

**To: All holders of an electricity distribution licence**

**Electricity Act 1989  
Section 11A(1)(b)**

**MODIFICATION OF THE STANDARD CONDITIONS OF ELECTRICITY  
DISTRIBUTION LICENCES GRANTED UNDER SECTION 6(1)(c) OF THE  
ELECTRICITY ACT 1989.**

Whereas –

1. Each of the companies to whom this document is addressed (a "Licence Holder") is the holder of an electricity distribution licence (a "Licence") granted or treated as granted under section 6(1)(c) of the Electricity Act 1989 ("the Act").

2. In accordance with section 11A(2) of the Act the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority ("the Authority") gave notice on 27 March 2013 ("the Notice") that it proposed to make modifications to the following conditions of the Licence and requiring any representations to the modifications to be made on or before 26 April 2013:

- Condition 21: The Distribution Code;
- Condition 22: Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement; and
- Condition 23: Master Registration Agreement.

3. In accordance with section 11A(4)(b)(ii) of the Act, the Authority gave such notice of its intention to make the modifications to the Secretary of State and has not received a direction not to make the modifications.

4. Prior to the close of the consultation period in respect of the Notice, the Authority received 5 responses. All non-confidential responses have been placed in the Ofgem library and on the Ofgem website.

5. The Authority has carefully considered all representations received in relation to the proposed modifications.

6. The reasons for making the licence modifications are to give effect to the Code Governance Review (Phase 2) final proposals as set out in the following document:

[Code Governance Review \(Phase 2\) final proposals: Ref 45/13](#)

7. The effect of the modifications will be to implement the Code Governance Review phase 2 final proposals into the governance procedures of the Distribution Code, Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement, and Master Registration Agreement.

8. Specific details on the reasons and effect of the modifications can be found in the attached Schedule 2.

9. The Authority considers it necessary to make a number of minor alterations to the modifications set out in the Notice. These alterations are highlighted in red in the attached Schedule 1. The reasons for any differences between the modifications set out in the Notice and the modifications set out in Schedule 1 are to correct typographical

and/or grammatical issues and to add clarity to the drafting. Specific details on the reasons for any differences are set out in the following document:

[Modification of gas and electricity licences to implement Code Governance Review \(Phase 2\) final proposals: Ref 87/13](#)

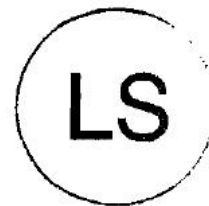
10. Where an application for permission to appeal the Authority's decision is made to the Competition Commission under section 11C of the Act, Rule 5.7 of the Competition Commission's Energy Licence Modification Appeals Rules requires the appellant to send notice setting out the matters required in Rule 5.2. The attached Schedule 3 provides a list of the relevant licence holders in relation to this modification. The meaning of 'relevant licence holder' is set out in section 11A of the Act.

**Now therefore**

In accordance with the powers contained in section 11A(1)(b) of the Act, the Authority hereby modifies the standard licence conditions for all electricity distribution licences in the manner specified in the attached Schedule 1. This decision will take effect on and from 5 August 2013.

This document constitutes notice of the reasons for the decision to modify the electricity distribution licences as required by section 49A of the Act.

**The Official Seal of the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority here affixed is authenticated by the signature of**



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**Declan Tomany  
Associate Partner Legal - Smarter Grids & Governance  
Duly authorised on behalf of the  
Gas and Electricity Markets Authority**

**7 June 2013**

**Schedule 1 – Modifications to the standard conditions of the  
electricity distribution licence**

## **Condition 21. The Distribution Code**

### **Licensee's obligation**

- 21.1 The licensee must take all steps within its power to ensure that the Distribution Code in force under this licence at 31 May 2008 remains a code approved by the Authority that complies with each of the following requirements.
- 21.2 The first requirement is that the Distribution Code must cover all material technical aspects relating to connections to and the operation and use of the licensee's Distribution System or (so far as is relevant to such operation and use) the operation of electric lines and electrical plant connected to that system.
- 21.3 The second requirement, which is without prejudice to the first requirement, is that the Distribution Code must make express provision for the matters referred to in paragraphs 21.5 to 21.7A.
- 21.4 The third requirement is that the Distribution Code, so far as is consistent with the first two requirements, must be designed so as to better facilitate the achievement of the Applicable Distribution Code Objectives, which are to:
- (a) permit the development, maintenance, and operation of an efficient, co-ordinated, and economical system for the distribution of electricity; and
  - (b) facilitate competition in the generation and supply of electricity; and
  - (c) efficiently discharge the obligations imposed upon distribution licensees by the distribution licences and comply with the Regulation and any relevant legally binding decision of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators.

### **Specific contents of the Distribution Code**

- 21.5 The Distribution Code must include a Distribution Planning and Connection Code (see paragraph 21.6) and a Distribution Operating Code (see paragraph 21.7).
- 21.6 The Distribution Planning and Connection Code must contain:
- (a) planning conditions that specify the technical and design criteria and procedures that are to be applied by the licensee in the planning and development of its Distribution System and taken into account by persons having a connection or seeking a connection to that system in the planning and development of their own plant and systems; and
  - (b) connection conditions that specify the technical, design, and operational criteria to be complied with by any person having a connection or seeking a connection to the licensee's Distribution System.
- 21.7 The Distribution Operating Code must specify the conditions under which the licensee must operate its Distribution System, and under which persons must operate their own plant and systems in relation to that system, so far as is necessary to protect the security, quality of supply, and safe operation of the licensee's Distribution System under both normal and abnormal operating conditions.

