



Competition in Connections Code of Practice – Modification Report

0004 – COP Administration Corrections May 2016

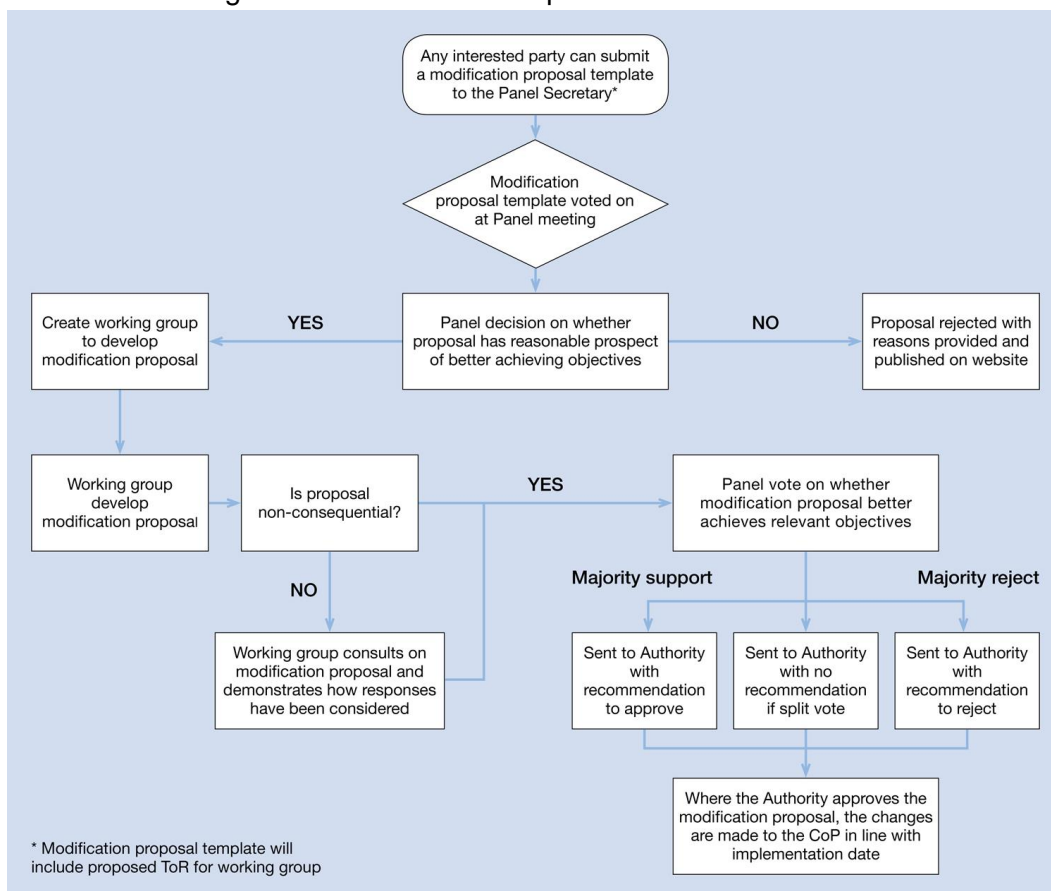
12 October 2016

1. Purpose and Objective

- 1.1.** The purpose of this modification is to correct errors in the text, to help avoid confusion and improve the clarity of the Competition in Connections Code of Practice (“The Code of Practice”). It is part of ongoing work to keep the Code of Practice up to date.

