

**CMP434** Implementing Connections Reform  
**CM095** Implementing Connections Reform



**Workgroup Meeting 25, 25 September 2024**  
**Online Meeting via Teams**

# WELCOME



# Agenda

<b>Topics to be discussed</b>	<b>Lead</b>
Timeline	Chair
Scene Setting – Workgroup 25	Proposer
CMP434 Alternative Request Update	ALL
CMP434 Alternative Request Vote	ALL
Actions Log Review	Chair
Any Other Business	Chair
Next Steps	Chair

# Timeline

Claire Goult – ESO Code Administrator

Pre-Workgroup	
Proposal raised	19/04/2024
Proposal submitted to Panel	26/04/2024
Workgroup Nominations	26/04/2024 - 02/05/2024
Urgency Decision	01/05/2024
Workgroups	
Workgroup 1	07/05/2024
Workgroup 2	14/05/2024
Workgroup 3	16/05/2024
Workgroup 4	22/05/2024
Workgroup 5	28/05/2024
Workgroup 6	05/06/2024
Workgroup 7	11/06/2024
Workgroup 8	13/06/2024
Workgroup 9	18/06/2024
Workgroup 10	20/06/2024
Workgroup 11	25/06/2024
Workgroup 12	01/07/2024
Workgroup 13	04/07/2024
Workgroup 14	11/07/2024
Workgroup 15	16/07/2024
Workgroup 16	18/07/2024
Workgroup Consultation	25/07/2024 - 06/08/2024
Workgroup 17	13/08/2024
Workgroup 18	19/08/2024
Workgroup 19	20/08/2024
Workgroup 20	27/08/2024
Workgroup 21	03/09/2024

Workgroup Continuation		Key Objectives*
Workgroup 22	11/09/2024	CMP434 Alternative Request Review and update/RFI/ CMP434 and CM095 Terms of Reference Review
Workgroup 23	17/09/2024	CMP434 Draft legal Text discussion/Alternative Request Update/Query Log Update/Action Log Review
Workgroup 24	23/09/2024	CMP434 Draft Legal Text discussion /Alternative Requests finalised and Action Log Review
Workgroup 25	25/09/2024**	CMP434 Alternative Request Update and Vote
Workgroup 26	30/09/2024	CMP434 Draft legal Text Discussion/ ToR Discussion/ CM095 Solution Discussion
Workgroup 27	08/10/2024	CMP434 Original and WACMs Draft Legal Text Discussion/ Workgroup
Workgroup 28	09/10/2024	CM095 ToR Discussion/Initial Workgroup Report Drafting Review/ CM095 Draft Legal Text Discussion
Workgroup 29	14/10/2024	CM095 Draft Legal Text, WASTMs and STCPs/ Potential STCPs
Workgroup 30	15/10/2024	Finalise Workgroup Report Discussion CMP434
Workgroup 31	21/10/2024	Finalise Workgroup Report Discussion CMP434/CM095
Workgroup 32	22/10/2024	Complete sign of ToR and Workgroup Vote CMP434 (Part 1)
Workgroup 33	23/10/2024	Complete sign of ToR and Workgroup Vote CMP434/CM095 (Part 2)
Workgroup 34	28/10/2024	Final Review of Workgroup Reports

Post Workgroups		Key info
Workgroup Report submitted to Panel	05/11/2024	
Panel to agree whether ToR have been met	08/11/2024	Special Panel to be arranged
Code Administrator Consultation	11/11/2024 - 22/11/2024	9 Business Days
Code Administrator Consultation Analysis and DFMR generation	25/11/2024 - 12/12/2024	13 Business Days
Draft Final Modification Report to Panel	13/12/2024	
Panel Recommendation Vote	20/12/2024	Special Panel to be arranged
Final Modification to Ofgem	20/12/2024	
Decision Date	Q1 2025	
Implementation Date	Q2 2025	

\* Workgroup meetings will continue to include other relevant topics alongside the key objectives. Please note the Workgroup meeting objectives are subject to change.

