlikely to pay the invoice to NGET whilst it was still in the process of recovering the debt from the relevant distributed generator, and therefore the debt would still sit with NGET. It was also agreed that NGET provided no benefit from acting as an intermediary between Ofgem and the DNO when justifying cost recovery. It was agreed by the Workgroup that aspects of both these approaches should be combined to create a single alternative approach, Option 2. The aspects that will be included in Option 2 are shown in blue text on the timeline in Figure 4.
- 6.11 It was questioned whether a downside to this option would be that Ofgem would get involved in the process, and whether there were any other processes where this would happen. NGET confirmed that this would happen for transmission connected generators under Special Licence Condition 6F, so this would not be different. It was also noted that SLC6F would need to be updated to allow recovery of bad debts from relevant distributed generators.
- 6.12 It was questioned whether DNOs and NGET would accrue the same interest as is outlined in the CUSC, and it was understood that this is likely to be the case.
- 6.13 Some of the workgroup identified additional issues for relevant distributed generators who were connecting to an embedded generation hub in which a

- single construction agreement exists between NGET and a DNO for transmission works to facilitate multiple relevant distributed generators.
- 6.14 In this situation there was a concern that NGET may not have visibility of the individual generators driving the transmission investment, and therefore be unable to identify when a relevant distributed generator terminated unless the DNO informed NGET.
- 6.15 In addition, NGET would be unable to associate a liability and security amount with individual generation projects, leaving the allocation of these up to the discretion of the DNO. The Proposer has indicated that under the current arrangements a policy has been adopted by at least one DNO whereby some cancellation charge liabilities are not discretely assigned to individual generators. This means that a (non-terminating) relevant distributed generator project may incur a charge following the termination of other projects, a risk that parties with a direct agreement with NGET would not face.
- 6.16 Some members felt that the risk posed to relevant distributed generators would not be mitigated under Option 2 unless separate agreements were in place for each relevant distributed generator project. However some members did not agree, and considered that there would be no incentive for the DNO to cover the whole liability from other relevant distributed generators once it was insulated from the risk of incurring a bad debt. To mitigate the perceived risk, it was proposed that Option 2 include a change to the DNO construction agreement template such that the DNO had to list out the distributed generation it was connecting through the hub and the associated securities and liabilities.
- 6.17 It was further noted that in the event that NGET were not made aware of the termination of a relevant distributed generator by the DNO concerned, the information concerned would quickly be publicised anyway, and that market intelligence would be fed into discussions between NGET and the DNO as it would directly impact the DNO's needs case for its works.
- 6.18 Some members voiced concerns that there would be a risk that the available credit terms that NGET offer would not be passed on by the DNO; e.g. parent company guarantee, credit rating, etc. The Workgroup noted that NGET's credit terms were publicly available in the CUSC, and were likely to be similar to DNOs due to their similar approach to risk.
- 6.19 It was noted that most of the developers with generation projects connecting via the generation hub provided as an example have decided to opt for a fixed liability profile. The reason for this is so they do not incur any further liability if any other developers connecting via the hub decide to terminate. It was questioned if these developers would be given the opportunity to move back to an actual profile if the risk was mitigated as a result of this proposal. The Workgroup agreed that that this will be further discussed as part of the implementation and transition process.

Option 3

6.20 The Workgroup considered a further approach where, in the event of termination and non-payment of invoice by the relevant distributed generator, the DNO would outsource the debt recovery to NGET. Under this approach, NGET would be pursuing debts on behalf of each DNO, based on the terms in their contracts. It was noted that this would require DNO contracts to have the ability for them to be 'factored'; i.e. that the enforcement of the contract can be transferred to another party. The following, Figure 5 shows the timeline of events upon the DG terminating under this approach:

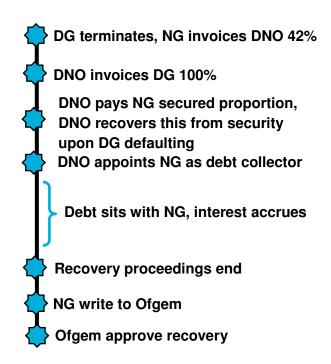


Figure 7

- 6.21 It was noted that all DNOs have different contracts with relevant distributed generators, so this approach would necessitate NGET having a clear understanding of each DNOs contract structure and terms. It may also be possible that NGET would need to see some contracts prior to them being sent for signature, to ensure that the required terms are included.
- 6.22 A member clarified that although NGET would be attempting to recover the debt, the relevant distributed generator would retain the liability to the DNO, and contractually would have to pay the DNO rather than NGET anyway.
- 6.23 It was questioned whether, if the DNO was to outsource debt-recovery, NGET was the best party to undertake this. It was noted that there are many debt-recovery companies available, all of which have greater skills and experience in this area than NGET. One member noted that that DNOs may already outsource the recovery of unpaid debts, and therefore this option could be normal practice.
- 6.24 NGET stated that it is not resourced to chase large numbers of unpaid invoices, and noted that in the 2013/14 charging year (to date) there has been no unpaid debt associated with the User Commitment arrangements. NGET's customers are companies who are unlikely to default on the payment of an invoice, or if they do it is more likely to be an administrative error than a cash flow issue. The CUSC itself provides measures to assess companies' credit risk, and hence gives good visibility of risk. Additionally, for Use of System charges, NGET has the right to disconnect sites for non-payment. Typically, the main area where invoices are not paid by generators on time is application fees for connection to the transmission system. In the 2013/14 charging year so far there have been approximately 40 invoices that have not been paid on time, of these 11 are for application fees (which are for payments in advance of work being undertaken to process an application, so bear no risk). To date this charging year only one of the 40 required bad debt procedures to be invoked, with the others either having been paid or awaiting payment.

Summary of Potential Solutions:

6.25 The Workgroup discussed three potential solutions for the Workgroup consultation, the principles of these are provided in Table 4, below. A summary of the pros and cons for these options are included in Annex 4.

	Option 1 (original)	Option 2	Option 3
Main changes proposed to the CUSC	Section 1: modification to imply that relevant DG have the option of becoming 'Users' in relation to Section 15, upon an agreement to do this has been signed. Section 15: potential changes to reflect new agreement types and optionality of terms.	Section 15: modification to facilitate the recovery of any shortfall in liabilities related to a relevant DG terminating from NGET once DNOs have demonstrated to Ofgem's satisfaction that they have exhausted all options of recovering the debt from the relevant DG.	Section 15: modification to facilitate the recovery of any shortfall in liabilities related to a relevant DG terminating from NGET once DNOs have demonstrated to Ofgem's satisfaction that they have exhausted all options of recovering the debt from the relevant DG.
Contractual arrangements	Inclusion of new optional terms within BELLAs & BEGAs and the introduction of a new optional user commitment contract for other 'relevant DGs'. Relevant DGs will have the option of having a direct relationship with NGET in relation to liabilities and securities for transmission works, or retaining the DNO as the party who passes these through.	Construction Agreements between NGET and DNOs would recognise individual DG projects to clarify security amounts and potential liabilities for each.	Construction Agreements between NGET and DNOs would recognise individual DG projects to clarify security amounts and potential liabilities for each.
Licence changes required	Changes required to Special Condition 6F of NGET's Transmission Licence to allow passthrough of liabilities relating to relevant DG projects.	Changes required to Special Condition 6F of NGET's Transmission Licence to allow passthrough of liabilities relating to relevant DG projects. Changes required to Distribution Licences to allow passthrough of transmission liabilities relating to relevant DG projects back to NGET.	Changes required to Special Condition 6F of NGET's Transmission Licence to allow passthrough of liabilities relating to relevant DG projects. Changes required to Distribution Licences to allow passthrough of transmission liabilities relating to relevant DG projects back to NGET.
Profile of levels of security	Relevant DG taking up the option of becoming 'Users' receive CMP192 profiles (same as directly connected parties).	Remain at DNO's discretion, but removal of risk from DNO should enable replication of profiles under Section 15 of the CUSC in DNO-DG agreements.	Remain at DNO's discretion, but removal of risk from DNO should enable replication of profiles under Section 15 of the CUSC in DNO-DG agreements.

