



Un-metered Connections Customer Group

**A Specialist Interest Group of ASLEC - The
Association of Signals, Lighting and other
highway Electrical Contractors**

UCCG Feedback

- **DNO Unmetered Questionnaire**
- **DP DNO Cut-outs Survey Results**
- **Extension of Contestable Works**
- **AOB**
- **Summary of Priorities**

DNO Unmetered Questionnaire



- **Publication**

- October ASLEC website
- Distribute summary and detail to ASLEC/UCCG members
- Highway Electrical News article

- **UCCG Priorities**

- Fair and consistent service transfer limits (+ other tech limits)
- Fair and consistent “Audit” and “Trial” regimes
- G39 recognition of alternative providers

- **Update and repeat the survey every year (January)**

- Ofgem support and visibility of results

DNO DP Cut-out - Survey Summary

UCCG Survey of DNO approval of Double Pole DNO Street Lighting Cut-outs			
DNO	Type Currently Approved	Potential future approval	Initial Contractor Observations & Experience
CEN	No	No	CEN have used the TSS DP type cut-out extensively in Birmingham CC in the past and many remain on the network
CEUK	Yes	Yes	
WPD	No	No	
SP	No	Yes	
SSEPD	N/A	N/A	SSEPD's affiliate SEC have been installing the Lucy Double Pole Cutout SL DNO-DP 25A extensively on 3 of its PFI contracts within their Southern licenced areas.
EDFEN	No	N/A	EDF have used the Lucy SL DNO-DP 25A within recent years. EDF have been conducting a formal review of their policy position since May 2010 but are still unable to confirm their position. .
ENW	Yes	Yes	
Notes			
DNO ECSG representatives were asked to indicate their DNO's position on current approval and potential future approval, in an E-mail sent out on 8th July. EDFEN were first asked to offer approval of a DP cut-out on 23rd April. Both EDFEN and SSE have been asked to confirm their position on a number of occasions since the first request.			

DNO DP Cut-out - Objections

CN - As there is no requirement for double pole isolation we do not see any advantage in installing a double pole cut-outs into street furniture. We also feel that introducing another set of contact blades could increase the risk of failure and or loss of the neutral conductor. Based on these reasons we will not be approving this cut-out for use on a Central Networks distribution system.

WPD - We believe the Electricity safety Quality and Continuity Regulations 2002 prevent us from using a street furniture cut-out that has double pole isolation. Regulation 7-(1) states distributors and generators shall "take all reasonable precautions to ensure continuity of the supply neutral conductor" where the supply neutral conductor is defined as "the neutral conductor of a low voltage network which is or is intended to be connected with earth, but does not include any part of the neutral conductor on the consumers side of the supply terminals".

DNO DP Cut-out – Customer Choice



- **DNO inconsistency questionable**
 - Breach of ESQCR or not?
 - Is it more or less safe (PME)?
 - Industry standard compliant products?
- **Economic & Environmental benefit**
 - Reduces duplication of isolators in the column
 - Reduces impact on the environment
 - Can reduce cost to customers
 - Marginal cost/risk to the DNO
- **Should “all” unmetered customers be given the choice?**
 - Un-fair market restriction and barrier to competition?
 - Breach of SLC19 in some cases?

Extension of Competition

- **DNO Responses**
 - No response from CEUK & CN
 - ENW appear the only DNO ready to offer trials at LV
 - Feedback to late to consult UCCG
- **What more do DNO's wish to clarify & define?**
 - Few technical/process concerns at LV (unmetered)
 - LV network “operations” can be avoided initially
 - Other concerns focus around risk and liability
 - Should DNO “agreements” now be reviewed for gaps?
- **Lack of progress should be reflected in Competition Tests?**

- **ECGS Briefings and info from DNO's**
 - Little guidance offered to ICP's and Contractors
- **Connection Charge increases from 1st October (ECGS)**
 - Declaration of margin
- **Safe Live LV Jointing procedure for SL SWA terminations**
 - Avoids LV network and customer outages
 - Increases contestable works scope
 - Past DNO safe practices reviewed and shared
- **500W rule clarity and DNO consistency**

UCCG Priorities Summary



- **UCCG request ECSG & DNO's to assist with establishing:-**
 - Fair and consistent service transfer limits (+ other tech limits)
 - Fair and consistent “Audit” and “Trial” regimes
 - G39 recognition of alternative providers
 - DNO approved Double Pole (DP) SL cut-outs
 - Contestable UM connections to existing DNO LV mains
 - Safe Live LV Jointing procedure SWA terminations