# CM095 Implementing Connections Reform Timeline

\*\* Post STC Panel 1pm

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Workgroup 6	05/06/2024
Workgroup 7	11/06/2024
Workgroup 8	13/06/2024
Workgroup 9	18/06/2024
Workgroup 10	20/06/2024
Workgroup 11	25/06/2024
Workgroup 12	01/07/2024
Workgroup 13	04/07/2024
Workgroup 14	11/07/2024
Workgroup 15	16/07/2024
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Workgroup 34	28/10/2024	Final Review of Workgroup Reports

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# Workgroup 25 Scene Setting

Ruby Pelling, Proposer

# Meeting Objectives

What is the focus of the meeting?

- Alternative Request Vote

What is the ask of the Workgroup?

- To Vote on each Alternative Request with the following responses – Yes, No or Abstain.

What is the desired output of the meeting?

- To vote to decide on which Alternative will become official Workgroup Alternative Requests (WACMs)

What should not be discussed?

- Debate on whether you agree or disagree with the Alternative Requests



# **CMP434 Alternative Requests Update**

**Claire Goult – ESO Code Administrator**

# Alternatives Summary

<u>Number</u>	<u>Proposer Name</u>	<u>Proposer Organisation</u>	<u>What does this Alternative suggest?</u>	<u>Update post Workgroup 20</u>
1	Simon Lord	Engie	Firm access only available to projects that are fully formed and formally in the planning process.	Confirmation no amendments
2	Phillip Addison	EDF	This alternative proposes to remove the current proposed restrictions to build capacity outside of the red line boundary.	Awaiting confirmation of any update
3	Phillip Addison	EDF	The current proposed forward planning milestone are to be removed from the proposal. The current Queue Management planning milestone dates will be used instead.	Awaiting confirmation of any update
4	Steffan Jones/Brian Hoy	ENWL	Clarifying the definition of embedded schemes that will follow the Primary Process	Presented at WG24 – Workgroup member has raised concern this is contradictory – clarification required?
5	Steffan Jones/Brian Hoy	ENWL	Raising the lower threshold at which embedded schemes that will follow the Primary Process	Presented at WG24
6	Steffan Jones/Brian Hoy	ENWL	To amend the threshold at which embedded schemes will follow the Primary Process	Formally withdrawn by Proposer and incorporated into Alternative Request 5
7	Zachary Gray	Hydrostor Inc	To provide greater certainty to all LDES projects, requesting regulatory alignment between future connection reforms, consents, and procurements by considering further provisions for LDES beyond pumped hydro.	Withdrawn to be explored in another space outside CMP434
8	Helen Stack	CBS Energy Storage Assets UK Limited	Inclusion of wording within the proposal and subsequent CUSC legal text requiring DNOs to include all applicable Embedded Projects that provide a competent Gate 2 compliance application / submission of evidence within the Gate 2 application window as part of the DNOs fully completed Gate 2 application to the ESO. This would have to be within the codified period of time (currently 10 business days as per the “Rebaseline Proposal”) following closure of the given window.	Aligned with Alternative Request 23 -Alternative 8 removing reference to a timeframe given the rebaselined ESO proposal introduces this and Alternative 23 seeks to extend Proposed combination with Alternative Request 8 proposed by Workgroup member as another choice
9	Deborah Walker	ABO Energy	Extend the timeline for implementation	Request withdrawn due to timeline update - email confirmation of official withdrawal received 29/8
10	Eibhlin Norquoy	Point and Sandwick Power Limited	To provide an indication of cost within the Gate 1 offer and for relevant Small and Medium Embedded Generators to be allowed to apply for a Gate 1 connection offer. Indication of costs ahead of application to Gate 2 would enable developers to undertake early planning for costs, securities, and liabilities and be in a better financial position to be able to accept a Gate 2 offer. This will be especially important for all scales of Embedded Generators on which is not familiar with Transmission costs.	Presented at WG24 – Consider if CMP434 is the correct space to raise – Confirmed to be voted on 25/09/24