	Option 1 (original)	Option 2	Option 3
Arrangements to	NGET best endeavours.	DNO best endeavours.	NGET best endeavours.
recover debt in case of default	NGET deals directly with defaulting customer. If not possible NGET recovers shortfall through licence. (For relevant DG opting to manage via DNO, DNO policies continue to apply.)	Reliant upon DNO notifying NGET of termination, upon which: - NGET invoices the DNO for full liability - DNO tries to recover bad debt and justifies cost recovery to Ofgem DNO pays NGET the security cover provided by DG (e.g. 42%) and passes remaining debt back to NGET NGET recovers shortfall through licence.	Reliant upon DNO notifying NGET of termination, upon which: - NGET invoices the DNO for the security cover provided by DG (e.g. 42%), DNO invoices relevant DG for full liability (100%). DNO pays NGET and transfers bad debt (58%) to NGET NGET tries to recover bad debt NGET justifies cost recovery to Ofgem NGET recovers shortfall through licence.
De minimis arrangements: a) Is there one? b) At what level is this set?	Optional addition (with views sought on an appropriate level as part of this consultation).	N/A	N/A
Treatment of cluster applications	All parties choosing direct NGET contract would be treated in the same way as other CMP192 users. (Those opting to go via DNO receive DNO's T&Cs.	Remains at DNO's discretion, but removal of risk from DNO along with individual projects being recognised under NGET- DNO construction agreements should enable replication of profiles under Section 15 of the CUSC in DNO-DG agreements.	Remains at DNO's discretion, but removal of risk from DNO along with individual projects being recognised under NGET-DNO construction agreements should enable replication of profiles under Section 15 of the CUSC in DNO-DG agreements.
Post commissioning liabilities	Original as per existing arrangements with no post-commissioning liability being introduced under BELLAs or the new User Comment agreement. However, post-commissioning liability could be introduced as an alternative or future	As per existing arrangements as no contractual arrangement would exist between NGET and some DGs.	As per existing arrangements as no contractual arrangement would exist between NGET and some DGs.
Sign-up to new process – mandatory or optional?	change. Optional	Mandatory, subject to any transitional arrangements.	Mandatory, subject to any transitional arrangements.

Table 4

Workgroup Alternative CUSC Modifications (WACMs)

6.26 The workgroup discussed the responses to the consultation and finalised the formal Workgroup Alternative CUSC Modifications. One Workgroup member proposed a WACM based on Option 2 from the Workgroup consultation, with the following aspects:

- Applies security percentages of 45% pre-consent and 26% post-consent to DG liabilities
- NGET would reconcile the DNO for unrecoverable debt arising from the Section 15 liability of a terminating DG user upon application by the affected DNO.
- The DNO would apply to NGET once it had exhausted all appropriate bad debt recovery procedures, and demonstrate what monies it had recovered, including any securities.
- NGET would use the existing annual Ofgem review process of the inputs to the Price Control Financial Model, and recover the agreed amount through the following year's TNUoS charges (April).
- The DNO consag template would require all DG with a transmission impact to be listed individually and have individual Appendix MMs (including SIF and LARFs).
- Any DNO modification application must specify which DG it is in relation to, and only those users' Appendix MMs will have their liabilities invoiced through the DNO.
- Obligation on the DNO to inform NGET within a reasonable timescale of a change to a DG project
- DNOs to provide annual figures to NGET on number of DG terminations, and at what stage they terminated (before or after key consents granted)
- 6.27 The Workgroup agreed unanimously that this option should go forward as WACM1 for the Workgroup vote.
- 6.28 One Workgroup member raised a potential alternative which would include the aspects of WACM1 (above), but rather than the DNO paying the invoiced liability to NGET and then having that invoice reconciled, the DNO would not pay the invoice until after it had pursued the debt from the generator.

WACM2

- Applies security percentages of 45% pre-consent and 26% post-consent to DG liabilities
- The DNO would pay a proportion of the NGET invoice arising from the Section 15 liability of a terminating DG user, and that proportion would be as per the security percentage that applied to that user at the time they terminated.
- NGET would use the existing annual Ofgem review process of the inputs to the Price Control Financial Model, and recover the remaining amount through the following year's TNUoS charges (April).
- DNO exhausts all appropriate bad debt recovery procedures.
- In the event that the DNO recovered additional monies from the terminating DG user at a future time, the DNO would pay these to NGET.
- NGET would use the existing annual Ofgem review process of the inputs to the Price Control Financial Model, and reimburse users through the following year's TNUoS charges for additional recovered monies.
- The DNO consag template would require all DG with a transmission impact to be listed individually and have individual Appendix MMs (including SIF and LARFs).
- Any DNO modification application must specify which DG it is in relation to, and only those users' Appendix MMs will have their liabilities invoiced through the DNO.

- Obligation on the DNO to inform NGET within a reasonable timescale of a change to a DG project
- DNOs to provide annual figures to NGET on number of DG terminations, and at what stage they terminated (before or after key consents granted)
- 6.29 The Workgroup agreed unanimously that this option should go forward as WACM2 for the Workgroup vote.
- 6.30 One Workgroup member questioned the mechanism that ensures NGET are notified by the DNO in a timely manner if a relevant DG terminates, and if there was an obligation on the DNO to inform NGET of this within a certain timeframe. NGET stated that there was no reason why a DNO would delay sending this information, but that an obligation could be included within the legal text drafting.
- 6.31 The Workgroup agreed that these two WACMs would be voted upon against the Applicable CUSC Objectives.
- 6.32 Another Workgroup Alternative CUSC Modification was proposed which would have some attributes of the original proposal and some of WACM2. The proposed WACM allowed DG with a BELLA or BEGA contract to secure directly with NGET (as per the Original), with the DNOs' financial exposure to the remaining SoW users covered by NGET through it's licence (as per WACM2).
- 6.33 The member considered that the benefits of this approach would be that it minimised administrative work, and made use of existing contractual arrangements, as a DG with a BEGA will already have a ConsAg with an Appendix MM covering wider cancellation charges and secured amounts only. Under this possible WACM, the form of the agreement would remain the same but NGET would add attributable works cancellation charges and secured amounts to Appendix MM. At the same time, the attributable works cancellation charges would be removed from the relevant DNOs ConsAg.
- 6.34 A DG with a BELLA will not currently have a ConsAg or associated Appendix MM. In order to implement this WACM, a new Appendix would be required to define the wider attributable cancellation charges.
- 6.35 Another Workgroup member proposed a WACM that would be the same as the above, although would use the same elements of WACM1 rather than WACM2.
- 6.36 The Workgroup agreed by majority vote that both of these WACMs should be classed as formal WACMs and voted on against the Applicable CUSC Objectives. WACM3 proposes changes to the BELLA and BEGA contracts using aspects of WACM2 and WACM4 proposes to do the same but using aspects of WACM1. These WACMs would contain the following aspects:

- Applies security percentages of 45% pre-consent and 26% post-consent
- BEGA contracts changed to include Attributable works and the relevant factors in the Appendix MM
- BELLA contracts changed to include Appendix MM for Attributable and Wider for the purposes of receiving Section 15 user commitment security and liability arrangements directly from NGET
- Mandatory through BEGA/BELLA application
- All existing pre-commissioning BELLA and BEGA users with Section 15 liabilities to have their contract with the DNO reopened such that they are