#### **21.7A The Distribution Code must provide for:**

- (a) a panel body, as specified in the Distribution Code (the "panel"), whose functions shall include the matters required by this condition and as set out in the Distribution

Code and any ancillary documents; and

- (b) ~~arrangements for~~ a secretarial or administrative person or body, as specified in the Distribution Code, to perform the role of code administrator (the “code administrator”). In addition to any powers, duties, or functions set out in the Distribution Code and any ancillary documents, the code administrator shall:
- (i) together with other code administrators, publish, review, and (where appropriate) amend from time to time the Code of Practice approved by the Authority (any amendments to the Code of Practice are to be approved by the Authority);
  - (ii) facilitate the procedures for making a modification to the Distribution Code;
  - (iii) have regard to, and in particular (to the extent relevant) be consistent with the principles contained in, the Code of Practice; and
  - (iv) provide assistance, insofar as is reasonably practicable and on reasonable request, to Authorised Electricity Operators (including, in particular, Small Participants) and, to the extent relevant, consumer representatives that request the code administrator’s assistance in relation to the Distribution Code including, but not limited to, assistance with:
    - understanding the operation of the Distribution Code;
    - their involvement in, and representation during, the modification procedure processes (including, but not limited to, code panel and/or workgroup meetings);
    - accessing information relating to modification proposals and/or modifications.

### **Procedure for ~~revising~~ modifying the Distribution Code**

21.8 The licensee must (in consultation with other Authorised Electricity Operators likely to be materially affected) periodically review (including at the Authority’s request) the Distribution Code and its implementation.

21.8A The review undertaken under paragraph 21.8 must

- (a) where the Authority reasonably considers it necessary to comply with or implement the Regulation and/or any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators, proceed in accordance with any timetable(s) directed by the Authority under this paragraph in relation to the progress of the review and/or implementation of any modifications to the Distribution Code; and
- (b) involve an evaluation of whether any ~~revision or revisions~~ modification or modifications to the Distribution Code would better facilitate the achievement of the Applicable Distribution Code Objectives and, where the impact is likely to be material, this must include an assessment of the quantifiable impact of any such ~~revision~~ modification on greenhouse gas emissions, to be conducted in accordance with any such guidance (on the treatment of carbon costs and evaluation of greenhouse gas emissions) as may be issued by the Authority from time to time.

21.9 After completing any such review, the licensee must send to the Authority:

- (a) a report on the outcome of the review conducted in accordance with paragraphs 21.8 and 21.8A;
- (b) a statement of any proposed ~~revisions~~ modifications to the Distribution Code that the licensee (having regard to the outcome of the review) reasonably thinks are appropriate for the continuing achievement of the objectives referred to in paragraph 21.4 and a detailed explanation of the reasons for this assessment; and
- (c) any written representations or objections from Authorised Electricity Operators (including any proposals by such operators for ~~revisions~~ modifications to the Distribution Code that have not been accepted by the licensee in the course of the review) that were received during the consultation process and have not been withdrawn.

21.10 ~~Revisions~~ Modifications to the Distribution Code that are proposed by the licensee and sent to the Authority under paragraph 21.9(b) must not be implemented without the Authority's approval.

21.11 The Authority (having regard to any representations or objections referred to in paragraph 21.9(c) and after any further consultation that it considers appropriate) may give a direction to the licensee that requires it to ~~revise~~ modify the Distribution Code in such manner as may be specified in the direction and the licensee ~~shall~~ must forthwith comply with any such directions.

21.11A The procedures for modifying the Distribution Code must provide:

- (a) for the revision and resubmission of the report provided for under paragraph 21.9(a) upon, and in accordance with, a direction issued to the licensee by the Authority where the Authority determines that it cannot properly form an opinion on the approval of the modification proposal;
- (b) that proposals for the modification of the Distribution Code falling within the scope of a Significant Code Review may not be made during the Significant Code Review Phase, except:
  - (i) where the Authority determines that the modification proposal may be made, having taken into account (among other things) the urgency of the subject matter of the proposal; or
  - (ii) at the direction of the Authority;
- (c) that, where a modification proposal is made during a Significant Code Review Phase, the licensee must:
  - (i) unless exempted by the Authority, notify the Authority as soon as practicable of:
    - any representations received in relation to the relevance of the Significant Code Review; and
    - the licensee's assessment of whether the proposal falls within the scope of the Significant Code Review and its reasons for that assessment; and
  - (ii) if the Authority so directs, not proceed with the modification proposal until the Significant Code Review Phase has ended.

21.11B If, within twenty-eight (28) days after the Authority has published its Significant Code Review conclusions, the Authority issues to the licensee:

- (a) Directions, the licensee must comply with those Directions;

(b) a statement that no Directions under sub-paragraph (a) will be issued in relation to the Distribution Code, the licensee must treat the Significant Code Review Phase as ended:

(c) neither Directions under sub-paragraph (a) nor a statement under sub-paragraph (b), the Significant Code Review Phase will be deemed to have ended.

The Authority's published conclusions and Directions to the licensee will not fetter any voting rights of the members of the ~~Distribution Code~~ panel or the procedures informing the report described at sub-paragraph 21.9(a).

### **Availability of the Distribution Code**

21.12 The licensee must give or send a copy of the Distribution Code (as from time to time revised ~~modified~~):

- (a) to the Authority; and
- (b) to any person who requests it.

21.13 The licensee may make a charge for any copy of the Distribution Code given or sent under paragraph 21.12(b) but this must not exceed the amount specified in Directions issued by the Authority for the purposes of this condition generally, based on its estimate of the licensee's reasonable costs of providing the copy.

### **Performance of obligations**

21.14 The licensee must fulfil its obligations under this condition in conjunction and co-operation with all other Electricity Distributors and in accordance with such arrangements for that purpose as are approved by the Authority.

21.15 Without prejudice to any rights of approval, veto or direction the Authority may have, the licensee ~~shall~~ must use its best endeavours to ensure that procedures are in place that facilitate its compliance with the requirements of this condition including, but not limited to, modifying the Distribution Code and any ancillary documents where necessary no later than 31 December 2013.

### **Interpretation**

21.16 For the purposes of this condition:

**Code of Practice** means the Code Administration Code of Practice approved by the Authority and:

- (a) developed and maintained by the code administrators in existence from time to time; and
- (b) amended subject to the Authority's approval from time to time; and
- (c) re-published from time to time.

**Directions** means, in the context of sub-paragraph 21.11B(a), direction(s) issued following publication of Significant Code Review conclusions which will contain:

- (a) instructions to the licensee to make (and not withdraw, without the Authority's prior consent) a modification proposal;
- (b) the timetable for the licensee to comply with the Authority's ~~e~~Direction(s); and
- (c) the Authority's reasons for its ~~e~~Direction(s).