2. Background

- 2.1.** In July 2015, Ofgem approved the Code of Practice which had been developed by DNOs. This code outlines the way in which DNOs will provide the input services to facilitate competition in the electricity connections market. DNOs are required to comply with the Code of Practice by standard licence condition 52 of the electricity distribution licence.
- 2.2.** The Code of Practice includes governance arrangements to manage changes to it over time. Under these governance arrangements a Panel was established. This comprises of DNOs and representatives from trade associations representing Independent Connection Providers (ICPs) (specialising in both metered and unmetered connections) and Independent Distribution Network Operators (IDNOs). A full list of Panel members can be found on the [Code of Practice website](#).
- 2.3.** Any interested party may submit a modification proposal to the Panel. If the Panel decides that the modification proposal may better meet the Code of Practice relevant objectives then a working group will be created to develop the modification proposal. Please see a diagram of the modification process below:



2.4. When the Panel was first established, it had highlighted that there may be some errors within the text.

3. Original Modification Proposal and Rationale

3.1. The modification proposal was raised by SSE Power Distribution (SSEPD) and was submitted to the Code of Practice secretariat on 9 May 2016. The rationale for this modification is to correct a number of indexing and naming conventions within the Code of Practice, to aid clarity and avoid confusion. The modification is intended to only make administrative changes to the Code of Practice.

3.2. The modification proposal was considered by the Panel, who then voted to establish a working group on 25 May 2016, to develop the proposal further.

4. Original Modification Considerations

4.1. The working group held its first meeting on 8 July 2016. The working group agreed that as they felt that the modification was non-consequential under the terms of the governance arrangements 5.35, the working group considered that this should not go to public consultation. They came to this decision because they believe the changes to the document are relatively minor and have been used to enhance the better understanding of the document itself. None of the changes that have been made have altered policy content, or the governance of the document.

4.2. Names of members and their organisations who sit on the COP Administration

Corrections working group:

Brian Hoy (Chair)	Electricity North West
Maryline Guinard	Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks
Neil Magrath	UK Power Networks
Luay Elia	ES Pipelines
Matt Richardson	Triconnex
Steve Gist	TUSC LTD
Calum Taylor	TUSC LTD
Colin Fletcher	G2 Energy
Ray Farrow (observer)	Customer Representative
Stephen Perry (observer)	Ofgem

4.3. The working group have looked at and agreed with the text changes proposed by SSEPD in the original submission.

4.4. The working group have separately worked through the Code of Practice document, highlighting further inconsistencies with numbering, incorrect references and omitted titles.

4.5. They have also made further changes to the document, which had been omitted in previous modifications. This included removing and adding additional text in relation to Modification 003 that had been approved and incorporated into the Code of Practice but some of the text in the Code of Practice had not been updated.

4.6. The working group has also gone further than the original modification, changing inconsistencies with referencing within the governance arrangements for the Code of Practice and making sure contact details are up to date.

4.7. The working group also updated the relevant objectives in the Code of Practice to reflect those in the Distribution Licence.

5. Legal Text Change

5.1. Please see the proposed changes to the legal text in Appendix One.

6. Implementation

6.1. The proposed changes to the Code of Practice will be implemented two days following any approval decision from Ofgem.

7. Evaluation against Code Objectives

7.1. The Rationale held against the Code of Practice Relevant Objectives Section 2.3.1:

‘a) facilitate competition in the market for new electricity distribution connections through:

- i) minimising, to the fullest extent reasonably practicable, the number and scope of Input Services which are only available from the DNO;
- ii) providing Input Services on an equivalent basis to all Connection Parties that operate in the Local Connections Markets;
- iii) harmonising, to the fullest extent reasonably practicable, the Input Services provided by Distribution Service Providers.

b) not distort, prevent or restrict competition in the market for new electricity distribution connections; and

c) facilitate compliance with the regulation and any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators.’

7.2. The purpose of this modification was to make corrections to missing headers, numbering and spelling mistakes with the purpose that it will present a clearer Code of Practice.

7.3. This removes ambiguity and adds clarity and will allow stakeholders to better understand the Code of Practice and allow the DNOs to fulfil their obligations to adhere to it.

7.4. This additional clarity will help to better achieve the objectives not to distort, prevent or restrict competition in the market for new electricity distribution connections.

8. Attachments

8.1. Appendix One: 0004 CiC Code of Practice - Legal Text Change Proposal

8.2. Appendix Two: 0004 CiC Code of Practice COP Administration Corrections May 2016 Modification Proposal Form