- moved to the modified NGET agreements, and are allowed the choice of Fixed or Actual liability
- For DG who have a transmission impact identified under the Statement of Works (SoW) process("SoW DG"), the DNO would pay a proportion of the NGET invoice arising from the Section 15 liability of a terminating DG user, and that proportion would be as per the security percentage that applied to that user at the time they terminated.
- NGET would use the existing annual Ofgem review process of the inputs to the Price Control Financial Model, and recover the remaining amount through the following year's TNUoS charges (April).
- DNO exhausts all appropriate bad debt recovery procedures.
- In the event that the DNO recovered additional monies from the terminating SoW DG user at a future time, the DNO would pay these to NGET.
- NGET would use the existing annual Ofgem review process of the inputs to the Price Control Financial Model, and reimburse users through the following year's TNUoS charges for additional recovered monies.
- The DNO Consag template would require all SoW DG with a transmission impact to be listed individually and have individual Appendix MMs (including SIFs and LARFs).
- Any DNO modification application must specify which SoW DG it is in relation to, and only those users' Appendix MMs will have their liabilities invoiced through the DNO.
- Obligation on the DNO to inform NGET within a reasonable timescale of a change to a SoW DG project
- DNOs to provide annual figures to NGET on number of DG terminations, and at what stage they terminated (before or after key consents granted)

- Applies security percentages of 45% pre-consent and 26% post-consent
- BEGA contracts changed to include Attributable works and the relevant factors in the Appendix MM
- BELLA contracts changed to include a consag and Appendix MM for Attributable and Wider, BELLA users accede to the CUSC for the purposes of receiving Section 15 user commitment security and liability arrangements directly from NGET
- Mandatory through BEGA/BELLA application
- All exisiting pre-commissioning BELLA and BEGA users with Section 15 liabilities to have their contract with the DNO reopened such that they are moved to the modified NGET agreements, and are allowed the choice of Fixed or Actual liability.
- For DG who have a transmission impact identified under the Statement of Works (SoW) process, NGET would reconcile the DNO for unrecoverable debt arising from the Section 15 liability of a terminating SoW DG user upon application by the affected DNO.
- The DNO would apply to NGET once it had exhausted all appropriate bad debt recovery procedures, and demonstrate what monies it had recovered, including any securities.
- NGET would use the existing annual Ofgem review process of the inputs to the Price Control Financial Model, and recover the agreed amount through the following year's TNUoS charges (April).

- The DNO Consag template would require all SoW DG with a transmission impact to be listed individually and have individual Appendix MMs (including SIFs and LARFs).
- Any DNO modification application must specify which SoW DG it is in relation to, and only those users' Appendix MMs will have their liabilities invoiced through the DNO.
- Obligation on the DNO to inform NGET within a reasonable timescale of a change to a SoW DG project
- DNOs to provide annual figures to NGET on number of DG terminations, and at what stage they terminated (before or after key consents granted).

7 Impacts

Impact on the CUSC

- 7.1 CMP223 may require amendments to the following parts of the CUSC:
 - Section 1
 - Section 11
 - Section 15
 - Schedule 2 Exhibit 2 BEGA
 - Schedule 2 Exhibit 3 Construction Agreement
 - Schedule 2 Exhibit 5 BELLA

Impact on Greenhouse Gas Emissions

7.2 Neither the proposer nor the Workgroup identified any material impact on Greenhouse Gas emissions.

Impact on Core Industry Documents

7.3 None identified at this stage.

Impact on other Industry Documents

- 7.4 CMP223 could have an number of consequential impacts on DNO contractual arrangements. Changes would potentially be required to DNO distribution licences.
- 7.5 CMP223 could require a change to the DCUSA to ensure that all DNOs apply securities and liabilities in a consistent manner.
- 7.6 CMP223 would create the need for a consequential modification to the Special Licence Condition 6F to allow NGET to recover distribution connected generation liabilities, either directly under the original proposal or on behalf of DNOs under the alternatives. Special Licence Condition: 6F currently enables the recovery of liabilities from a transmission connected generator in the event NGET is unable to recover 100% of the generator's liability following termination of its connection agreement.
- 7.7 NGET proposed the following list of changes and clarifications to 6F that would be required should CMP223 be implemented, although noted that this list was not intended to be comprehensive and would require discussion with the Authority and further consultation in due course:

- a. Change the definition of Relevant Generator Capacity to include embedded generation in any zone (currently it specifically only covers zones 2 and 22)
- b. Change 6F.1(a) such that the "works to connect new generating stations to the licensee's Transmission System" may include generating stations that are connecting to the Distribution System, but which have a material effect on investment requirements on the Transmission System as identified through the Statement of Works process or a BEGA/BELLA contract
- c. Clarify that where TPGn refers to "terminations", that includes users who reduce TEC or developer capacity (based on the equivalence principle as set out in CMP192 and enshrined in CUSC Section 15)
- d. Clarify that "users" in TPGn includes embedded generation with a user commitment contract with NGET, and DNOs that are connecting embedded generation that has a material effect on investment requirements on the Transmission System
- e. Clarify for TPGn that embedded generation user commitment contracts and DNO construction agreements both count as "relevant bilateral agreements"
- f. Clarify that the definition of TPRGn includes the money that National Grid receives from users, as defined in TPGn, as payment towards their invoiced liabilities under CUSC section 15

8 Proposed Implementation

- 8.1 The Workgroup considered that CMP223 could be implemented 10 Working Days after an Authority Decision, however consideration should be given to the timing with regards to the six-monthly securities process. In accordance with 8.22.10 (b) of the CUSC, views were invited on this proposed implementation date, with respondents considering that go-live should tie in with the securities process, but also allow users sufficient time to understand the impact of any change and potentially renegotiate existing connection agreements with the DNOs.
- 8.2 The Workgroup considered whether existing relevant distributed generators who have chosen a fixed liability under the current arrangements should be allowed the opportunity to reopen their choice, should CMP223 be implemented, as they may have chosen a different option under these new arrangements. It was considered that the issue of retrospective changes such as this should be discussed as each potential solution is developed. The majority of respondents to the Workgroup consultation believed that existing connection agreements should be reopened if CMP223 were to be implemented.

9 Workgroup Consultation Responses

9.1 Nine responses were received to the Workgroup Consultation. These responses are contained within Annex 5 of this report. The following table provides and overview of the representations received;

Company name	Do you support the proposed implementation approach?	Do you believe that any of the potential solutions highlighted under CMP223 better facilitates the Applicable CUSC Objectives?	Additional comments;
E.ON	• Yes	 Option 2 better facilitates ACO's. Believe there are technical issues to be addressed regarding privity of contract in that third parties cannot seek a benefit under the CUSC. 	 Do not support Option 1 approach. Deminimis level should be linked to SoW. Don't believe NG is the appropriate party to pursue debts on behalf of the DNO. Application should be mandatory
Renewable Energy Systems Ltd	• n/a	All solutions being considered may better facilitate the ACO's	 Option 1 requires more development. No deminimis level Option 2 requires more development. Application should be madatory
RWE Innogy UK	• Yes	Yes – Option 1 or Option 2.	 No need for defined deminimis threshold as there is a defacto deminimis threshold in place. Optionality would help small generators
Scottish Power Renewables	Should be implemented as soon as possible (atleast 4 months prior to the new security period)	Yes – Option 2 best facilitates ACO's	 Deminimis level under Option 1. Application should be optional
Scottish Renewables	• n/a	Yes – Option 2 is best solution	Would like to see how changes to DNO construction agreement will offer effective mitigation.
SP Distribution & SP Manweb plc	• Yes	• Yes – Option 2	 Deminimis level would have some merit Application should be optional

SSE	Adoption of any option should be completed as early as possible.	 Any options can be considered beneficial Option 1 will achieve the required result. 	 Large number of embedded generation projects dependent on current reinforcement works in SSE area. Don't consider post- commissioning liabilities appropriate.
The Greenspan Agency	• Yes	• Yes	• n/a
Western Power Distribution	• Yes	Option 1 better facilitates objective b.	No post- commissioning liabilities

Table 5

9.2 The Workgroup discussed the Workgroup Consultation Responses in some detail in order to agree on the best options for WACMs to be provided to the Authority alongside the finalised Original Proposal.

