



Parties to the Distribution Code
and other interested parties

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Your Ref:
Our Ref:
Direct Dial: 020 7901 7347
Email: gareth.evans@ofgem.gov.uk

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Dear Colleague,

**Distribution Code: Changes to the Distribution Code and Engineering
Recommendation G83/1**

It has been brought to our attention that references to British Standards in our decision letter of 22 May 2008 could cause confusion. The decision we have made is in no way affected by this but we consider it important to clarify the relationship between the British Standards and G83/1-1.

The original drafting for Section 6.4 of ER G83/1-1 required the insulation between the AC and DC sides of the inverter to "meet the requirements for at least simple separation". However, "simple separation" was not a defined term in G83/1-1 and this insulation requirement was not consistent with the European standard EN 50438, which was in draft form at the time. It was decided to delay the finalisation of G83/1-1 until EN 50438 was in place as well as the BS enactment of it, BS EN 50438, "Requirements for the connection of micro-generators in parallel with public low-voltage distribution networks".

BS EN 50438 was published earlier this year. It contains a foreword that specifically addresses the level of insulation required between the AC and DC sides of an inverter as the BS requirement is an interpretation of the European requirement. ER G83/1-1, which comes into force on 1 June 2008, has been written to be consistent with the foreword to BS EN 50438.

ER G83/1-1 has therefore been drafted to harmonise its approach to earthing with BS EN 50438 by specifying the level of insulation required between the AC and DC sides of an inverter to "meet the requirements for at least simple separation" which is itself as defined in BS EN 60664-1.

This clarification has been drafted with the co-operation of Chair of the Distribution Code Review Panel and the Energy Networks Association.

Yours sincerely

Gareth Evans
Technical Adviser
Ofgem