

SECTION G: GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Section G contains those provisions that are generic to this Code including, inter alia:
 - 1.1.1 provisions to be adhered to by the Parties in relation to safety and environmental issues and nuclear installations;
 - 1.1.2 the limitation of liability of Parties under the Code and the third party rights that apply;
 - 1.1.3 the restrictions on transfer and subcontracting of Parties' rights and obligations under the Code, Framework Agreement or any TO Construction Agreement and the arrangements to apply on disposal by a Party of the whole or a part of its business; and
 - 1.1.4 other provisions defining the legal and contractual relationship between the Parties under this Code.

2. SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT

2.1 General

- 2.1.1 For the avoidance of any doubt, nothing in or pursuant to this Code shall:
 - 2.1.1.1 be taken to require a Party to do anything which could or would be unsafe or contrary to that Party's environmental obligations; nor
 - 2.1.1.2 prevent a Party from doing anything which could or would be unsafe or contrary to that Party's environmental obligations to omit to do.
- 2.1.2 A Transmission Owner shall notify The Company in the event that, and as soon as, such Transmission Owner:
 - 2.1.2.1 becomes aware that, for safety purposes or pursuant to environmental obligations of such Transmission Owner, the Transmission Owner is reasonably likely to configure, or has urgently had to configure, any part of its Transmission System or otherwise take any steps other than in accordance with a direction from The Company; or
 - 2.1.2.2 becomes aware that, for safety purposes or pursuant to environmental obligations of such Transmission Owner, it is reasonably likely to be, or has been, prevented, restricted or delayed from complying with a direction from The Company in relation to the configuration of any part of its Transmission System.
- 2.1.3 Each Party shall use its best endeavours to identify and remove or lessen the likelihood of any circumstances arising in which such Party might seek to place

reliance upon the provisions of paragraph 2.1.1 including, without limitation, by discussing such issues with the other Parties where appropriate.

2.2 User and Transmission Owner Safety Requirements

2.2.1 Notwithstanding that a Transmission Owner is not a party to the CUSC and is not thereby required to comply with the Grid Code, a Transmission Owner shall comply with:

2.2.1.1 the relevant appendix of Operating Code No 8 of the Grid Code as notified by The Company; and

2.2.1.2 (in carrying out its obligations under Section D, Part Two, paragraph 14), Appendix 1 of the Connection Conditions in respect of Type 1 Transmission Owners or Appendix 1 of the European Connection Conditions in respect of Type 2 Transmission Owners of the Grid Code as applicable

(each as amended from time to time).

2.2.2 The Company shall comply with, and shall procure that a User shall comply with, the relevant appendix of OC8 and Appendix 1 of the Connection Conditions as applicable to GB Code User's or OC8 and Appendix E1 of the European Connection Conditions as applicable to EU Code User's of the Grid Code where and to the extent that such section applies to The Company and the User.

2.2.3 Each Transmission Owner shall provide to The Company a copy of and any updates to its Safety Rules as applicable from time to time.

2.2.4 The Company shall ensure that no busbar Protection, mesh corner Protection, circuit-breaker fail Protection relays, AC or DC wiring (other than power supplies of DC tripping associated with a Generating Unit itself) may be worked upon or altered by Generator personnel in the absence of a representative of the Transmission Owner or written authority from the Transmission Owner to whose Transmission System the Connection Site at which such works are to be undertaken is connected.

2.2.5 Where a Transmission Owner owns the busbar Protection at the Connection Point Site, The Company shall ensure that no busbar Protection, circuit-breaker failure Protection relays, AC or DC wiring (other than power supplies of DC tripping associated with the Network Operator or Non-Embedded Customer's Apparatus itself) may be worked upon or altered by the Network Operator or Non-Network Operator or Non-Embedded Customer's personnel in the absence of a representative of the Transmission Owner or written authority from the Transmission Owner.

2.2.6 A Transmission Owner shall use its best endeavours to provide a representative or to submit a written authority to The Company on request from The Company for the purposes of paragraphs 2.2.4 and 2.2.5.