**Significant Code Review**

means a review of one or more matters which the Authority considers likely to:

- (a) relate to the Distribution Code (either on its own or in conjunction with any other industry code(s)); and
- (b) be of particular significance in relation to its principal objective and/or general duties (under section 3A of the Act), statutory functions and/or relevant obligations arising under EU law; and
- (~~e~~) concerning which the Authority has issued a notice to the ~~Distribution Code~~ licensee (among others, as appropriate) stating:
  - (i) that the review will constitute a Significant Code Review;
  - (ii) the start date of the Significant Code Review; and
  - (iii) the matters that will fall within the scope of the review.

**Significant Code Review Phase**

means the period commencing on the start date of a Significant Code Review as stated by the Authority, and ending either:

- (a) on the date on which the Authority issues a statement that no Directions will be issued in relation to the Distribution Code; or
- (b) if no statement is made, on the date on which the licensee has made a modification proposal in accordance with Directions issued by the Authority; or
- (c) immediately, if neither a statement nor Directions are issued by the Authority within (and including) twenty-eight (28) days from the Authority's publication of its Significant Code Review conclusions.



**Small Participant** means:

- (a) a generator, supplier, distributor, or new entrant to the electricity market in Great Britain that can demonstrate to the code administrator that it is resource-constrained and, therefore, in particular need of assistance;
- (b) any other participant or class of participant that the code administrator considers to be in particular need of assistance; and
- (c) a participant or class of participant that the Authority has notified the code administrator as being in particular need of assistance.

## **Condition 22. Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement**

### **Licensee's obligation**

- 22.1 The licensee must take all steps within its power to ensure that the Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement ("the DCUSA") in force under this licence at 31 May 2008 remains an agreement that:
- (a) is designed to facilitate achievement of the Applicable DCUSA Objectives set out in Part A of this condition;
  - (b) conforms to the requirements of Parts B to D of this condition in relation to the ~~amendment~~ modification of the DCUSA; and
  - (c) makes express provision for the matters described in the Schedule of DCUSA Contents ("the Schedule") set out at Appendix 1, which is part of this condition.

### **Part A: Applicable DCUSA Objectives**

- 22.2 The Applicable DCUSA Objectives are these:
- (a) the development, maintenance and operation by the licensee of an efficient, co-ordinated, and economical Distribution System;
  - (b) the facilitation of effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity and (so far as is consistent with that) the promotion of such competition in the sale, distribution, and purchase of electricity;
  - (c) the efficient discharge by the licensee of the obligations imposed upon it by this licence;
  - (d) the promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the DCUSA arrangements;
  - (e) 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; and
  - (f) in relation to the Common Distribution Charging Methodology, the EHV Distribution Charging Methodology or the Common Connection Charging Methodology, the Applicable Charging Methodology Objectives listed in Part B of Standard Licence Condition 22A.

### **Part B: Principles for making an ~~amendment~~ a modification to the DCUSA**

- 22.3 Any proposals to ~~amend~~ modify the DCUSA must be designed to better facilitate the achievement of the Applicable DCUSA Objectives.
- 22.4 The DCUSA may be ~~amended~~ modified at any time in accordance with such procedures (including procedures for ~~amending~~ modifying those procedures) as may be Specified and are in conformity with the principles set out in paragraph 22.5.
- 22.5 Those principles are that:
- (a) proposals for the ~~amendment~~ modification of the DCUSA may be made by any Electricity Distributor, any other party to the DCUSA, the Authority (in relation only to ~~amendments~~ modifications which it reasonably considers are necessary to comply with or implement the Regulation and/or any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of

Energy Regulators), the Consumer Council, the GB System Operator, and such other persons or bodies as may be designated by the Authority;

- (b) the ~~amendment~~ modification procedures for dealing with any such proposal must comply with the requirements of Part C below;
- (c) the making and implementation of any ~~amendment~~ modification of the DCUSA must comply with the provisions of Part D below;
- (d) ~~those parts of the DCUSA that are Specified pursuant to paragraph A3(g) of the Schedule may not be amended without the Authority's approval, which must be sought in accordance with the appropriate procedures set out in the DCUSA~~ modifications to the DCUSA require Authority approval, which must be sought in accordance with the appropriate procedures set out in the DCUSA, except for modifications made pursuant to paragraph 22.9F ("the self-governance route");
- (e) ~~amendment~~ modification proposals made by the Authority or the licensee in accordance with paragraphs 22.5(a) and 22.5(f)(i) respectively are:
  - (i) to be accepted into the DCUSA ~~amendment~~ modification procedures by the panel;
  - (ii) where they are raised by the licensee, not to be withdrawn without the Authority's prior consent; and
  - (iii) to proceed in accordance with any timetable(s) directed by the Authority in accordance with paragraph 22.5(f); and
- (f) the licensee and (where applicable) the panel are to comply with any direction(s) issued by the Authority under this paragraph setting and/or amending a timetable (in relation to ~~an amendment~~ a modification proposal which the Authority reasonably considers is necessary to comply with or implement the Regulation and/or any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators) for the:
  - (i) licensee to raise ~~an amendment~~ a modification proposal; and/or
  - (ii) completion of each of the procedural steps outlined in Part C, to the extent that they are relevant; and/or
  - (iii) implementation of ~~an amendment~~ a modification proposal.

### **Part C: Procedures for making ~~an amendment~~ a modification to the DCUSA**

- 22.6 The procedures contained in the DCUSA for the making of ~~amendments~~ modifications to the DCUSA (~~"the procedures"~~) must have as their objective the achievement of the matters set out in the following provisions of this Part C.
- 22.7 The procedures must ensure that every proposed ~~amendment~~ modification is brought to the attention of all parties mentioned in or pursuant to paragraph 22.5(a).
- 22.8 ~~They~~ The procedures must ensure that any and all representations made in respect of a proposed ~~amendment~~ modification are able to be properly considered by the relevant decision makers.
- 22.9 ~~They~~ The procedures must ensure that the question of whether any proposed ~~amendment~~ modification better facilitates the achievement of the Applicable DCUSA Objectives is able to be properly evaluated.