10 Views and Workgroup Vote

- 10.1 The Workgroup believes that the Terms of Reference have been fulfilled and CMP223 has been fully considered.
- 10.2 For reference the CUSC Objectives are;
 - a) The effective discharge by The Company of the obligations imposed upon it by the Act and the Transmission Licence
 - b) Facilitating effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity, and (so far as consistent therewith) facilitating such competition in the sale, distribution and purchase of electricity.
 - c) Compliance with the Electricity Regulation and any relevant legally binding decision of the European Commission and/or the Agency.

National Grid Initial View

10.3 National Grid considered that CMP223 WACM1 would better facilitate Applicable CUSC Objectives as it improves the efficient discharge of obligations under the CUSC and maintains an incentive on the DNO to chase its debt to NGET and increases ease of access to the generation market which facilitates competition.

Workgroup Vote

10.4 The Workgroup met on 24th March 2014 and voted on the Original Proposal and the four Workgroup Alternative CUSC Modifications. Seven out of the nine Workgroup members voted that WACM3 best facilitates the applicable CUSC Objectives. The votes received are as follows:

Vote 1: Whether each proposal better facilitates the Applicable CUSC Objectives;

Original

WG Member	(a)	(b)	(c)	Overall
Adam Sims	No – it is not efficient to introduce new contracts between DNO customers and NGET	Yes – for pre-commissioning DG, increasing ease of access to the generation market	Neutral	No
Fruzsina Kemenes	Neutral	Yes – increases competition between generators. Removes the discrimination between direct transmission connectees and relevant DG.	Neutral	Yes
Leonida Bandura	No – don't think it improves efficiency, it could be discriminatory	No – it could potentially be detrimental to competition by exposing Users to additional costs	Neutral	No
Garth Graham	No – concur with others' comments, adds further complexity and not efficient, but this is outweighed by benefits under (b)	Yes – current situation in CUSC does not facilitate effective competition	Neutral	Yes
Ane Landaluze	No – not efficient to introduce new contracts that introduce admin burden	Yes – removes barriers for EG that CMP192 has triggered. Removes discrimination and provides more competition	Neutral	Yes
Deborah MacPherson	No – Adds further layer of complexity with contractual arrangements	No – believe it would potentially be barrier to some parties	Neutral	No
Kyle Martin	Neutral	Yes – it facilitates competition by allowing DG access to the security provisions mechanism available to directly connected generators.	Neutral	Yes
Kenny Stott	No – it introduces an additional burden which is inefficient	Yes – it provide more effective competition	Neutral	Yes
Andrew Causebrook	Neutral	Yes – It facilitates DG access by aligning securities principles for DG and direct-connected generators leading to lower security payments and no mutual liabilities.	Neutral	Yes

WG Member	(a)	(b)	(c)	Overall
Adam Sims	Yes – improves efficient discharge of obligations and maintains incentive on DNO to chase its debt to NGET	Yes – for pre commissioning DG, increasing ease of access to the generation market facilitates competition.	Neutral	Yes
Fruzsina Kemenes	Neutral	Yes – removes barriers to competition between generators.	Neutral	Yes
Leonida Bandura	Neutral	Yes – provides mechanism for reduction of costs associated in providing security, increasing competition	Neutral	Yes
Garth Graham	Yes – improves efficient discharge of obligations	Yes – for pre-commissioning DG, increasing ease of access to the generation market facilitates competition	Neutral	Yes
Ane Landaluze	Yes – Improves efficient discharge of obligations	Yes – removes those barriers for EG that CMP192 has triggered. Removes discrimination and provides more competition	Neutral	Yes
Deborah MacPherson	Yes – improves efficient discharge of NGETs obligations under CUSC	Yes – provides assist obligation to provide affective competition.	Neutral	Yes
Kyle Martin	Yes - improves efficient discharge of National Grid's obligations under the CUSC	Yes – it facilitates competition by allowing DG access to the security provisions mechanism available to directly connected generators.	Neutral	Yes
Kenny Stott	Neutral	Yes – reduces costs for market entry of embedded generation	Neutral	Yes
Andrew Causebrook	Neutral	Yes – subject to DNO's facilitation ² , it facilitates DG access by aligning securities principles for DG and direct-connected generators, leading to lower security payments and no mutual liabilities	Neutral	Yes

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² "Subject to DNO facilitation" means that the WACM is dependent on "voluntary" passing-on of the intended benefits that would be facilitated by the proposed CUSC changes. This footnote applies to all WACMs.

WACM 2

WG Member	(a)	(b)	(c)	Overall
Adam Sims	Yes – improves efficient discharge of obligations, although increases aged debt risk by removing incentive on DNO to chase its debt	Yes – for pre-commissioning DG, increasing ease of access to the generation market facilitates competition	Neutral	Yes
Fruzsina Kemenes	Neutral	Yes - – removes barriers to competition between generators.	Neutral	Yes
Leonida Bandura	Neutral	Yes – provides mechanism for reduction of costs associated in providing security, increasing competition	Neutral	Yes
Garth Graham	Yes - Improves efficient discharge of obligations	Yes - increases ease of access to the generation market which facilitates competition	Neutral	Yes
Ane Landaluze	Yes – Improves efficient discharge of obligations	Yes – removes those barriers for EG that CMP192 has triggered. Removes discrimination and provides more competition	Neutral	Yes
Deborah MacPherson	Yes – improves efficient discharge of NGETs obligations under CUSC	Yes – provides assist obligation to provide effective competition	Neutral	Yes
Kyle Martin	Yes - improves efficient discharge of National Grid's obligations under the CUSC	Yes – it facilitates competition by allowing DG access to the security provisions mechanism available to directly connected generators.	Neutral	Yes
Kenny Stott	Neutral	Yes – reduces costs for market entry of embedded generation	Neutral	Yes
Andrew Causebrook	Neutral	Yes – subject to DNOs facilitation, it facilitates DG access by aligning securities principles for DG and direct-connected generators, leading to lower security payments and no mutual liabilities.	Neutral	Yes

WACM 3

WG Member	(a)	(b)	(c)	Overall
Adam Sims	No – different treatment between DG users is not justified; BELLAs are forced into a contract with NGET whilst similar DG in England & Wales are not. Also increases aged debt risk by removing incentive on DNO to chase its debt	Yes – for pre-commissioning DG, increasing ease of access to the generation market facilitates competition	Neutral	No
Fruzsina Kemenes	Neutral	Yes – removes barriers to competition between generators.	Neutral	Yes
Leonida Bandura	Yes – Users and non-users are treated appropriately. Non-users are not conferred a benefit from a contract to which they are not party.	Yes – facilitates competition by introducing appropriate mechanisms for Users and non-Users to reduce the cost of providing security.	Neutral	
Garth Graham	Yes – treats users and non users similarly	Yes - increases ease of access to the generation market which facilitates competition	Neutral	Yes
Ane Landaluze	Yes – Improves efficient discharge of obligations	Yes – removes those barriers for EG that CMP192 has triggered. Removes discrimination and provides more competition	Neutral	Yes
Deborah MacPherson	Yes – improves efficient discharge of NGETs obligations under CUSC	Yes – provides assist obligation to provide effective competition	Neutral	Yes
Kyle Martin	Yes - improves efficient discharge of National Grid's obligations under the CUSC	Yes – it facilitates competition by allowing DG access to the security provisions mechanism available to directly connected generators.	Neutral	Yes
Kenny Stott	No – would introduce different treatment between embedded generation based solely on size	Yes – reduces costs for market entry of embedded generation	Neutral	Yes
Andrew Causebrook	Neutral	Yes – subject to DNOs facilitation, it facilitates DG access by aligning securities principles for DG and direct-connected generators, leading to lower security payments and no mutual liabilities.	Neutral	Yes