- 2.2.7 Unless otherwise agreed pursuant to paragraph 2.2.9, a Transmission Owner entering and working on its Plant and/or Apparatus on a User Site will work to such User's Safety Rules as advised by and forwarded to the Transmission Owner by The Company.
- 2.2.8 Unless otherwise agreed pursuant to paragraph 2.2.10, The Company shall procure that a User entering and working on that User's Plant and/or Apparatus on a Transmission Owner Site will work to the Transmission Owner's Safety Rules, which Safety Rules, the Transmission Owner shall forward to the User directly as directed by The Company and notify The Company that it has done so.
- 2.2.9 A Transmission Owner may, with a minimum of six weeks notice, apply to The Company for permission to work according to its own Safety Rules when working on its own Plant and/or Apparatus at a User Site rather than the User's Safety Rules. The Company shall consult with the relevant User and, subject to The Company and the User's agreement that the Transmission Owner's Safety Rules provide for a level of safety commensurate with those set out in paragraph 2.2.7, The Company will notify the Transmission Owner in writing that, with effect from the date requested by the Transmission Owner, the Transmission Owner may use its own Safety Rules when working on the Transmission Owner's Plant and/or Apparatus on that User Site, which Safety Rules, the Transmission Owner shall forward to the User directly as directed by The Company and notify The Company that it has done so. Until such written approval from The Company, the Transmission Owner will continue to use the Safety Rules in accordance with paragraph 2.2.7.
- 2.2.10 The Company may (on behalf of a User), with a minimum of six weeks notice, apply to a Transmission Owner and consult with that Transmission Owner regarding permission for work to be carried out to the User's Safety Rules when work is carried out by such User on the User's Plant and/or Apparatus at the Transmission Owner's Site rather than the Transmission Owner's Safety Rules. If the Transmission Owner and The Company agree that the User's Safety Rules provide for a level of safety commensurate with those set out in paragraph 2.2.8, The Company will notify the User in writing, copied to the Transmission Owner, that, with effect from the date requested by the User, the User may use its own Safety Rules when working on such User's Plant and/or Apparatus on that Transmission Owner's Site, which Safety Rules, The Company shall procure that the User shall forward to the Transmission Owner directly. Until such written approval from The Company, The Company shall procure that the User shall continue to use the Transmission Owner's Safety Rules in accordance with paragraph 2.2.8.
- 2.2.11 If, pursuant to paragraph 2.2.9, The Company notifies a Transmission Owner that the Transmission Owner's own Safety Rules shall apply, this shall not imply that the Transmission Owner's Safety Rules will apply to entering the User's Site and access to the Transmission Owner's Plant and/or Apparatus on that User's Site. A User has responsibility for the whole of its User Site and entry and access will always be in accordance with such User's Site access procedures.

2.2.12 If, pursuant to paragraph 2.2.10, The Company notifies a User that the User's own Safety Rules shall apply, this shall not imply that, for such Transmission Owner's Site, the User's Safety Rules will apply to entering the Transmission Owner's Site, and access to the User's Plant and/or Apparatus on that Transmission Owner's Site. A Transmission Owner has responsibility for the whole of its Transmission Owner Site and entry and access will always be in accordance with such Transmission Owner's Site access procedures.

3. NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS

- 3.1 Where required by The Company upon reasonable notice, a Transmission Owner shall take any reasonable and proper action whatsoever to the extent necessary in order to comply with (or avert an anticipated breach of) any of the matters specified in paragraph 3.2.
- 3.2 The matters referred to in paragraph 3.1 are any covenant, agreement, restriction, stipulation, instruction, provision, condition or notice contained, or referred to, in a licence for the time being in force, granted in accordance with the Nuclear Installations Act 1995 (or legislation amending, replacing or modifying the same), or any consent, or approval issues, or to take effect from time to time under such licence, any emergency arrangements, operating rules or other matters from time to time under such licence, any emergency arrangements, operating rules or other matters from time to time approved by the relevant authority under, or pursuant to, any such agreements, restrictions, stipulations, instructions, conditions or notices.
- 3.3 The Company shall indemnify and keep indemnified any Transmission Owner for any loss, damage, costs and expenses incurred by that Transmission Owner as a consequence of any action of that Transmission Owner pursuant to paragraph 3.1 (to the extent that the action was not required by any licence or agreement binding on that Transmission Owner).
- 3.4 Where requested by The Company upon reasonable notice, SP Transmission Limited and NGET shall provide such information and advice in relation to their respective obligations and rights under the Scottish NSLPAs and E&W NSLPAs as shall be reasonable to enable The Company to comply with its obligations under the Code, the Grid Code and the CUSC.
- 3.5 Where requested by The Company upon reasonable notice, SP Transmission Limited and NGET shall undertake such actions in relation to their respective obligations and rights under the Scottish NSLPAs and E&W NSLPAs as shall be reasonable to enable The Company to comply with its obligations under the Code, the Grid Code and the CUSC.
- 3.6 Where requested by SP Transmission Limited upon reasonable notice, The Company shall provide such information and advice as shall be reasonable to enable SP Transmission Limited to comply with the Scottish NSLPAs. Where requested by NGET upon reasonable notice, The Company shall provide such information and advice as shall be reasonable to enable NGET to comply with the E&W NSLPAs.
- 3.7 Where requested by SP Transmission Limited upon reasonable notice, The Company shall undertake such actions as shall be reasonable to enable SP Transmission Limited to comply with the Scottish NSLPAs. Where requested by NGET upon reasonable notice,