22.9A They The procedures must ensure that the evaluation required under paragraph 22.9 in respect of the Applicable DCUSA Objective(s) includes, where the impact is likely to be material, an assessment of the impact of the proposed ~~amendment~~ modification on greenhouse gas emissions, to be conducted in accordance with any such guidance (on the treatment of carbon costs and evaluation of the impact on greenhouse gas emissions) as may be issued by the Authority from time to time.

22.9B The procedures must provide for the proper evaluation of the suitability of the self-governance route for any particular modification proposal in accordance with the criteria Specified pursuant to paragraph A3(f) of the Schedule.

22.9C. The procedures must provide that proposals for the modification of the DCUSA falling within the scope of a Significant Code Review may not be made during the Significant Code Review Phase, except:

(a) where the Authority determines that the modification proposal may be made, having taken into account (among other things) the urgency of the subject matter of the proposal; or

(b) at the direction of the Authority.

22.9D The procedures must provide that, where a modification proposal is made during a Significant Code Review Phase, the panel shall:

(a) unless exempted by the Authority, notify the Authority as soon as practicable of:

(i) any representations received in relation to the relevance of the Significant Code Review; and

(ii) the panel's assessment of whether the proposal falls within the scope of the Significant Code Review and its reasons for that assessment; and

(b) if the Authority so directs, not proceed with the modification proposal until the Significant Code Review Phase has ended.

22.9E If, within twenty-eight (28) days after the Authority has published its Significant Code Review conclusions, the Authority issues to the licensee:

(a) Directions, the licensee must comply with those Directions;

(b) a statement that no Directions under sub-paragraph (a) will be issued in relation to the DCUSA, the licensee must treat the Significant Code Review Phase as ended;

(c) neither Directions under sub-paragraph (a) nor a statement under sub-paragraph (b) the Significant Code Review Phase will be deemed to have ended.

The Authority's published conclusions and Directions to the licensee will not fetter any voting rights of DCUSA parties or members of the panel, or the procedures informing the modification report described at paragraph 22.10.

22.9F The procedures must provide that modifications to the DCUSA may be made pursuant to this paragraph 22.9F (the "self-governance route") where:

(a)

(i) in the view of the panel, the modification proposal meets all of the criteria Specified pursuant to paragraph A3(f) of the Schedule; or

- (ii) the Authority has determined that the criteria Specified pursuant to paragraph A3(f) of the Schedule are satisfied and the modification proposal is suitable for the self-governance route; and
- (b) unless otherwise exempted by the Authority, the panel has sent copies of any consultation responses to the Authority at least seven (7) days before the modification report is approved by the panel; and
- (c) the Authority has not directed that the Authority's approval is required prior to the modification report being approved by the panel; and
- (d) the DCUSA parties have determined, in accordance with paragraph 22.12A, that the modification proposal or any alternative should be implemented on the basis that it would, as compared with the then existing provisions of the DCUSA, better facilitate the achievement of the applicable DCUSA objective(s); and
- (e)
  - (i) no appeal has been raised up to and including 10 working days after the publication of the parties' determination pursuant to paragraphs 22.12A and 22.13 in respect of such a modification proposal in accordance with paragraph 22.9G; or
  - (ii) an appeal has been raised in respect of such a modification proposal in accordance with paragraph 22.9G and the Authority has not quashed the DCUSA parties' determination made pursuant to paragraphs 22.12A(a) and 22.13 (and either remitted the relevant modification proposal back to the parties for reconsideration or taken the decision on the relevant modification proposal itself following the appeal).

22.9G The procedures must provide that those persons ~~set out at mentioned in or pursuant to~~ paragraph 22.5(a) may appeal to the Authority the approval or rejection of a modification proposal determined pursuant to 22.9F, provided the appeal has been made up to and including 10 working days after the publication of the parties' determination pursuant to paragraphs 22.12A and 22.13, and in accordance with the procedures specified in the DCUSA and, in the opinion of the Authority:

- (a)
  - (i) the appealing party is likely to be unfairly prejudiced by the implementation or non-implementation of that modification proposal; or
  - (ii) the appeal is on the grounds that:
    - (1) in the case of implementation, the modification may not better facilitate the achievement of at least one of the Applicable DCUSA Objectives; or
    - (2) in the case of non-implementation, the modification proposal may better facilitate the achievement of at least one of the Applicable DCUSA Objectives; and

(b) the appeal is not brought for reasons that are trivial or vexatious, nor does the appeal have no reasonable prospect of success.

22.9H. The procedures must provide that:

(a) where an appeal has been raised in respect of a modification proposal in accordance with paragraph 22.9G, that modification proposal shall be treated in accordance with any decision and/or direction of the Authority following that appeal; and

(b) if the Authority quashes the parties' determination pursuant to paragraphs 22.12A(a) and 22.13 and takes the decision on the relevant modification proposal itself following an appeal in accordance with paragraph 22.9G, the parties' determination of that modification proposal pursuant to paragraphs 22.12A(a) and 22.13 shall be treated as a recommendation pursuant to paragraphs 22.12A(b) and 22.13.

22.10 ~~They~~ The procedures must ensure that ~~an amendment~~ a modification report is prepared in such manner and has all such contents as may be Specified, including:

(a) a proposed implementation date either:

(i) in accordance with any direction(s) issued by the Authority under paragraph 22.5(f)(iii); or

(ii) where no direction has been issued by the Authority under paragraph 22.5(f)(iii), that would enable any proposed ~~amendment~~ modification to take effect as soon as practicable after the decision to implement it has been reached, taking into account the complexity, importance, and urgency of that ~~amendment~~ modification ~~and~~;

(b) a summary of and copies of all submissions made in respect of the proposed ~~amendment~~ modification; and

(c) an assessment of the extent to which the proposed modification would better facilitate achieving the Applicable DCUSA Objectives and a detailed explanation of the reasons for that assessment (such assessment to include, where applicable, an assessment of the quantifiable impact of the proposal on greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with paragraph 22.9A);

22.11 ~~They~~ The procedures must ensure that the proposed implementation date may be altered with the consent of or as directed by the Authority.

22.12 ~~They~~ The procedures must ensure that parties to the DCUSA, ~~after~~ are able to considering the ~~amendment~~ modification report prepared in accordance with paragraph 22.10 and whether the ~~amendment~~ modification would, as compared with the existing provisions of the DCUSA, better facilitate the achievement of the Applicable DCUSA Objectives.

