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STCP Modification Proposal Form – DRAFT

**PM0143:
Implementing
Connection Reform**

Overview: This STCP modification follows on from STC modification CM095 and also makes changes to the STCPs to facilitate the wider connections reform work underway.

Modification process & timetable



Status summary: The Proposer has raised a modification and will be seeking a decision from the Panel on whether the modification should be implemented.

This modification is expected to have a: High impact

Transmission System Operators, Transmission Owners (including OFTOs)

**Proposer’s
assessment of
materiality**

A material change – Authority decision

**Who can I talk to
about the change?**

Proposer:

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What is the issue?

A wholesale revision to the connections process has been proposed under CUSC modification [CMP434](#) and STC modification [CM095](#), along with additional changes outside of the codes. This modification aligns the STCPs with the changes proposed under [CM095](#) and the wider connections reform work.

Why change?

The reformed connections process offers a more coordinated approach to processing applications for new connections and gated modifications to applications. The changes made to the STCPs ensure the process level steps are fit for purpose to produce TOCOs and ATOCO for applications covered under the new proposals within [CMP434](#) and [CM095](#).

Changes are also made allowing NESO to reserve capacity and connection/interface points (rather than solely bays) to aid a more coordinated process for planning the transmission system with respect to new connections that are required, but where a developer/specific project is yet to be confirmed.

Finally, the Statement of Works process has been removed with Transmission Evaluation introduced as the route for a DNO to request an Evaluation of Transmission Impact. The necessary processes need to be removed or updated to reflect these changes along with clarifications to the Transmission Impact Assessment process.

What is the Proposer's solution?

To facilitate [CM095](#) and the wider connection reform work the following STCP changes are proposed:

STCP 16-1 Investment Planning: Changing 4.3 Production of Planning Requests to allow NESO to reserve capacity and connection/interface points in a more general sense. Currently this is limited to reservation of existing substation bays. This added flexibility in what NESO can reserve for will assist with long lead time

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projects where the developer is unknown, such as coordinated offshore, as well as network service procurement exercises.

Please note that as well as being required for the enduring process introduced by CMP434 and CM095 this change will also facilitate the process introduced by CMP435 e.g. to protect the HND/HNDFUE if and where required.

STCP 18-1 Connection and Modification Application: Changes throughout to document new process for producing TOCOs/ATOCOs to align with changes under STC modification CM095. The process steps themselves will largely remain the same, but with different timings to ensure the new coordinated process remains deliverable in accordance with a Gated Timetable, to be published by The Company from time-to-time (having first liaised with TOs). Note the existing process will remain in place for applications that do not go through the new process e.g., non-gated modification applications.

STCP 18-2 Use of System Application: Changing 3.2.14.3 to reference the correct process and timescales held within STCP 18-1 in the case where there is an impact on the Transmission System, which will align with changes under STC modification CM095. Housekeeping change to replace “NGET” reference with “The Company” throughout 3.2.12.

STCP 18-3 TEC Changes: Changes to 3.3 TEC Increase Process to align with new process and timescales as per STC modification CM095.

STCP 18-4 Request for a Statement of Works: Repurposing this to remove unnecessary aspects of existing Statement of Works process and adapting to reflect Transmission Evaluation process and clarifications to the Transmission Impact Assessment process. Ensuring the correct section of STCP 18-1 is referenced where this procedure is to be followed.

STCP 18-6 Variation to Agreements: Changes to ensure the correct section of STCP 18-1 is referenced where this procedure is to be followed.

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Legal text

Legal text under development internally. Draft legal text circulated for review from 02/12/2024. Finalised legal text circulated for TO approval ahead of January 2025 STC Panel Papers Day.

What is the impact of this change?

Proposer's assessment against STC Objectives	
Relevant Objective	Identified impact
(a) efficient discharge of the obligations imposed upon transmission licensees by transmission licences and the Act	<p>Positive</p> <p>Facilitates a more coordinated approach to producing (A)TO Construction Offers</p>
(b) development, maintenance and operation of an efficient, economical and coordinated system of electricity transmission	<p>Positive</p> <p>Facilitates a more coordinated approach to development of the transmission system with respect to connections</p>
(c) facilitating effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity, and (so far as consistent therewith) facilitating such competition in the distribution of electricity	<p>Positive</p> <p>Facilitates STC code modification <u>CM095</u> and so also facilitates CUSC modification <u>CMP434</u>.</p> <p>Introduces greater flexibility to how NESO can reserve capacity and connection points to assist with competitive tenders for new generation projects.</p>

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(d) protection of the security and quality of supply and safe operation of the national electricity transmission system insofar as it relates to interactions between transmission licensees	Neutral
(e) promotion of good industry practice and efficiency in the implementation and administration of the arrangements described in the STC	Positive Ensures deliverability of proposed changes to STC under modification CM095 .
(f) facilitation of access to the national electricity transmission system for generation not yet connected to the national electricity transmission system or distribution system;	Positive Facilitates a more coordinated approach to processing (A)TOCOs relating to new applicants. Introduces greater flexibility to how NESO can reserve capacity for projects ahead of a specific developer being confirmed.
(g) compliance with the Electricity Regulation and any relevant legally binding decision of the European Commission and/or the Agency.	Neutral

Proposer's assessment against the STCP change requirements ¹	Proposer's assessment
(a) the amendment or addition does not impair, frustrate or invalidate the provisions of the Code	Requirement met
(b) the amendment or addition does not impose new obligations or liabilities or restrictions of a material nature on Relevant Parties which are not subsidiary to	Requirement met

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the rights and obligations of the Relevant Parties under the Code	
(c) the amendment or addition is not inconsistent or in conflict with the Code, Transmission Licence Conditions, or other relevant statutory requirements	Requirement met
(d) the Relevant Party Representatives deem that the amendment or addition is appropriate to support compliance with the Code	Requirement met

When will this change take place?

Implementation date

Implementation date to align with (i.e., be the same date as) the implementation date of [CMP434](#), [CMP435](#) and STC modification [CM095](#).

Implementation approach

Implementation approach as per approach for STC modification [CM095](#).

Interactions

Grid Code BSC CUSC SQSS
 European Other Other
 Network Codes modifications

This STCP modification directly follows on from STC modification CM095 which itself interacts with CUSC modification [CMP434](#) (and the proposed change to STCP16-1 also interacts with CUSC modification [CMP435](#)). There are also further interactions with the following wider developments:

- Clean Power 2030 Plan
- NESO Methodologies under development:
 - Gate 2 Criteria Methodology
 - Connections Network Design Methodology
 - Project Designation Methodology
- Ofgem Licence Consultation(s)

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- Ofgem End to End Connections Consultation

Panel Determination

Party	Determination
National Energy System Operator (NESO)	To be updated following Panel determination
National Grid (NGET)	To be updated following Panel determination
Offshore Transmission Owners (OFTOs)	To be updated following Panel determination
Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc (SHET)	To be updated following Panel determination
SP Transmission Limited (SPT)	To be updated following Panel determination

Acronyms, key terms and reference material

Acronym / key term	Meaning
BSC	Balancing and Settlement Code
PM	Procedure Modification
CUSC	Connection and Use of System Code
STC	System Operator Transmission Owner Code
SQSS	Security and Quality of Supply Standards
TOCO	Transmission Owner Construction Offer
ATCO	Affected Transmission Owner Construction Offer