The Company shall undertake such actions as shall be reasonable to enable NGET to comply with the E&W NSLPAs.

- 3.8 SP Transmission Limited and NGET shall notify The Company as soon as reasonable practicable of any proposal to amend the Scottish NSLPAs and E&W NSLPAs respectively and shall consult with The Company in relation to the potential impact of any such proposal on the Code, the Grid Code and the CUSC to ensure that the views of The Company on that proposal are obtained and, where The Company so requires, communicated to the relevant counterparty to the Scottish NSLPAs or E&W NSLPAs.
- 3.9 The Company shall notify SP Transmission Limited and NGET as soon as reasonably practicable of any proposal to amend the Code and/or the Grid Code and/or the CUSC which may affect the Scottish NSLPAs and/or E&W NSLPAs and shall consult with SP Transmission Limited and NGET in relation to the potential impact of any such proposal on the Scottish NSLPAs and/or E&W NSLPAs to ensure that the views of SP Transmission Limited and NGET on that proposal are obtained and, where SP Transmission Limited and NGET so requires, considered as part of the consultation process in relation to the Grid Code and the CUSC.

4. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

- 4.1 This paragraph 4, insofar as it excludes or limits liability, shall override any other provision in the Code provided that nothing in this paragraph 4 shall exclude or restrict or otherwise prejudice or affect any of:
- 4.1.1 the rights, powers, duties and obligations of any Party which are conferred or created by the Act, that Party's Transmission Licence, or the Regulations; or
- 4.1.2 the rights, powers, duties and obligations of the Authority or the Secretary of State under the Act, any Transmission Licence or otherwise howsoever.
- 4.2 Subject to any liquidated damages provisions of any TO Construction Agreement and to the indemnities provided for under paragraphs 3.3 and 4.3 of this Section G, each Party agrees and acknowledges that no Party (the "**Party Liable**") nor any of its officers, employees or agents shall be liable to any other Party, for loss arising from any breach of the Code or TO Construction Agreement, other than for loss directly resulting from such breach and which, at the date hereof, was reasonably foreseeable as not unlikely to occur in the ordinary course of events from such breach in respect of:
- 4.2.1 physical damage to the property of any other Party or its respective officers, employees or agents; or
- 4.2.2 the liability of any other Party, its officers, employees or agents to any other person for loss in respect of physical damage to the property of that or any other person, subject, for the avoidance of doubt, to the requirement that the amount of such liability claimed by such other Party should be mitigated in accordance with general law.

provided that the liability of any Party in respect of all claims for such loss shall not exceed £5million per incident or series of related incidents unless the incident or series of related incidents arise on or affect a part of a Distribution System required to connect the Offshore Transmission System where the liability of any Party shall not exceed £1 million.