WACM 4

WG Member	(a)	(b)	(c)	Overall
Adam Sims	No – different treatment between DG users is not justified; BELLAs are forced into a contract with NGET whilst similar DG in England & Wales are not	Yes – for pre-commissioning DG, increasing ease of access to the generation market facilitates competition	Neutral	No
Fruzsina Kemenes	Neutral	Yes – removes barriers to competition between generators.	Neutral	Yes
Leonida Bandura	Yes – Users and non-users are treated appropriately. Non-Users are not conferred a benefit from a contract to which they are not party	Yes – facilitates competition by introducing appropriate mechanisms for Users and non-Users to reduce the cost of providing security	Neutral	Yes
Garth Graham	Yes - Improves efficient discharge of obligations	Yes - increases ease of access to the generation market which facilitates competition	Neutral	Yes
Ane Landaluze	Yes – Improves efficient discharge of obligations	Yes – removes those barriers for EG that CMP192 has triggered. Removes discrimination and provides more competition.	Neutral	Yes
Deborah MacPherson	Yes – Improves efficient discharge of NGETs obligations under CUSC	Yes – provides assist obligation to provide effective competition	Neutral	Yes
Kyle Martin	Yes - improves efficient discharge of National Grid's obligations under the CUSC	Yes – it facilitates competition by allowing DG access to the security provisions mechanism available to directly connected generators.	Neutral	Yes
Kenny Stott	No – would introduce different treatment between embedded generation based solely on size	Yes – reduces cost of market entry	Neutral	Yes
Andrew Causebrook	Neutral	Yes – subject to DNO's facilitation, it facilitates DG access by aligning securities principles for DG and direct-connected generators, leading to lower security payments and no mutual liabilities.	Neutral	Yes

Vote 2: Where one or more WACMs exist, whether each WACM better facilitates the Applicable CUSC Objectives than the Original Modification proposal;

WG Member	WACM1	WACM2	WACM3	WACM4	Comments
Adam Sims	Yes	Yes	No	No	
Fruzsina Kemenes	No	No	Yes	No	
Leonida Bandura	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	All WACMS reduce the cost of providing security by having a mechanism in place for recovery that should allow DNOs to pass through the benefit of a reduced security profile.
Garth Graham	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	All WACMs are beneficial in terms of facilitating competition in generation and three of the four are better in terms the efficient discharge of the obligations on the Company.
Ane Landaluze	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Deborah MacPherson	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Kyle Martin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	All WACMs better facilitate the CUSC objectives by providing access to the security provisions mechanism for DG and directly connected generators.
Kenny Stott	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Andrew Causebrook	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	WACM1 avoids the potential hurdle for small generators entering into a contract with NGET associated with the Original.

Vote 3: Which option is considered to BEST facilitate achievement of the Applicable CUSC Objectives. For the avoidance of doubt, this vote should include the existing CUSC baseline as an option.

WG Member	Best option	Comments
Adam Sims	WACM1	WACM1 is simple to implement, transparent, ensures equal treatment for all DG, and maintains the incentive to chase debt with the party who holds that debt, i.e. the DNO.
Fruzsina Kemenes	WACM3	WACM 3 – is an improvement on the Original developed through the wider expertise of the working group. WACM 3 combines the advantages of the Original and WACM2 and overcomes the perceived issues associated with the Original.
Leonida Bandura	WACM3	Users and non-Users are treated appropriately. No privity of contract issues in relation to non-Users as there are separate mechanisms for providing less onerous security profiles.
Garth Graham	WACM3	Of the six options (Baseline, Original and WACMs1-4) this is the Best option overall against the three applicable objectives but, in particular, objective (b).
Ane Landaluze	WACM3	

Deborah MacPherson	WACM3	
Kyle Martin	WACM3	WACM3 best facilitates the Applicable CUSC objectives. WACM3 allows DG access to the security provisions mechanism available to directly connected generators and doesn't impose contractual obligations on DG.
Kenny Stott	WACM2	
Andrew Causebrook	WACM3	Achieves the benefit of the Original (direct treatment under CMP192) for large DG, who already have contractual relationship with NGET, without imposing new contractual relationships and associated administration on small DG. This leads to following: 1. Facilitation of PCGs and LoC on CUSC terms. 2. Direct communication of security statements and payments between primary parties, without DNO "middleman" and associated process delays that result in shorter time for DG to respond and query.
		I also believe that the differential treatment of small and large DG under WACM3 is not discriminatory because
		small DG can optionally apply for a BEGA and receive the same treatment as large DG.

CMP223 Terms of Reference

V2.0 11 November 2013

Workgroup Terms of Reference and Membership TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CMP223 WORKGROUP

Responsibilities

- The Workgroup is responsible for assisting the CUSC Modifications Panel in the evaluation of CUSC Modification Proposal CMP223 Arrangements for Relevant Distributed Generators Under the Enduring Generation User Commitment tabled by Carnedd Wen Onshore Wind Farm Ltd at the Modifications Panel meeting on 27 September 2013.
- The proposal must be evaluated to consider whether it better facilitates achievement of the Applicable CUSC Objectives. These can be summarised as follows:
 - (a) the efficient discharge by the Licensee of the obligations imposed on it by the Act and the Transmission Licence;
 - (b) Facilitating effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity, and (so far as consistent therewith) facilitating such competition in the sale, distribution and purchase of electricity;
 - (c) Compliance with the Electricity Regulation and any relevant legally binding decision of the European Commission and/or the Agency.
- It should be noted that additional provisions apply where it is proposed to modify the CUSC Modification provisions, and generally reference should be made to the Transmission Licence for the full definition of the term.

Scope of work

- The Workgroup must consider the issues raised by the Modification Proposal and consider if the proposal identified better facilitates achievement of the Applicable CUSC Objectives.
- 5. In addition to the overriding requirement of paragraph 4, the Workgroup shall consider and report on the following specific issues:
 - a) Implications on the National Grid Electricity Transmission Licence.
 - Obligations under Section 15 of the CUSC whether terms in Section 15 could be mandatory or optional for relevant Distributed Generation users.
 - c) Impact of change on liabilities for directly connected users.
 - Cost implications of administering additional contracts on National Grid and embedded users.
 - e) Check that there are no wider implications of the application of section 15 to DG users.
 - f) Consider progression of the DCuSA proposal.
 - g) Review illustrative legal text.

- 6. The Workgroup is responsible for the formulation and evaluation of any Workgroup Alternative CUSC Modifications (WACMs) arising from Group discussions which would, as compared with the Modification Proposal or the current version of the CUSC, better facilitate achieving the Applicable CUSC Objectives in relation to the issue or defect identified.
- 7. The Workgroup should become conversant with the definition of Workgroup Alternative CUSC Modification which appears in Section 11 (Interpretation and Definitions) of the CUSC. The definition entitles the Group and/or an individual member of the Workgroup to put forward a WACM if the member(s) genuinely believes the WACM would better facilitate the achievement of the Applicable CUSC Objectives, as compared with the Modification Proposal or the current version of the CUSC. The extent of the support for the Modification Proposal or any WACM arising from the Workgroup's discussions should be clearly described in the final Workgroup Report to the CUSC Modifications Panel.
- 8. Workgroup members should be mindful of efficiency and propose the fewest number of WACMs possible.
- 9. All proposed WACMs should include the Proposer(s)'s details within the final Workgroup report, for the avoidance of doubt this includes WACMs which are proposed by the entire Workgroup or subset of members.
- 10. There is an obligation on the Workgroup to undertake a period of Consultation in accordance with CUSC 8.20. The Workgroup Consultation period shall be for a period of 3 weeks as determined by the Modifications Panel.
- 11. Following the Consultation period the Workgroup is required to consider all responses including any WG Consultation Alternative Requests. In undertaking an assessment of any WG Consultation Alternative Request, the Workgroup should consider whether it better facilitates the Applicable CUSC Objectives than the current version of the CUSC.

As appropriate, the Workgroup will be required to undertake any further analysis and update the original Modification Proposal and/or WACMs. All responses including any WG Consultation Alternative Requests shall be included within the final report including a summary of the Workgroup's deliberations and conclusions. The report should make it clear where and why the Workgroup chairman has exercised his right under the CUSC to progress a WG Consultation Alternative Request or a WACM against the majority views of Workgroup members. It should also be explicitly stated where, under these circumstances, the Workgroup chairman is employed by the same organisation who submitted the WG Consultation Alternative Request.