22.12A The procedures must ensure that parties to the DCUSA, having regard to whether the modification would, as compared with the existing provisions of the DCUSA, better facilitate the achievement of the Applicable DCUSA Objectives, are able to vote for:

(a) the implementation or rejection of the proposed ~~amendment~~ modification, in the case of a proposal ~~to amend any part of the DCUSA that is to be determined in accordance with paragraph 22.9F not Specified pursuant to paragraph A3(g) of the Schedule~~; or

- (b) a recommendation to the Authority to approve or reject the proposed ~~amendment~~ modification, in the case of a proposal to ~~amend any part of the DCUSA that requires Authority approval. Specified pursuant to paragraph A3(g) of the Schedule.~~
- 22.13 ~~They~~ The procedures must ensure that all votes cast pursuant to paragraph 22.12A are compiled so that the ~~DCUSA Ppanel established in accordance with paragraph A3(d) of the Schedule~~ may take such steps as are necessary to facilitate the implementation of any proposed ~~amendment-modification~~ or (as the case may be) to put forward a recommendation to the Authority.
- 22.13A ~~They~~ The procedures must ensure that completion of each of the procedural steps outlined in this Part C, to the extent that they are relevant, is in accordance with any timetable(s) directed by the Authority under paragraph 22.5(f).
- 22.13B The procedures must provide for the revision and resubmission of the modification report prepared in accordance with paragraph 22.10 (and submitted to the Authority pursuant to the procedures described in Part C of this condition) upon, and in accordance with, a direction issued to the panel by the Authority where the Authority determines that it cannot properly form an opinion on the approval of the modification proposal.
- 22.13C The procedures for the modification of the DCUSA must be consistent with the principles set out in the Code of Practice, to the extent that they are relevant.

#### **Part D: Implementation of ~~an amendment~~ a modification to the DCUSA**

- 22.14 No ~~amendment-modification~~ of the DCUSA may be made unless:
- (a) the parties to the DCUSA have voted, pursuant to paragraph 22.12A(a), in favour of the ~~amendment-modification~~ described in the relevant ~~amendment-modification~~ report; or
  - (b) the Authority, having had regard to the Applicable DCUSA Objectives, directs the licensee, in conjunction with every other Electricity Distributor, to ~~amend~~ modify the DCUSA in such manner as is stated in that direction following the making of a recommendation to the Authority by the parties to the DCUSA pursuant to paragraph 22.12A(b).

#### **Part E: Interpretation**

- 22.15 For the purposes of this condition:
- (a) ~~“amendment”~~ “modification” must be read in accordance with the meaning given to the term ~~“modification”~~ in section 111 of the Act, and any related expressions are to be read accordingly; and
  - (b) words and expressions appearing in Appendix 1 that are defined under any provision of the DCUSA have the meaning given by, or are to be read in accordance with, that provision.

**Specified** means specified in the DCUSA.

**Code of Practice** means the Code Administration Code of Practice approved by the Authority and:

- (a) developed and maintained by the code administrators in existence from time to time; and
- (b) amended subject to the Authority's approval from time to time; and
- (c) re-published from time to time.

**Directions**

means, in the context of sub-paragraph 22.9E(a), Direction(s) issued following publication of Significant Code Review conclusions, which will contain:

- (a) instructions to the licensee to make (and not withdraw, without the Authority's prior consent) a modification proposal;
- (b) the timetable for the licensee to comply with the Authority's eDirection(s); and
- (c) the Authority's reasons for its eDirection(s).

**Significant Code Review**

means a review of one or more matters which the Authority considers likely to:

- (a) relate to the DCUSA (either on its own or in conjunction with any other industry code(s)); and
- (b) be of particular significance in relation to its principal objective and/or general duties (under section 3A of the Act), statutory functions and/or relevant obligations arising under EU law;

and concerning which the Authority has issued a notice to the DCUSA parties (among others, as appropriate) stating:

- (i) that the review will constitute a Significant Code Review;
- (ii) the start date of the Significant Code Review; and
- (iii) the matters that will fall within the scope of the review.

**Significant Code Review Phase**

means the period commencing on the start date of a Significant Code Review as stated by the Authority, and ending either:



- (a) on the date on which the Authority issues a statement that no Directions will be issued in relation to the DCUSA; or
- (b) if no statement is made, on the date on which the licensee has made a modification proposal in accordance with Directions issued by the Authority; or
- (c) immediately, if neither a statement nor Directions are issued by the Authority within (and including) twenty-eight (28) days from the Authority's publication of its Significant Code Review conclusions.

**Small Participant** means:

- (a) a generator, supplier, distributor, or new entrant to the electricity market in Great Britain that can demonstrate to the code administrator that it is resource-constrained and, therefore, in particular need of assistance;
- (b) any other participant or class of participant that the code administrator considers to be in particular need of assistance; and
- (c) a participant or class of participant that the Authority has notified the code administrator as being in particular need of assistance.

22.16 Without prejudice to any rights of approval, veto, or direction the Authority may have, the licensee shall must use its best endeavours to ensure that procedures are in place that facilitate its compliance with the requirements of this condition including, but not limited to, modifying the DCUSA where necessary no later than 31 December 2013.

22.167 Appendix 1 follows immediately below.

### **Appendix 1: Schedule of DCUSA Contents**

A1. In accordance with paragraph 22.1(c), the matters for which the DCUSA must make express provision are set out in the following paragraphs of this Schedule.

#### **Matters of a commercial nature**

A2. The DCUSA must include all such material terms, procedures, and arrangements of a commercial nature as relate to the use of the licensee's Distribution System and (where appropriate) to connections to that system, and in particular must make express provision for the following matters:

- (a) Conditions (including as to the provision of credit cover) that are to apply to any person in respect of the commencement, continuation, or termination of use of the licensee's

Distribution System by or on behalf of that person (“the user”), and obligations owed by the licensee to the user in relation to such use.

