

Competition in Connections Code of Practice Panel

Minutes

Tuesday 5 November 2024 3:00 – 4:00pm

David Overman (Chair)	DO	GTC/Independent Networks Association
Clare Roberts	CR	NPG
Jeff Graham	JG	NPG
Clare Maynard	CM	UKPN
Brian Hoy	BH	ENWL
Beverly Hudson	BHu	SPEN
Steve McLaren	SM	SPEN
Maryline Guinard	MG	SSE
Ephie Chalakateva	EC	NGED
Kelly McLaughlin	KM	NGED
Paul Costelloe	PC	LRQA
Neil Fitzsimons	NF	Metered Connections Customer Group
Jayson Whitaker	JW	Metered Connections Customer Group
David Jones	DJ	Unmetered Connections Customer Group
James Barker	JB	Unmetered Connections Customer Group
Julia Phillips (Secretariat)	JP	ENA

Apologies: Rory Fulton, Tracey Taylor, Matt Crittenden, Patrick Daly

1. **Welcome and introductions**

The Chair welcomed and reminded the group of the respective obligations of the Competition Act.

The group welcomed JB, DJ and EC.

2. **Minutes of previous meeting/actions**

The group approved the minutes as an accurate record of the previous meeting.

3. **AOB**

Design Submissions (PC)

- Was raised in February by NGED at this meeting. One design only ICP was having issues with getting designs accepted for approval. Partly has been resolved with the ICP concerned but have subsequently had an additional complaint from an ICP.
- Suggestion to clarify the code of practice to make it clearer that for 'Design Approval', the DNO can receive designs for approval from a NERS accredited design ICP who are not necessarily also the construction ICP.
- DO suggested that this may be covered in the Lloyds or NERSAP process?
- BH commented that the process to raise a modification and a hold working group is very time intensive and if the issue is resolved he wasn't sure that making a change was a good use of industry time.

- MG agreed with BH, not every design company is the construction ICP, the design agreements and adoption agreements can differ for DNOs.
 - KM stated that NGED will have a new permanent process from January. Now finalising the legal documents to allow design house to submit design approvals. KM will reach out to PC to discuss the second ICP complaint and look to resolve this offline.
 - PC can raise a change if he would like to do so but the new processes in place should resolve this issue.
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- EC asked if partial design submission process for EHV been discussed? This was raised last year, due to the process it is necessary to get partial design approval within the process.

4. Next meeting date:

Tuesday 4th February 3:00-4:00