

Email: industrycodes@ofgem.gov.uk

Date: 26 January 2026

NOTICE SEEKING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FROM ANY PERSON INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CODE MANAGER CANDIDATE FOR THE ELECTRICITY COMMERCIAL CODE OR THE GAS NETWORK CODE.

The Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (the Authority)¹ is seeking expressions of interest pursuant to Regulation 3(5) of the Code Manager Selection Regulations 2024² from any persons interested in becoming a code manager candidate for the electricity commercial code or the gas network code.

Background

Under new powers created by the Energy Act 2023 ('the Act'), the Authority will be responsible for selecting code managers, leading to the potential grant of a code manager licence (as defined in section 7AC of the Gas Act 1986 and/or section 6(1)(g) of the Electricity Act 1989).³ Each code manager will be responsible for the governance of its respective designated code, which they will be obligated to do in an independent and impartial manner. They will also be responsible for facilitating the development of the codes in line with the policy priorities set out in our annual Strategic Direction Statement.⁴

We will have to exercise our discretionary power to award a code manager licence on a reasonable basis. In particular, section 187(1) of the Act makes provision for the selection of a code manager by the Authority on either a competitive basis (in accordance with regulations

¹ References to the "Authority", "Ofgem", "we", "us" and "our" are used interchangeably in this document. The Authority refers to GEMA, the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority. The Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (Ofgem) supports GEMA in its day-to-day work. This determination is made by or on behalf of GEMA.

² [The Code Manager Selection Regulations 2024](#)

³ See [Gas Act 1986](#) and [Electricity Act 1989](#) respectively.

⁴ See Section 190 of the Act

made by the Authority)⁵ or a non-competitive basis (in accordance with regulations made by the Secretary of State).⁶

Regulation 3(5) of the Code Manager Selection Regulations 2024 states that, before determining the basis of selection of a code manager in relation to a code, the Authority may seek expressions of interest from any person that we consider may become a candidate for selection as code manager.⁷ As set out in our [guidance on code manager selection](#), ('the Guidance'), the aim of this process would be to inform our decision on selection route by asking candidates to submit an eligibility form for us to consider, with our choice between competitive versus non-competitive selection based on the number of candidates that we determine to be eligible:

- where we determine that only one body is eligible, then we will proceed with selection on a non-competitive basis,
- where we determine that two or more bodies are eligible, then we will proceed with selection on a competitive basis,⁸ and
- where we determine that no body is either interested or eligible, then we will create and license a new special purpose vehicle on a non-competitive basis.

The eligibility assessment process

We are seeking expressions of interest from any person interested in becoming a code manager candidate for the electricity commercial code or the gas network code. The intention is for these codes to be created as part of the second phase of energy code reform,⁹ by consolidating the provisions of four existing codes into two:

- the electricity commercial code will be formed by consolidating the Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC) and Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement (DCUSA), and
- the gas network code will be formed by consolidating the Uniform Network Code (UNC) and Independent Gas Transporters' Uniform Network Code (IGT UNC).

If you are interested in being considered for either of these roles, the first step will be to complete and submit an eligibility assessment form to us. This form will provide you with an

⁵ [The Code Manager Selection \(Competitive\) Regulations 2025](#). These are the current regulations.

⁶ [The Code Manager Selection Regulations 2024](#). These are the current regulations.

⁷ [The Code Manager Selection Regulations 2024](#)

⁸ We may consider whether an alternative approach would lead to a more favourable outcome in that situation. This could involve the creation of an SPV or the selection of a particular body in combination with the use of Ofgem's powers under Schedule 12 or 13 of the Energy Act 2023, such as the ability to establish transfer schemes or modify pension arrangements.

⁹ Further information on both the phased approach to the implementation of energy code reform and our decisions on code consolidation can be found here: [Implementation of energy code reform: consultation decision](#).

opportunity to demonstrate whether you meet the relevant eligibility requirements, as set out in our Guidance:

- 1. **Basic information and expression of interest:** verification of relevant information about the candidate, such as their solvency history, any recent substantive company changes, licensing history, etc., plus a requirement for the candidate to express interest in the role.
- 2. **Suitability to hold a licence:** verification of whether the candidate is fit and proper to hold a licence, by considering any disclosure or adverse information brought to light in respect of any directors, major shareholders, persons in effective control of the Candidate, or any person with significant managerial responsibility.
- 3. **Conflicts of interest:** affirmation of the candidate’s intent to comply with relevant conflict-of-interest requirements in the draft code manager standard licence conditions (SLCs) or to meet the requirements with the possibility of Authority approved exceptions to the SLCs, where this would not constitute an undue risk of conflicts of interest.
- 4. **Relevant experience:** evaluation of whether the candidate has experience relevant to fulfilling the code manager role in key areas (ie, code administration, applying the relevant code’s objectives, project management, stakeholder management, and delivering projects within budget).

Further information on how to complete the eligibility assessment form, and the code manager role more generally, can be found in the [Guidance](#).

Next Steps

The expression of interest invitation will close on 20 March 2026. Any interested parties should complete and submit their eligibility forms to the following email address no later than 20 March 2026: industrycodes@ofgem.gov.uk. All responses will be treated as being confidential.

Ofgem will review each received eligibility assessment form and contact you with a decision regarding your eligibility. If we determine that your organisation is eligible to be considered for a code manager licence, we will invite you to engage in a full licensing assessment process. We will also publish a determination setting out whether your licensing assessment will be undertaken on a competitive or non-competitive basis.

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Heather Stewart

Duly authorised on behalf of the Authority

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