12. The Workgroup is to submit its final report to the Modifications Panel Secretary on 23 January 2014 for circulation to Panel Members. The final report conclusions will be presented to the CUSC Modifications Panel meeting on 31 January 2014.

Membership

13. It is recommended that the Workgroup has the following members:

Role	Name	Representing		
Chairman	Patrick Hynes	National Grid		
National Grid	Adam Sims	National Grid		
Representative*				
Industry	Fruzsina Kemenes	Carnedd Wen Onshore		
Representatives*		Wind Farm (Proposer)		
	Leonida Bandura	E.ON		
	Garth Graham	SSE		
	Ane Landaluze	Scottish Power		
	Deborah Macpherson	SP Distribution		
	Kyle Martin	Energy UK		
	Kenny Stott	SHE Transmission		
	Andrew Causebrook	Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd		
Authority	Edda Dirks	Ofgem		
Representatives				
Technical secretary	Louise McGoldrick	Code Administrator		
Observers				

NB: A Workgroup must comprise at least 5 members (who may be Panel Members). The roles identified with an asterisk in the table above contribute toward the required quorum, determined in accordance with paragraph 14 below.

- 14. The chairman of the Workgroup and the Modifications Panel Chairman must agree a number that will be quorum for each Workgroup meeting. The agreed figure for CMP223 is that at least 5 Workgroup members must participate in a meeting for quorum to be met.
- 15. A vote is to take place by all eligible Workgroup members on the Modification Proposal and each WACM. The vote shall be decided by simple majority of those present at the meeting at which the vote takes place (whether in person or by teleconference). The Workgroup chairman shall not have a vote, casting or otherwise]. There may be up to three rounds of voting, as follows:
 - Vote 1: whether each proposal better facilitates the Applicable CUSC Objectives;
 - Vote 2: where one or more WACMs exist, whether each WACM better facilitates the Applicable CUSC Objectives than the original Modification Proposal;
 - Vote 3: which option is considered to BEST facilitate achievement of the Applicable CUSC Objectives. For the avoidance of doubt, this vote should include the existing CUSC baseline as an option.

The results from the vote and the reasons for such voting shall be recorded in the Workgroup report in as much detail as practicable.

16. It is expected that Workgroup members would only abstain from voting under limited circumstances, for example where a member feels that a proposal has been insufficiently developed. Where a member has such concerns, they should raise these with the Workgroup chairman at the earliest possible

- opportunity and certainly before the Workgroup vote takes place. Where abstention occurs, the reason should be recorded in the Workgroup report.
- 17. Workgroup members or their appointed alternate are required to attend a minimum of 50% of the Workgroup meetings to be eligible to participate in the Workgroup vote.
- 18. The Technical Secretary shall keep an Attendance Record for the Workgroup meetings and circulate the Attendance Record with the Action Notes after each meeting. This will be attached to the final Workgroup report.
- The Workgroup membership can be amended from time to time by the CUSC Modifications Panel.

Appendix: Indicative Workgroup Timetable

The following timetable is indicative for the CMP223 Workgroup.

W/C 30 September	Send out request for WG nominations
18 October	Workgroup meeting 1
W/C 4 November	Workgroup meeting 2
W/C 11 November	Workgroup meeting 3
21 November	Issue draft Workgroup Consultation for Workgroup comment (5 working days)
28 November	Deadline for comments on draft Workgroup Consultation
2 December	Publish Workgroup consultation (for 3 weeks)
23 December	Deadline for responses to Workgroup consultation
W/C 6 January 2014	Post-consultation Workgroup meeting
15 January 2014	Circulate draft Workgroup Report
22 January 2014	Deadline for comment on Workgroup report
23 January 2014	Submit final Workgroup report to Panel Secretary
31 January 2014	Present Workgroup report to CUSC Modifications Panel

CUSC Modification Proposal Form CMP223

national**grid**

Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC)

Title of the CUSC Modification Proposal

Arrangements for Relevant Distributed Generators Under the Enduring Generation User Commitment

Submission Date

16.09.2013

Description of the Issue or Defect that the CUSC Modification Proposal seeks to address

This CUSC modification seeks to address an unintended consequence of the application of CMP192 and related terms under Section 15 of the CUSC. As a consequence of the rules described below, distribution connected generators deemed to have an impact on the transmission network are faced with undue discrimination in the way that liability and security terms and conditions are set and how the sums are calculated and passed on.

The CMP192 methodology separates the liability ("termination amount") from the associated security amount (to take into account the reduced likelihood of termination – and therefore stranded assets – as project certainty increases). Once developers have reached pre-determined stages of project development their securities reduce relative to the liability in recognition of the reduced risk of termination as a project nears completion.

Overall, the new methodology for setting liabilities and securities under CMP192 has been a welcome improvement for renewable energy projects. However, the rules for the application of CMP192 in CUSC Section 15 'User Commitment Methodology' appear to have created new issues for Distribution Network Operators (DNOs) and their generation customers. The resulting treatment of generators that are directly transmission connected is contrasted to the treatment of distribution connected generators below:

CMP192 treatment of generators which are directly transmission connected

Generators seeking to directly connect to the transmission network only have to provide security to National Grid for the reduced security amount (although they remain liable for 100% of the termination amount). Generally, a pre-consented project secures 42% of its CMP192 liability from the "Trigger Date" until the point that it achieves consent, then after consent until energisation, it secures only 10% of its CMP192 liability.

• Recovery mechanism for stranded assets:

NGET has an adjustment mechanism in its licence (Special Licence Condition: 6F) which permits it to recover the value of stranded generation connections spend, subject to satisfying certain conditions, in the event that it is unable to recover 100% of a generator's liability following a termination of its connection agreement.

CMP192 arrangements – impact on distribution connected generators

For clarification, currently most distribution connected generators in the majority of DNO areas are not deemed to have an impact on the reinforcement needs for the transmission network. In instances where they are considered to have an impact, DNOs will enter a Construction Agreement with NGET in respect of any

construction works required as a result of their connection. Where this occurs these generators - referred to henceforth as 'relevant distributed generators' - are indirect recipients of NGET's security and liability requirements as described below.

DNOs are defined as 'Users' under S15 of the CUSC and have a direct contractual relationship with NGET. Thereby DNOs are liable to NGET for the full costs of the "attributable" (and in some cases the "wider") transmission works required for relevant distributed generators, in the same way that transmission connected generators are liable for the cost of those transmission works. (I.e. The relevant distributed generators have no direct relationship with NGET in relation to the reinforcement works).

Recovery mechanism for stranded assets:

If a relevant distributed generator fails to proceed and terminates its contract with the DNO (the contracted 'user'), the DNO will terminate its agreement with NGET, who would in turn seek to recover the full liability amount from the DNO rather than from the relevant distributed generator. In the absence of a suitable recovery mechanism (such as NGET has), some DNOs are seeking to cover the risk that they will have to pay termination charges to NGET by seeking security from the relevant distributed generator for the entire CMP192 liability amount at all times and passing on much more onerous contractual terms and conditions compared to NGET's.

The treatment of embedded generation projects with Bilateral Embedded Generation Agreements (BEGAs) is slightly different. An embedded generator with a BEGA would be exposed directly to NGET under CMP192 for liability and security requirements associated with *wider* works. In this case the generator would benefit from the milestone-related reduced security requirements under CMP192 for the wider works costs *but not for the attributable works costs*, as the DNO would require them to secure their full liability (as again, this would be the amount that the DNO would have to pay to NGET in the event of an agreement being partially or fully terminated).

Undue discrimination

DNOs are undoubtedly left exposed under the arrangements and some are managing the risk by requesting 100% securities throughout the development period and insisting on more onerous terms and conditions – while this is rational it unfortunately creates a large barrier to the connection of relevant distributed generators. Providing cash security, letters of credit or parent company guarantees to secure 100% of the liability sum has cash-flow implications and is not a viable option for many companies and communities, threatening the ability to sustain their distributed generation projects.