# Alternatives Summary

<u>Number</u>	<u>Proposer Name</u>	<u>Proposer Organisation</u>	<u>What does this Alternative suggest?</u>	<u>Update</u>
11	Eibhlin Norquoy	Point and Sandwick Power Limited	In order to fully comply with objective (c) of CUSC, and especially alignment with articles of Regulation (EU) 2019/943 requiring “to ensure fair conditions of competition in the internal electricity market”, introduce an alternative to unfair connection regulation for Community Generators by considering a specific “Community” Project Designation. Community Generators have repeatedly been shown to deliver many times more value and return locally and have considerably more local acceptability and support when compared to embedded generation in general. The Alternative should both increase the installed capacity and value, and speed to build out of embedded Community led generation across the networks so furthering the overall aims of this reform. Furthermore, it addresses increasing fairness and inclusion challenges by recognising the additional benefits these generators bring to society through the additional operating restrictions they have in place in order to ensure benefit from their actions is socialised, the fact that speculation is effectively not a practical feature for them, and to compensate for the unbalanced conditions and lack of resources faced when Community Generators have to compete with the corporations in the new ‘first ready, first served’ approach of the connection reform.	Presented at WG24 – Consider if CMP434 is the correct space to raise. Following feedback agreed it can be progressed as a methodology rather than a change within the CUSC
12	Eibhlin Norquoy	Point and Sandwick Power Limited	In order to fully comply with objective (c) of CUSC, and especially alignment with articles of Regulation (EU) 2019/943 requiring “to ensure fair conditions of competition in the internal electricity market”, introduce provisions so a proportion of any planned new grid infrastructure would be ring-fenced for use by Community Generators in the first instance. If community companies do not apply to use the capacity within a defined period (e.g., 5 to 7 years), the capacity can then be released back into the wider market. Community Generators have repeatedly been shown to deliver many times more value and return locally and have considerably more local acceptability and support when compared to embedded generation in general. The Alternative should both increase the installed capacity and value, and speed to build out of embedded Community led generation across the networks so furthering the overall aims of this reform. Furthermore, it addresses increasing fairness and inclusion challenges by recognising the additional benefits these generators bring to society through, the additional operating restrictions they have in place in order to ensure benefit from their actions is socialised, the fact that speculation is effectively not a practical feature for them, and to compensate for the unbalanced conditions and lack of resources faced when, Community Generators have to compete with the corporations in the new ‘first ready, first served’ approach of the connection reform.	Presented at WG24 – Consider if CMP434 is the correct space to raise. Need to clarify if Element 10 will be codified in the CUSC before proceeding to Alternative Request Vote – this vote will be postponed
13	Ed Birkett	Low Carbon	This proposed alternative would codify a simple capacity reallocation mechanism, with terminated capacity being offered to the next project that has passed Gate 2 and can take advantage of that terminated capacity.	No amendments