- (b) Terms, arrangements, and procedures that are to apply or to be available to the user in respect of the payment of the charges due on either an individual or an aggregated basis to the licensee from the user for use of the licensee’s Distribution System.
- (c) Terms, arrangements, and procedures that are to apply or to be available to the user in respect of such activities or works (including the energisation, de-energisation, or re-energisation of Entry Points and Exit Points) as may be carried out by or on behalf of the user on the licensee’s Distribution System.
- (d) Terms, arrangements, and procedures that are to apply or to be available to the user in respect of the activities of system demand control and revenue protection, the installation and maintenance of Metering Equipment, and the provision of metering data and other relevant information arising from use of the licensee’s Distribution System.
- (e) Terms that provide (i) for the circumstances in which, in relation to the use of or connection to the licensee’s Distribution System, a party’s liability for any contravention of the provisions of the DCUSA may be restricted, and (ii) for the extent to which and the circumstances in which such liability will otherwise attach to that party in respect of any claims against it.

### **Governance and administration**

A3. Without prejudice to any of the matters set out in paragraph A2, the DCUSA must also include:

- (a) Terms for the creation of an agreement to which the licensee, every other Electricity Distributor, and any other Authorised Electricity Operator (not being an Electricity Distributor, and so far as the DCUSA is applicable to it) must be a party on such terms and conditions of accession as may be Specified (“the DCUSA Accession Agreement”).
  - (b) Provisions for the referral for determination by the Authority of any dispute arising as to whether a person seeking to be admitted as a party to the DCUSA Accession Agreement has fulfilled any such accession conditions.
  - (c) Terms that provide for the licensee and such other parties to the DCUSA Accession Agreement as may be Specified to be contractually bound by some or all of the provisions of the DCUSA.
  - (d) Arrangements for establishing and maintaining, in accordance with such procedures for appointment or election as may be Specified, a panel (“the DCUSA Ppanel”) which is to be responsible, by way of such proceedings as may be Specified, for the governance and administration of the DCUSA and whose members are to be required as a condition of appointment or election to act independently and not as delegates.
  - (e) Arrangements for the establishment and funding of a secretariat that is able to service the DCUSA Ppanel to such extent and in respect of such matters as may be Specified.
- (eA) Arrangements for a secretarial or administrative person or body, as specified in the DCUSA, to perform the role of code administrator (the “code administrator”). In addition to any power, duties, or functions set out in the DCUSA, the code administrator shall:
- (i) together with other code administrators, publish, review, and (where appropriate) amend from time to time the Code of Practice approved by the Authority (any amendments to the Code of Practice are to be approved by the Authority):

- (ii) facilitate the procedures for making a modification to the DCUSA;
- (iii) have regard to, and in particular (to the extent relevant) be consistent with the principles contained in, the Code of Practice; and
- (iv) provide assistance, insofar as is reasonably practicable and on reasonable request, to parties (including, in particular, Small Participants) and, to the extent relevant, consumer representatives that request the code administrator's assistance in relation to the DCUSA including, but not limited to, assistance with:
  - drafting a modification proposal;
  - understanding the operation of the DCUSA;
  - their involvement in, and representation during, the modification procedure processes (including, but not limited to, panel and/or workgroup meetings);
  - accessing information relating to modification proposals and/or modifications.
- (f) Such criteria as are Specified for the ~~amendment-modification~~ of the DCUSA ~~without the Authority's approval~~ Procedures for the amendment, in accordance with Parts B to D of this condition, of the DCUSA as are Specified to be capable of being amended ~~without the Authority's approval~~.
- (g) Provisions by virtue of which such parts of the DCUSA as may be Specified are not to be capable of being amended without the Authority's prior approval, and procedures for seeking such approval. ~~Not used~~

A3A. ~~Amendment-Modification~~ proposals raised by the Authority or the licensee under paragraphs 22.5(a) and 22.5(f)(i) respectively and/or any ~~amendment-modification~~ proposal in respect of which the Authority has issued a direction(s) under paragraph 22.5(f) require Authority approval.

#### **Other matters to be included**

- A4. Without prejudice to any of the matters set out in paragraphs A2 and A3, the DCUSA must also include:
- (a) Provision for a copy of DCUSA to be supplied to any person who requests it, upon payment of an amount not exceeding the reasonable costs of making and supplying that copy.
  - (b) Provision for information about the operation of any of the DCUSA arrangements to be supplied on request to the Authority or to be published by it or by the ~~DCUSA-P~~panel (having particular regard to the provisions of section 105 of the Utilities Act 2000).
  - (c) Provision for the ~~DCUSA-P~~panel to be able to secure the compliance of any party to the DCUSA Accession Agreement with any of the requirements of sub-paragraphs (a) and (b).
  - (d) Provision for such other matters as may be appropriate, having regard to the requirement for the DCUSA to be maintained as a document designed to facilitate achievement of the Applicable DCUSA Objectives.

## Condition 23. Master Registration Agreement

### Licensee's obligation

23.1 The licensee, in conjunction and co-operation with all other Electricity Distributors, must take all steps within its power to ensure that the Master Registration Agreement ("the MRA") in force under this licence at 31 May 2008 remains an agreement that conforms to the requirements of:

- (a) paragraph 23.2 in respect of its contractual constitution; and
- (b) paragraph 23.3 in respect of its contents.

### Constitution of the MRA

23.2 The ~~Master Registration Agreement~~ MRA must be an agreement made between:

- (a) on the one part, the licensee and all other Electricity Distributors; and
- (b) on the other part:
  - (i) all Electricity Suppliers (or their agents) that require the provision of Metering Point Administration Services from at least one Electricity Distributor, and
  - (ii) such other persons as are, for Settlement Purposes, appropriate parties to the agreement.