The relevant distributed generators would be treated differently directly under NGET's terms and conditions. The DNO methodologies for liability and security apportionment are not always transparent, the forecast period for the liabilities can be shorter than that provided by NGET exposing relevant distributed generators to volatility. We also note that because different DNOs are taking different approaches to how their liability and security exposures are passed through and there is a lack of consistency in terms of market access for distribution connected generators from one part of the country to the next.

CMP192 original objectives not being met

Treating generators that are connected to the distribution system in a less beneficial manner to those connected directly to the transmission system - with respect to pre-commissioning security requirements - creates a barrier to market entry for relevant distributed generators. This is contrary to the original objectives of CMP192¹ which sought to address the following defects in the User Commitment regime:

- 1. The methodology for calculating user commitment requirements is not defined in the existing commercial framework, and as such is non-transparent to users.
- 2. The level and volatility of liabilities, and hence the level of security, determined through the existing

methodology can represent a barrier to entry for new power stations.

- 3. Any difference in treatment of pre- and post-commissioning users should be objectively justified.
- 4. The existing arrangements do not take into account the perceived risk profile associated with cancellation and closure that changes throughout a power station's lifetime

Without NGET and the DNOs addressing the issues highlighted, relevant distributed generators will continue to face undue discrimination and the development of competition in the UK energy market will be impeded.

Description of the CUSC Modification Proposal

Key Objectives

This CUSC modification proposal seeks to achieve a fair and transparent treatment of relevant distributed generators in terms of transmission system securities and liabilities. At the same time, the solution must not lead to distributed generators becoming party to/ needing to become compliant with the wider terms of the CUSC – after all the primary relationship for connection and use of the network for distributed customers is with a DNO.

Issue to be resolved

As set out above, the application of CMP192 via CUSC section 15, the 'User Commitment Methodology' effectively compromises Applicable CUSC Objective 4(b): facilitating effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity, and (so far as consistent therewith) facilitating such competition in the sale, distribution and purchase of electricity. Although the relevant distributed generators have the same type of impact on the transmission network as generators that are directly transmission connected, there is a stark difference in the way that liability and security terms & conditions are set, how charges are calculated and passed on. Currently, under CUSC S15 DNOs have been defined as 'Users' in relation to the cancellation charge and the pass-through of the payment profiles to the relevant distributed generators is at their discretion. The fact that the DNO has been elected as a middle man without having been provided with an allowance for the recovery of stranded assets in the Electricity Distribution Licence is the root cause of the problems experienced by relevant distributed generators.

Suggested Approach

One way of resolving the problem would be to cut out the DNO acting as middle man. This modification proposes to create a direct relationship between the relevant distributed generators and NGET so that the terms and conditions for securities and liabilities can be passed on in the same way as they are to other 'users' specified in CUSC S15.

This modification suggests defining 'relevant distributed generators', distributed generation that would normally be associated with a Construction Agreement between NGET and a DNO as a class of 'User' exclusively under CUSC Section 15 'User Commitment Methodology'. These relevant distributed generators must not be named as parties to other sections of the CUSC (in section 1).

Thereby this CUSC modification could remove the risks that a DNO is forced to take on, on behalf relevant distributed generators. Relevant distributed generators would thus be apportioned cancellation charges and security requirements directly by NGET in the same way as if they were transmission connected. In order to work some form of simple agreement specifically covering security and liability arrangements may have to be in place between NGET and the relevant distributed generators. In the event of a relevant distributed generator terminating NGET would pursue this party directly for the cancellation charge. In the event of stranded assets NGET would be able to make use of the recovery mechanism set out under Special License Condition 6F.

Finally, we request that a deminimis threshold for passing through securities should be considered. Smaller parties are affected by the arrangements disproportionately as they are usually the most cash constrained investors. We suggest that Sub 1MW generators should be exempt from security downpayments.

Impact on the CUSC
The proposal suggests changes to CUSC Sections 1 'Applicability Section' and/or 15 'User Commitment Methodology'.
Do you believe the CUSC Modification Proposal will have a material impact on Greenhouse Gas Emissions? Yes / No
No.
Impact on Core Industry Documentation. Please tick the relevant boxes and provide any supporting information
BSC
Grid Code
STC
Other (please specify)
This is an optional section. You should select any Codes or state Industry Documents which may be affected by this Proposal and, where possible, how they will be affected.
Urgency Recommended: Yes / No
No – Due to the complexity of how the defined issue could be resolved a working group will be needed. However, the impacts are being acutely felt by relevant distributed generators today and projects at risk of falling through and therefore a solution is required ASAP.
Justification for Urgency Recommendation
N/A
Self-Governance Recommended: / No?
No. This is an optional section. You should state whether you believe this Proposal should be treated as Self-Governance.
Justification for Self-Governance Recommendation
If you have answered yes above, please describe why this Modification should be treated as Self-Governance.
A Modification Proposal may be considered Self-governance where it is unlikely to have a material effect on:
 Existing or future electricity customers; Competition in generation or supply; The operation of the transmission system:

Security of Supply;

 Governance of the CUSC And it is unlikely to discriminate against different classes of CUSC Parties.
Should this CUSC Modification Proposal be considered exempt from any ongoing Significant Code Reviews?
Yes, there is no interaction with the Electricity Balancing SCR.
Impact on Computer Systems and Processes used by CUSC Parties:
Possible
If the solution favoured by the working group is to define relevant distributed generators (Distributed Generation that would normally be associated with a Construction Agreement between NGNET and a DNO) as a class of 'User' then a simple new contract covering solely the cancellation charge and the security amounts between NGNET and the DG user may be necessary.
This is an optional section. Include a list of any relevant Computer Systems and Computer Processes which may be affected by this Proposal, and where possible, how they will be affected.
Details of any Related Modification to Other Industry Codes
This is an optional section. You should list any other simultaneous modifications being proposed to other Industry Documents and Codes that you are either aware of or have raised.
Justification for CUSC Modification Proposal with Reference to Applicable CUSC Objectives:
Please tick the relevant boxes and provide justification:
(a) the efficient discharge by The Company of the obligations imposed upon it by the Act and the Transmission Licence
(b) facilitating effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity, and (so far as consistent therewith) facilitating such competition in the sale, distribution and purchase of electricity.
The current situation with CMP192 compromises Applicable CUSC Objective ('B'): facilitating effective competition in the generation of electricity by unintentionally, unduly discriminating against generators that are directly distribution system connected and deemed to have an impact on the National Electricity Transmission System. These generators have the same impact on the security of the transmission network as generators that are directly transmission connected – as such, there appears to be no justification for the difference in the way that liability and security charges are calculated and passed on to these users.
(c) compliance with the Electricity Regulation and any relevant legally binding decision of the European Commission and/or the Agency.

These are defined within the National Grid Electricity Transmission plc Licence under Standard Condition C10,

paragraph 1.

Objective (c) was added in November 2011. This refers specifically to European Regulation 2009/714/EC. Reference to the Agency is to the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER).

This section is mandatory. You should detail why this Proposal better facilitates the Applicable CUSC Objectives compared to the current baseline. Please note that one or more Objective must be justified.