Number	Proposer	Proposer Organisation	What does this Alternative suggest?	Update
14	Ed Birkett	Low Carbon	This Alternative Request would codify the proposed restrictions on changes to project RLB post-Gate 2. The original solution does not propose to codify these new restrictions, instead proposing to house the restrictions in the proposed Gate 2 Criteria Methodology.	No amendments.
15	Grant Rogers	Q-Energy Sustainable Investments Ltd	Remove DFTC from the proposed solution. DFTC is proposed as a forecast however existing DNO datasets already indicate this in the same way DFTC is intended to e.g. connections application data and the ECR's confirm the relevant generation applicants and the upstream GSP's at DNO level.	Formally withdrawn by Proposer 18/09
16	Grant Rogers	Q-Energy Sustainable Investments Ltd	Remove Element 14 from the proposed solution. This would limit/stop the ability to move site location post Gate 2 Offer.	Formally withdrawn by Proposer 18/09
17	Grant Rogers	Q-Energy Sustainable Investments Ltd	Alternative to element 18 and minor, stronger, wording update to Element 12. A new process, potentially codified (where applicable), to address how DNOs and transmission connected iDNOs notify the ESO of Relevant Embedded Small Power Stations or Relevant Embedded Medium Power Stations which meet Gate 2 criteria.	Final update sent early this morning
18	Luke Scott	Northern PowerGrid	We would like the existing Allowable change rules to remain in place, and for us not to adopt the proposed significant change element.	Formally withdrawn by Proposer
19	Joe Colebrook	Innova Renewables	Remove Element 9: Project Designation from the Original proposal.	Confirmed no amendments required.
20	Philip John	Epsilon Generation Limited	Planning submission or permission is required as part of Gate 2 criteria	Withdrawn by Proposer 23/09
21	Philip John	Epsilon Generation Limited	Propose a 12 month grace period to move the red line boundary after Gate 2 acceptance.	To present WG 26 vote postponed
22	Claire Hynes	RWE	For Users to provide the date they expect to submit planning consent to the ESO post Gate 2 when the outcome of Transmission Owner (TO) site studies is known and a point of connection is provided.	Formally withdrawn by Proposer 20/09
23	Laura Henry/ Jack Purchase	NGED	To change the proposal in Element 12 for the time that DNOs and IDNOs have to submit the evidence to demonstrate that projects connecting to their networks have met the Gate 2 criteria (and also the full technical data submission required for a project progression), from 10 working days to 20 working days	Awaiting confirmation of the Original solution to decide next steps –vote to be postponed
24	Phillip John	Epsilon	Introduction of Planning Consent within the Gate 2 Criteria Process	Withdrawn by Proposer 23/09
25	Claire Hynes	RWE	Obligation to Codify the Methodologies and Guidance Documents under Connection Reform	No update provided
26	Garth Graham	SSE	To create a single process that will apply to new and existing projects. It seeks to filter projects based on (i) Gate 1 - system need (i.e., alignment with UK Government-backed plans); and Gate 2 - project commitment, plus recognition that, by securing grid connection, other project developers forgo the opportunity to connect their projects. Projects are then subject to the full suite of existing Queue Management Milestones to ensure they progress.	Alternative Request submitted 12.9.24 – Presented in WG 23. GG has reached out to those who were unsure about aspects of the Proposal, who have confirmed now that they have the required information in order to vote.

<u>Number</u>	<u>Proposer</u>	<u>Proposer Organisation</u>	<u>What does this Alternative suggest?</u>	<u>Update</u>
27	Helen Snodin	Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Ltd	<p>In addition to land requirements, projects entering Gate 2 should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• receive a grid offer date based on completion of local works only, and</li> <li>• from go-live have either submitted planning or post additional security up to planning submission</li> <li>• Full Transmission Entry Capacity (TEC)TEC would be awarded at the FID milestone – with CFD budgets and awards tailored to available Connect and Manage capacity and government priorities on technology mix</li> </ul>	Vote postponed
28	Rob Smith	ENSO Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction of a pause for market self-regulation before the ESO/TO undertake the network assessment</li> <li>• Wait until the pause has completed to submit application for advancement as apposed to the current proposal where applicants do this at the point of Gate 2 submission</li> <li>• Defined obligation for the ESO to publish certain information on the TEC queue by a proposed date. At present the level of detail and the timing of this publication is not specified in the current proposal</li> </ul>	Confirmed to vote

# **CMP434 Alternative Request 21 Update**

**Philip John - Epsilon**

# **CMP434 Alternative Request Vote**

**Claire Goult – ESO Code Administrator**

# What is the procedure for the Alternative Vote?

To participate in any votes, Workgroup members or their Alternates eligible to vote have been informed they meet the criteria of 50% attendance prior to this meeting.

## Alternative Vote Procedure

- For each Alternative Request the representative from each company will be invited to vote as to whether they believe the potential Alternative solution may better facilitate the CUSC objectives than the Original CMP434 solution.
- The voting response will be either a YES or NO. However, you may choose to 'Abstain' from the vote.
- The 'YES' votes will be counted to confirm if the majority of Workgroup members believe that the potential alternative solution may better facilitate the CUSC objectives than the Original.
- Successful alternatives will be fully developed by the Workgroup with legal text to form a Workgroup Alternative CUSC modification (WACM).
- The WACM will then be submitted to the CUSC Panel and Authority alongside the Original solution for the Panel Recommendation vote and the Authority decision.