### Contents of the MRA

23.3 The ~~Master Registration Agreement~~ MRA must comprise:

- (a) terms for the provision of Metering Point Administration Services in accordance with the requirements of standard condition 18 (Provision of and charges for Metering Point Administration Services);
- (b) provisions to facilitate, and procedures and practices to be followed by Electricity Suppliers in relation to, changes of Electricity Supplier in respect of any premises;
- (c) the Data Transfer Catalogue, being a catalogue of definitions, flows, and forms of such data as may require to be transferred by or to parties to the ~~Master Registration Agreement~~ MRA, between users of the Central Charge Database, or between any persons for Settlement Purposes or for any related purposes;
- (d) arrangements for the ~~variation~~ modification of the ~~Master Registration Agreement~~ MRA following consultation with the parties, or representatives of the parties, to that agreement;
- (e) provisions (which must require the Authority's approval) by virtue of which the whole or specified parts of the ~~Master Registration Agreement~~ MRA are not to be capable of ~~variation~~ modification without the Authority's approval;
- (f) such other matters as are or may be appropriate for the development, maintenance, and operation of an efficient, co-ordinated, and economical system for the supply of electricity and for the purpose of facilitating competition in electricity supply; and
- (g) provisions to facilitate, and procedures and practices to be followed in relation to, the establishment, operation, and maintenance of the Central Charge Database.

23.4. The ~~Master Registration Agreement MRA~~ must be compliant with the Regulation and any relevant decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators.

23.5 The arrangements referred to in paragraph 23.3(d) ~~shall~~ **must** provide:

- (a) for proposals for the ~~variation~~ modification of the ~~Master Registration Agreement MRA~~ to be made by the Authority (in relation only to ~~variations~~ modifications which it reasonably considers are necessary to comply with or implement the Regulation and/or any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators);
- (b) for ~~variation~~ modification proposals made by the Authority or the licensee in accordance with paragraphs 23.5(a) and 23.5(c)(i) respectively:
  - (i) to be accepted into the ~~Master Registration Agreement MRA~~ variation modification procedures by the ~~committee panel~~;
  - (ii) where they are raised by the licensee, not to be withdrawn without the Authority's prior consent; and
  - (iii) to proceed in accordance with paragraph 23.5(c);
- (c) for compliance by the licensee and (where applicable) the ~~committee panel~~ with any direction(s) issued by the Authority under this paragraph setting and/or amending a timetable (in relation to a ~~variation~~ modification proposal which the Authority reasonably considers is necessary to comply with or implement the Regulation and/or any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators) for the:
  - (i) licensee to raise a ~~variation~~ modification proposal; and/or
  - (ii) completion of each of the procedural steps outlined in the direction, to the extent that they are relevant; and/or
  - (iii) implementation of a ~~variation~~ modification.
- (d) for parties to the MRA, and any such other persons as may be specified in the code, to appeal against any decision to implement or reject a proposed modification of the MRA, which does not require the Authority's approval, to the Authority for determination;
- (e) for a modification report to be prepared in such manner and with all such contents as specified in the MRA, which shall include an assessment of the proposed modification in reference to whether, and if so how, it facilitates the requirements of this condition and a detailed explanation of the reasons for that assessment;
- (f) where the proposed modification requires Authority approval in accordance with the provisions of the MRA, for the revision and resubmission of the modification report upon, and in accordance with, a direction issued to the panel by the Authority where the Authority determines that it cannot properly form an opinion on the approval of the modification proposal;
- (g) that proposals for the modification of the MRA falling within the scope of a Significant Code Review may not be made during the Significant Code Review Phase, except:
  - (i) where the Authority determines that the modification proposal may be made, having taken into account (among other things) the urgency of the subject matter of the proposal; or

- (ii) at the direction of the Authority;
- (h) that, where a modification proposal is made during a Significant Code Review Phase, the panel shall:
  - ~~(i) a-~~ unless exempted by the Authority, notify the Authority as soon as practicable of:
    - ~~a. 1.~~ any representations received in relation to the relevance of the Significant Code Review; and
    - ~~b. 2.~~ the panel's assessment of, whether the proposal falls within the scope of the Significant Code Review and its reasons for that assessment; and
  - ~~(ii) b-~~ if the Authority so directs, not proceed with the modification proposal until the Significant Code Review Phase has ended; and
- (i) that where an appeal has been raised in respect of a modification proposal in accordance with sub-paragraph (d), that modification proposal shall be treated in accordance with any decision and/or direction of the Authority following that appeal.

23.6 If, within twenty-eight (28) days after the Authority has published its Significant Code Review conclusions, the Authority issues to the licensee:

- (a) Directions, the licensee must comply with those Directions;
- (b) a statement that no Directions under sub-paragraph (a) will be issued in relation to the MRA, the licensee shall must treat the Significant Code Review Phase as ended;
- (c) neither Directions under sub-paragraph (a) nor a statement under sub-paragraph (b) the Significant Code Review Phase will be deemed to have ended.

The Authority's published conclusions and Directions to the licensee will not fetter any voting rights of MRA parties or members of the panel, or the procedures informing the modification report described at sub-paragraph 23.5(e).

23.7 The MRA shall must provide for:

- (a) a panel body, as specified in the MRA (the "panel") whose functions must include the matters required by this condition and as set out in the MRA; and,
- (b) arrangements for a secretarial or administrative person or body, as specified in the MRA, to perform the role of code administrator (the "code administrator"). In addition to any powers, duties or functions set out in the MRA, the code administrator must:
  - (i) together with other code administrators, publish, review, and (where appropriate) amend from time to time the Code of Practice approved by the Authority (any amendments to the Code of Practice are to be approved by the Authority);
  - (ii) facilitate the procedures for making a modification to the MRA;
  - (iii) have regard to, and in particular (to the extent relevant) be consistent with the principles contained in, the Code of Practice; and
  - (iv) provide assistance, insofar as is reasonably practicable and on reasonable request, to parties (including, in particular, Small Participants) and, to the extent relevant, consumer representatives that request the code administrator's assistance in relation to the MRA including, but not limited to, assistance with:

~~e.~~ - drafting a modification proposal;

~~d.~~ - understanding the operation of the MRA;

~~e.~~ - their involvement in, and representation during, the modification procedure processes (including but not limited to code panel and/or workgroup meetings);

~~f.~~ - accessing information relating to modification proposals and/or modifications.

23.8 Eligible grounds for appeal under the provisions referred to in sub-paragraph 23.5(d) shall be that, in the opinion of the Authority:

(a) (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the appealing party is likely to be unfairly prejudiced by the implementation or non-implementation of that modification proposal; or

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_ the appeal is on the grounds that:

1. in the case of implementation, the modification proposal may not better enable the MRA to fulfil the requirements of this condition; or

2. in the case of non-implementation, the modification may better enable the MRA to fulfil the requirements of this condition; and

(b) the appeal is not brought for reasons that are trivial or vexatious, nor does the appeal have no reasonable prospect of success.