Additional details

Details of Proposer: (Organisation Name)	Carnedd Wen Onshore Wind Farm Ltd
Capacity in which the CUSC Modification Proposal is being proposed: (i.e. CUSC Party, BSC Party or "National Consumer Council")	CUSC party
Details of Proposer's Representative: Name: Organisation: Telephone Number: Email Address:	Fruzsina Kemenes Carnedd Wen Onshore Wind Farm Ltd 01793 474463 Fruzsina.kemenes@rwe.com
Details of Representative's Alternate: Name: Organisation: Telephone Number: Email Address:	+44 7584580327
Attachments (Yes/No): If Yes, Title and No. of pages of each Attachment:	

Annex 3 - Workgroup Attendance Register

Name	Organisation	Role	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Patrick Hynes	National Grid	Chairman	0	0	0	0	0	0	D
Louise Mcgoldrick / Jade Clarke	NGET	Technical Secretary	0	0	0	0	0	0	D
Adam Sims / Wayne Mullins	NGET	National Grid representative	0	0	0	0	0	0	D
Edda Dirks / Angelita Bradney	Ofgem	Authority Representative	0	0	D	D	D	Α	Х
Fruzsina Kemenes	Carnedd Wen Onshore Wind Farm Ltd	Proposer	0	0	0	D	0	D	D
Leonida Bandura	EON	Workgroup Member	Α	0	0	D	0	0	D
Garth Graham	SSE	Workgroup Member	D	0	D	D	D	D	D
Ane Landaluze	ScottishPower	Workgroup Member	Α	0	D	Х	D	D	D
Deborah MacPherson	SP Distribution/SP Manweb	Workgroup Member	Α	0	Х	D	D	0	D
Kyle Martin	Energy UK	Workgroup Member	D	0	D	D	Х	Х	D
Kenny Stott	SHE Transmission	Workgroup Member	Χ	0	D	D	D	0	D
Andrew Causebrook	Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd	Workgroup Member	Х	0	0	Χ	D	D	D

Attended O; alternate A; dial-in D; non-attendance X

Annex 4 – Potential solutions to the defect

Proposal	Pros	Cons	'Risk Attribution' – In the event of project cancellation which party carries final risk?
OPTION 1:	Perceived discrimination issue resolved.	Requires new NGET contracts for	TNUoS customers
	As a 'user' under Section 15 relevant DG	relevant DG (setting up is relatively easy).	Ultimately GB TNUoS customers
CUSC Modification	will be treated in the same way as other	Key issue is time needed to administer	(generation & demand residual).
Section 1: define relevant	'users' in terms of securities and	and enforcement.	- PO 4
distributed generators deemed to	cancellation charges.	The proposal is intended to be a time	■ DG Accede to CUSC for User Commitment
have an impact on transmission	Transparent, clear statement on how DG	limited agreement (either up until	Y # .
reinforcement as a possible S-15	will be treated UK-wide as soon as The	connection or shortly after completion of	\wedge
'user'.	Authority passes its decision.	connection contract) – meaning that there	DG DNO NETSO
CUSC applicability will be limited to	Retaining the option for the relevant DG	should be no implications for operation.	42%
relevant clauses of Sections 1,	to choose the DNO to act as 'broker'	However, as the CUSC can be changed	r r
5,6,7,8,11 and 15. (same as	gives DG a choice to avoid becoming	there is a risk that the solution could	Tx Customers
BELLAs)	involved with the CUSC (but clearly then it	unintentionally lead to onerous technical	TX Oddoniolo
	remains at DNO's discretion how such	requirements on signatories at a future	
Retain DNO acting as broker (status	DG are treated).	date. Risk of mission creep- e.g. new	
quo) as an option for relevant DG.	For DNOs: Resolves the risk of having to	commitments for distribution connected	
	bear the difference between relevant DG	parties or DNOs developing constraints	
	security and the liability.	management tool via contract.	
Further refinement:	A de-minimis capacity level for application	Lengthy implementation process,	
	should avoid retaining a cash-flow barrier	continuing to leave live projects exposed.	
Introduce a de-minimis capacity level	for very small projects and avoid the	Who pays for cancellation if any DG are	
for application of securities and	hassle of dealing with multiple contracts	exempt? The risk profiles of DG	
liabilities.	for small parties. Should also ease the	cancellations need to be understood. Risk	
Alternatives:	administrative burden on NGET.	to GDUoS customers' needs to be	
-exempt projects too small for SOW		evaluated by Ofgem (data to be supplied	

- exempt 1MW+ 'arbitrary' threshold		by DNOs).	
(Note that this coincides with		Introducing a deminimis threshold could	
proposed EU regulation related limit:		lead to gaming behaviour on part of DG	
encompasses 'Type A' and 'Type B'		customers	
generators)			
OPTION 2:	For DNOs: Resolves the risk of having to	The terms and conditions and charges for	TNUoS customers
	bear the difference between relevant DG	securities and cancellations that relevant	Ultimately GB TNUoS customers.
CUSC Modification	security and the liability.	distributed users face will remain at the	(Generation & demand residual).
Amend Section 15 so that:	,	discretion of the DNO. It can be assumed	■ DNO Justify Reasonable Endeavours
A shortfall in liabilities related to a	No new contracts for relevant distributed	that there would be no grounds then for	→ → →
relevant DG terminating is	generators	the DNOs to pass through different	12%
recovered by NGET once the	Small SOW connectees continue to have	security profiles- but there is no regulatory	DG DNO NETSO
DNOs demonstrate they have	a single interface – the DNO - for their	guarantee.	r in the second
exhausted all options.	connections	Lengthy implementation process,	, and the second
	Amending Connection Agreements to	continuing to leave live projects exposed.	Tx Customers
Amend Construction Agreements so	name all relevant DG parties helps		3
that all relevant DG parties are	resolve 'DG hub mutual liability issue'. (
named.	DG Hub scenario – cancellation charge		
NGET invoices the DNO for full	recovery terms and conditions will be		
liability	governed by DNO. Here multiple DGs are		
DNO tries to recover bad debt and	covered by a single Construction		
justifies cost recovery to Ofgem,	Agreement between the DNO and NGET		
	and rules on how termination by a single		
DNO pays NGET 42% min.	party should be dealt with sit with DNO –		
NGET recovers shortfall through	not transparent or fair. (Worse case:		
licence.	remaining parties carry liability of		
	terminating DG)).		

OPTION 3:

Amend Section 15 so that: A shortfall in liabilities related to a relevant DG terminating can as a last resort be recovered by NGET on behalf of DNOs.

Amend Construction Agreements so that all relevant DG parties are named.

NGET invoices the DNO for 42% liability (=security cover provided by DG) DNO pays NGET and transfers bad debt (58%) to NGET NGET tries to recover bad debt NGET justifies cost recovery to Ofgem

NGET recovers shortfall through

licence

For DNOs: Resolves the risk of having to bare the difference between relevant DG security and the liability

No new contracts for relevant distributed generators

Small SOW connectees continue to have a single interface – the DNO - for their connections but would face NGET if they terminate.

DG Hub scenario – cancellation charge recovery terms and conditions will be governed directly by NGET – apportionment and method of recovering liabilities no longer sits with DNOs. (Relevant DG needs to be named in construction agreements to provide visibility for NGET).

The terms and conditions and charges for securities that relevant distributed users face will remain at the discretion of the DNO. It can be assumed that there would be no grounds then for the DNOs to pass through different security profiles- but there is no regulatory guarantee.

Debt collector role for NGET – not a natural fit.

A new clause would have to be introduced to DNO-DG contracts, introducing NGET as a third party. NGET has no authority to request this and would also seek to review every DNO-relevant DG contract. NG would be enforcing contracts on behalf of the DNOs; such contracts will differ between DNOs, NG does not have any expertise in these contracts, nor any guarantee that they will have the appropriate requirements for enforcement.

Lengthy implementation process, continuing to leave live projects exposed.

TNUoS customers

ultimately GB TNUoS customers.

(generation & demand residual).

DNO Bad Debt Transfer



Optional CONSEQUENTIAL CHANGE

Related to 2, 3: DCUSA Mod/ Connection Charging Methodology Mod: to include Statement of the methodology on the DCUSA adapted from S-15 of Clarity on exactly how DG will be treated once both the The Authority passes its decision.

Perceived Discrimination issue resolved. Relevant distributed generators will be treated in the same way as 'users' in terms of securities and cancellation charges if DNOs adopt the terms and Complicated. Would be dependent on both change proposals progressing at the same speed and going through.

Both codes subject to different governance procedures could end up changing separately over time.

Very lengthy process, continuing to leave projects exposed.

TNUoS customers

Ultimately GB TNUoS customers. (Generation & demand residual).

the CUSC.	conditions for cancellation charges and
	securities via a common regulatory
	document.
	Resolves the risk issue for the DNOs by
	directing DNOs to recover from cancelling
	party.