## Results from CMP434 Alternative Request Vote

Person name	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5	Alternative 8	Alternative 10	Alternative 13
	EDF	EDF	ENWL	ENWL	CBS	Point & Sandwich	Low Carbon
	Remove capacity outside RLB	Remove forward planning milestones	Clarification of Embedded Definition	Raising lower Embedded threshold	DNO submission requirement	Indication of costs at Gate 1	Capacity reallocation codification
Yes	6	8	17	12	15	9	19
No	21	21	10	13	13	19	12
Not in Attendance	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Abstained	5	3	5	7	4	4	1
WACM			WACM1		WACM2		WACM3

Person name	Alternative 14	Alternative 17	Alternative 19	Alternative 25	Alternative 26	Alternative 28
	Low Carbon	Q Energy	Innova	RWE	SSE	Enso
	Codify changes to RLB	Alternative to Element 18	Remove Element 9: Project Designation	Codify methodologies and guidance	Single process for new and existing projects	Greater visibility of competitor projects
Yes	17	13	15	19	9	18
No	13	14	14	11	16	10
Not in Attendance	3	3	3	3	3	3
Abstained	2	5	3	2	7	4
WACM	WACM4		WACM5	WACM6		WACM7

# Actions Log Review

Claire Goult – ESO Code Administrator

Action	Workgroup	Owner	Action	Update	Due	Status
11	WG2	ALL	Add agenda time to respond to papers provided by Workgroup members*		WG4	Closed
20	WG6	JN/AQ	Updated action: Consider legal perspective on the ESO being able to designate projects	Legal Text Circulated	TBC	Closed
24	WG7	MO	Consult ESO legal team to consider using existing legal definitions for clarification (substantial modification) and reconsider terminology being used (material/significant/allowable)	Legal Text Circulated	TBC	Closed
31	WG9	MO	More detail requested by Workgroup to make a judgement on Connection Point and Capacity Reservation (including offshore)	Legal Text Circulated	TBC	Closed
35	WG10	AC/AQ	ESO to confirm whether additional uncertainty clauses (which have been appearing in offers recently) will remain		TBC	Open
38	WG11	MO	Updated action: To expand on licence change conditions/obligations, including any suggested changes to the Licensed offer timescales	ESO decision to not draft licence text suggestions	TBC	Closed
40	WG11	RF	To share licence changes programme timescales with Workgroup*	No longer part of CMP434	TBC	Closed
49	WG17	MO	Updated action: SMEs to share a short summary of the methodologies and their underlying principles. This should include a plan for development of methodologies, including timescales and engagement approach with stakeholders.	Ongoing discussion with Ofgem	TBC	Open
51	WG18	HM	Provide further explanation/evidence on the perceived flexibility / timing differences between changing the content of a methodology and changing the content of a code.	Methodologies content not included as part of the Proposal except the extent of inclusion in the draft legal text	TBC	Closed
56	WG18	MO	Confirmation of <u>when</u> financial instruments will be raised as a separate modification.	ESO are currently performing an options assessment, and outcome of that (i.e. the specific option we proceed with) will dictate the timelines that we will need to follow.	TBC	Open
58	WG18	PM	Clarify whether anything in Proposal could allow the Gate 2 criteria to be amended and applied retrospectively i.e. with a Gate 2 project then no longer being a Gate 2 project, even where it is complying with its ongoing compliance obligations.	Legal Text Circulated does not allow the Gate 2 criteria to be amended and applied retrospectively	TBC	Closed
59	WG19	PM	Element 11 – Produce examples to provide clarification to the Workgroup (slide 25) on how using installed capacity could work in practice	To be added to the QM guidance (as relates to ongoing land compliance requirement) – follow up required to decide if 'installed capacity' is the correct term	TBC	Open

\*Workgroup member input required to decide if these actions can be updated/closed