23.9 The procedures for the modification of the MRA must provide that recommendations or decisions for or against the implementation of a modification proposal shall be made with regard to whether that modification would, as compared ~~to~~ with the existing provisions of the MRA, better enable the MRA to fulfil the requirements of this condition.

23.10 The procedures for the modification of the MRA must be consistent with the principles set out in the Code of Practice, to the extent that they are relevant.

23.11. Without prejudice to any rights of approval, veto or direction the Authority may have, the licensee must use its best endeavours to ensure that procedures are in place that facilitate its compliance with the requirements of this condition including, but not limited ~~to~~, modifying the MRA where necessary no later than 31 December 2013.

### **Interpretation**

23.12 For the purposes of this condition:

**Code of Practice** means the Code Administration Code of Practice approved by the Authority and:

(a) \_\_\_\_\_ developed and maintained by the code administrators in existence from time to time;

(b) \_\_\_\_\_ amended subject to the Authority's approval from time to time; and

(c) \_\_\_\_\_ re-published from time to time.

**Directions** means, in the context of sub-paragraph 23.6(a), Direction(s) issued following publication of Significant Code Review conclusions, which will contain:

- (a) instructions to the licensee to make (and not withdraw, without the Authority's prior consent) a modification proposal;
- (b) the timetable for the licensee to comply with the Authority's dDirection(s); and
- (c) the Authority's reasons for its dDirection(s).

**“Significant Code Review”** means a review of one or more matters which the Authority considers likely to:

- (a) relate to the MRA (either on its own or in conjunction with any other industry code(s)); and
- (b) be of particular significance in relation to its principal objective and/or general duties (under section 3A of the Act), statutory functions and/or relevant obligations arising under EU law;  
and concerning which the Authority has issued a notice to the MRA parties (among others, as appropriate) stating:
  - (i) that the review will constitute a Significant Code Review;
  - (ii) the start date of the Significant Code Review; and
  - (iii) the matters that will fall within the scope of the review.

**Significant Code Review Phase** means the period commencing on the start date of a Significant Code Review as stated by the Authority, and ending either:

- (a) on the date on which the Authority issues a statement that no Directions will be issued in relation to the MRA; or
- (b) if no statement is made, on the date on which the licensee has made a modification proposal in accordance with Directions issued by the Authority; or
- (c) immediately, if neither a statement nor Directions are issued by the Authority within (and including) twenty-eight (28) days from the Authority's publication of its Significant Code Review conclusions.

**Small Participant means**

- (a) a supplier, distributor, or new entrant to the electricity market in Great Britain that can demonstrate to the code administrator that it is resource-constrained and, therefore, in particular need of assistance;
- (b) any other participant or class of participant that the code administrator considers to be in particular need of assistance; and
- (c) a participant or class of participant that the Authority has notified the code administrator as being in particular need of assistance.



## Schedule 2 – Reasons and effect of modifications to the standard conditions of the electricity distribution licence

Standard Condition	Reasons for proposed modification	Effect of proposed modification
21: The Distribution Code	<p>To implement the Code Governance Review phase 2, Final Proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce Significant Code Review process; introduce the Code Administration Code of Practice (CACoP)/Code Administrator 'critical friend'.</li> <li>• To enable "send back" powers and require reporting of assessment against relevant objectives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defines a role for Ofgem to lead complex changes to the industry codes with the introduction of the Significant Code Review process - to ensure that significant code changes can be facilitated more effectively.</li> <li>• Improves accessibility to the code modification process for all market participants and encourages greater participation in the code process by all parties, particularly smaller participants.</li> <li>• Ensures robust reporting on code modifications and allows the Authority to "send back" final modification reports, where a deficiency/ flaw in the report is identified.</li> </ul>
22: Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement	<p>To implement the Code Governance Review phase 2, Final Proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide increased self-governance; introduce the Significant Code Review process; introduce the Code Administration Code of Practice (CACoP)/Code Administrator 'critical friend'.</li> <li>• To enable "send back" powers and require reporting of assessment against relevant objectives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extends the scope of existing self-governance provisions to enable a more efficient process for modifications.</li> <li>• Defines a role for Ofgem to lead complex changes to the industry codes with the introduction of the Significant Code Review process - to ensure that significant code changes could be facilitated more effectively.</li> <li>• Improves accessibility to the code modification process for all market participants and encourages greater participation in the code process by all parties.</li> <li>• Ensures robust reporting on code modifications and allows the Authority to "send back" final modification reports, where a deficiency/ flaw in the report is identified.</li> </ul>

<p>23: Master Registration Agreement</p>	<p>To implement the Code Governance Review phase 2, Final Proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce the Significant Code Review process; introduce the Code Administration Code of Practice (CACoP)/Code Administrator 'critical friend'.</li> <li>• To enable "send back" powers and require reporting of assessment against relevant objectives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defines a role for Ofgem to lead complex changes to the industry codes with the introduction of the Significant Code Review process - to ensure that significant code changes could be facilitated more effectively.</li> <li>• Improves accessibility to the code modification process for all market participants and encourages greater participation in the code process by all parties.</li> <li>• Ensures robust reporting on code modifications and allows the Authority to "send back" final modification reports, where a deficiency/ flaw in the report is identified.</li> </ul>

### **Schedule 3 – Relevant licence holders**

Eastern Power Networks Plc
Electricity North West Limited
Energetics Electricity Connections Limited
Energetics Electricity Limited
ESP Electricity Limited
Independent Power Networks Limited
London Power Networks Plc
Northern Powergrid (Northeast) Limited
Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) Plc
Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution Plc
South Eastern Power Networks Plc
Southern Electric Power Distribution Plc
SP Distribution Limited
SP Manweb Plc
The Electricity Network Company Limited
UK Power Networks (IDNO) Ltd
Utility Assets Limited
Western Power Distribution (East Midlands) Plc
Western Power Distribution (South Wales) Plc
Western Power Distribution (South West) Plc
Western Power Distribution (West Midlands) Plc