

Transmission Charging Methodologies Forum (TCMF)

Terms of Reference

Introduction

- The TCMF is established under the Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC) for the purpose of supporting the development of the Charging Methodologies. The CUSC Modifications Panel (CUSC Panel) is charged, in accordance with Section 8.26 of the CUSC, with adopting (and may change from time to time) these Terms of Reference.
- The aim of the TCMF is to provide a forum for regular communication and discussion of issues relating to the Transmission Charging Methodologies and connection matters. The objective is to develop ideas, understand impacts to industry and modification content discussion for all interested parties, and in particular, although not limited to, those who can raise changes to the methodologies: ESO and CUSC Parties, BSC Parties and any Materially Affected Parties.¹
- Whilst the governance arrangements for the Charging Methodologies are now found in the CUSC, ESO retains an obligation to keep the methodologies under review through the Transmission Licence.
- The CUSC Panel and/or ESO will review the Terms of Reference from time to time to ensure an effective forum is maintained. TCMF members or other interested parties can alert the CUSC Panel or ESO to matters of concern if they wish.

Responsibilities and Appointment of the Chair

- The Chair will be appointed by ESO and will be responsible for ensuring the smooth running of the TCMF and ensuring the Terms of Reference are observed. The Chair will report back to the CUSC Panel on the matters discussed at the TCMF, provide updates on other matters requested by the CUSC Panel and keep the CUSC Panel informed, from time to time, on changes that may be required to these Terms of Reference.
- The Chair may appoint a Deputy Chair for any meeting or part of a meeting, who may be a ESO representative, a CUSC Party or a CUSC Panel Member.
- In the interest of efficiency, the Chair may set up a sub group to look at any specific issues to report back to a future TCMF. The Chair should coordinate this with any standing groups or workgroups set up by the CUSC Panel and may set up a TCMF sub group in response to a request from the CUSC Panel or regulator.

Responsibilities and Appointment of the Technical Secretary

- The Technical Secretary will be appointed by ESO and will be responsible for the preparation and distribution of the draft agenda prior to each meeting, preparing and distributing the meeting summary after each meeting, placing relevant documents on the ESO website as appropriate and may assist the Chair in reporting back to the CUSC Panel. The Technical Secretary will also maintain a list of actions from each TCMF. Any papers/slide decks will be distributed, if possible, ahead of the meeting to all members and placed on the ESO website.

Meeting Frequency and Location

- The TCMF meeting (usually the first Thursday of each month) is scheduled 7 days before the CUSC Panel new modification submission date. This is typically held via Microsoft teams to support flexible working, maximise attendance and support individual environment targets. Once a quarter TCMF may be held physically at the ESO office in Warwick, or elsewhere including London and Glasgow - teleconference facilities will still be provided.

¹ Defined in the CUSC as “any person or class of persons designated by the Authority as such, in relation to the Charging Methodologies”

ESO

Attendance

- When TCMF meetings are held virtually there is no restriction on who attends the meeting as it is designed to provide feedback for all interested in Transmission Charging Methodologies. However, when there is also an option for In-Person, estimated to be once a quarter, the Chair and Technical Secretary has the right to restrict attendance to one attendee per party/company dependant on the capacity of the meeting space. This allows the meeting to be manageable ensuring fair representation of impacted parties. As telephone facilities will still be provided, others can still join virtually.
- If the Chair or CUSC Panel believes a particular issue warrants more detailed discussion in a larger forum there will be the opportunity for a seminar type session or a sub-group to be organised.
- Attendees are expected to contribute to the discussion but in doing so should be respectful of other opinions and be polite when providing feedback and asking questions. Language and conduct should be consistent with the values of equality and diversity and attendees should keep to agreed scope. The Chair may stop discussion or require attendees to leave a particular meeting if they, in the opinion of the Chair, are being disruptive to the efficient conduct of the meeting.

Objectives

- The objectives of the TCMF are:
 - to support the efficient development of the charging principles and methods associated with the GB Use of System Charging Methodology (incorporating both Transmission Network Use of System and Balancing Services Use of System Charges) and the GB Connection Charging Methodology.
 - to update members, and interested parties through published material, on ongoing issues that may impact on the charging methodologies, including developments in the CUSC and other GB framework documents and in Europe.
- The TCMF will not be concerned with charging related queries from CUSC parties which are administrative in nature and would be better channelled directly, in the view of the Chair, to the ESO charging team or the individual's ESO account manager.
- There is no formal standing agenda for the TCMF but the following will be included in each meeting; Notes and actions from the previous meeting, Code Admin modification updates and Any Other Business.
- The agenda will also include key reform or topic items, consequential changes which could have impacts on other methodologies e.g., Grid Code, Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) etc and is an opportunity for any TCMF member to discuss recent or forthcoming progress to the development of the GB transmission charging methodologies and to seek views on potential changes that they may be considering.
- Anyone can bring an agenda item, not just the Chair or Technical Secretary and they should provide two weeks' notice before the TCMF meeting. Otherwise, they may request it to be raised as Any Other Business.

Use of ESO's Website

- The TCMF has a dedicated page on the ESO website, and can be accessed at the link below.
<https://www.nationalgrideso.com/industry-information/codes/connection-and-use-system-code-cusc/cusc-forum>
- The website is used as the prime vehicle by the Technical Secretary for notifying meetings, publishing a report following each meeting and publishing and storing presentations and papers. This means that all discussions at TCMF will be available to a wider audience. A report containing a summary of proceedings and actions will be published on the website after every meeting by the Technical Secretary. Those that are signed up to the TCMF mailing list will receive notifications once documents are uploaded to the website.