Action	Workgroup	Owner	Action	Update	Due by	Status
60	WG19	PM	Element 11 – Consider Workgroup Member request to provide analysis to show which projects could benefit from the Proposals (slide 26) to have a milestone adjustment ability for ESO e.g. where a developer asks for an earlier date and gets a later date, or asks for and gets a later date (but this is due to a normal programme timescales e.g. mega projects) to avoid unintended outcomes.	Ongoing – PM to reach out to EB	TBC	Open
66	WG19	MO	More information on timeline on CP30 plans/impacts to be shared once they are available (to compare to the code change programme, including voting timetable).	Connection reform event slides shared with members	TBC	Closed
67	WG20	PA/JI	Offline discussion regarding Alternative Request 3 proposal*		TBC	Closed
72	WG21	TE/CH	Amend Alternative Request Proposal 22 and feedback to Workgroup*		TBC	Closed
73	WG21	LH	Provide analysis/evidence of the impact of Alternative Request 23 (NGED) and consider alternative ways of solving the issue e.g. more windows (PY comment)	NGED quantified the number of applications they have submitted to the ESO as part of the Transmission Impact Assessment process in the 23/24 financial year as between 100-440 per licenced area.	TBC	Closed
75	WG21	AQ/LH	RE – Alternative Request 23 - To consult legal teams as to whether a 10- or 20-day obligation is most appropriate within the CUSC or in the licence	NGED legal team believe the obligation would be better placed in the CUSC than the licence where there is less specific detail on processes – ESO legal view requested	TBC	Closed

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# **Any Other Business**

**Claire Goult – ESO Code Administrator**

## Next Steps

Claire Goult – ESO Code Administrator

## Raising an Alternative Request Information

# What is the Alternative Request?

**What is an Alternative Request?** The formal starting point for a Workgroup Alternative Modification to be developed which can be raised up until the Workgroup Vote.

**Who can raise an Alternative Request?** Any CUSC Party, BSC Party, the Citizens Advice or the Citizens Advice Scotland may (subject to Paragraph 8.20.20) raise a Workgroup Consultation Alternative Request in response to the Workgroup Consultation. If you are not a CUSC Party, but are nominated by a CUSC Schedule 1 Party, please submit a statement in writing from the nominating party to confirm submission of the Alternative Request on their behalf. No Workgroup Consultation Alternative Request may be raised by any CUSC Party during any second or subsequent Workgroup Consultation.

**What do I need to include in my Alternative Request form?** The requirements are the same for a Modification Proposal you need to articulate in writing:

- a description (in reasonable but not excessive detail) of the issue or defect as outlined in the Original Proposal which the alternative seeks to address compared to the current proposed solution(s);
- the reasons why you believe that the proposed alternative request would better facilitate the Applicable Objectives compared with the current proposed solution(s) together with background information;
- where possible, an indication of those parts of the Code which would need amending in order to give effect to (and/or would otherwise be affected by) the proposed alternative request and an indication of the impacts of those amendments or effects; and
- where possible, an indication of the impact of the proposed alternative request on relevant computer systems and processes.

**How do Alternative Requests become formal Workgroup Alternative Modifications?** The Workgroup will carry out a Vote on Alternatives Requests. If the majority of the Workgroup members or the Workgroup Chair believe the Alternative Request will better facilitate the Applicable Objectives than the current proposed solution(s), the Workgroup will develop it as a Workgroup Alternative Modification.

**Who develops the legal text for Workgroup Alternative Modifications?** ESO will assist Proposers and Workgroups with the production of draft legal text once a clear solution has been developed to support discussion and understanding of the Workgroup Alternative Modifications.



## Voting Information

# What is the Alternative Vote?

To participate in any votes, Workgroup members need to have attended at least 50% of meetings. The vote shall be decided by simple majority of those present at the meeting at which the vote takes place (whether in person or by teleconference)

## Stage 1 – Alternative Vote

- Vote on whether Workgroup Alternative Requests should become Workgroup Alternative CUSC/ STC Modifications.
- The Alternative vote is carried out to identify the level of Workgroup support there is for any potential alternative options that have been brought forward by either any member of the Workgroup OR an Industry Participant as part of the Workgroup Consultation.
- **Should the majority of the Workgroup OR the Chair believe that the potential alternative solution may better facilitate the CUSC/ STC objectives than the Original then the potential alternative will be fully developed by the Workgroup with legal text to form a Workgroup Alternative CUSC modification (WACM)/ STC modification (WASTM) and submitted to the Panel and Authority alongside the Original solution for the Panel Recommendation vote and the Authority decision.**

# What is the Workgroup Vote?

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## Stage 2 – Workgroup Vote

- 2a) Assess the original and Workgroup Alternative (if there are any) against the relevant Applicable Objectives compared to the baseline (the current code)
- 2b) Vote on which of the options is best.

Alternate Requests cannot be raised after the Stage 2 – Workgroup Vote