- 4.3 Nothing in this Code shall exclude or limit the liability of the Party Liable or restrict the ability of any Party to claim in respect of fraudulent misrepresentation or death or personal injury resulting from the negligence of the Party Liable and the Party Liable shall indemnify and keep indemnified each other Party from and against all such and any loss or liability which any such other Party may suffer or incur by reason of any claim on account of fraudulent misrepresentation or death or personal injury resulting from the negligence of the Party Liable or any of its officers, employees or agents.
- 4.4 In consideration of the rights conferred upon each Transmission Owner under the Code, the right of any of the Transmission Owners to claim in negligence, other tort, or otherwise howsoever against a CUSC Party (other than The Company) in respect of any act or omission of such CUSC Party (other than The Company) in relation to the subject matter of the CUSC is hereby excluded and each Transmission Owner agrees not to pursue any such claim save that nothing in this paragraph 4.4 shall restrict the ability of a Transmission Owner to claim in respect of fraudulent misrepresentation or death or personal injury resulting from the negligence of the CUSC Party (other than The Company).
- 4.5 In consideration of the rights conferred upon each Offshore Transmission Owner under the Code, the right of any of the Offshore Transmission Owners to claim in negligence, other tort, or otherwise howsoever against a DCUSA Party (other than The Company) in respect of any act or omission of such DCUSA Party (other than The Company) in relation to the subject matter of the DCUSA is hereby excluded and each Offshore Transmission Owner agrees not to pursue any such claim save that nothing in this paragraph 4.5 shall restrict the ability of an Offshore Transmission Owner to claim in respect of fraudulent misrepresentation or death or personal injury resulting from the negligence of the DCUSA Party (other than The Company).
- 4.6 Subject to any liquidated damages provisions of any TO Construction Agreement, and to the indemnities provided for under paragraphs 3.3 and 4.3 of this Section G, the Party Liable nor any of its officers, employees or agents, shall not in any circumstances whatsoever be liable in relation to the Code or its obligations under the Code, to another Party for:
- 4.6.1 any loss of profit, loss of revenue, loss of use, loss of contract or loss of goodwill; or
- 4.6.2 any indirect or consequential loss; or
- 4.6.3 loss resulting from the liability of another Party to any other person howsoever and whensoever arising, save as provided in sub-paragraph 4.2.1 and 4.2.2.
- 4.7 The rights and remedies provided by the Code to the Parties are exclusive and not cumulative and exclude and are in place of all substantive (but not procedural) rights or remedies express or implied and provided by common law or statute in respect of the subject matter of the Code, including, without limitation, any rights any Party may possess

in tort which shall include actions brought in negligence and/or nuisance. Accordingly, each of the Parties hereby waives to the fullest extent possible all such rights and remedies provided by common law or statute, and releases a Party which is liable to another Party or other Parties, its or their officers, employees and agents to the same extent from all duties, liabilities, responsibilities or obligations provided by common law or statute in respect of the matters dealt with in the Code and undertakes not to enforce any of the same except as expressly provided herein.

4.8 Each of the paragraphs of this paragraph 4 shall:

4.8.1 be construed as a separate and several contract term, and if one or more of such paragraphs is held to be invalid, unlawful or otherwise unenforceable the other or others of such paragraphs shall remain in full force and effect and shall continue to bind the Parties; and

4.8.2 survive termination of the Code and/or the Framework Agreement.

4.9 Each Party acknowledges and agrees that each of the other Parties holds the benefit of paragraphs 4.2 to 4.7 above for itself and as trustee and agent for its officers, employees and agents.

4.10 Each Party acknowledges and agrees that the provisions of this paragraph 4 have been the subject of discussion and negotiation and are fair and reasonable having regard to the circumstances as at the Code Effective Date.

4.11 For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this paragraph 4 shall prevent or restrict any Party enforcing any obligation (including suing for a debt) owed to it under or pursuant to the Code.

5. THIRD PARTY RIGHTS

5.1 Subject to the remainder of this paragraph 5, a CUSC Party (other than The Company) may rely upon and enforce the terms of paragraph 4.4, against a Transmission Owner, a DCUSA Party (other than The Company) may rely upon and enforce the terms of paragraph 4.5, against an Offshore Transmission Owner and an Other Code Party (other than The Company) may rely upon and enforce the terms of Section F, sub-paragraph 3.4.3 against a Party.

5.2 The third party rights referred to in paragraph 5.1 may only be enforced by the relevant third party subject to and in accordance with the provisions of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 and all other relevant terms of this Code.

5.3 Notwithstanding any other provision of the Code, the Parties may (pursuant to Section B), amend the Code without the consent of a third party and accordingly, section 2(1) of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 shall not apply, save that, where and to the extent that any amendment to the Code would have an impact on the rights of third parties conferred under paragraph 5.1, then The Company shall bring such impact to the attention of Parties and third persons to the extent that such impact is not already brought to their attention in a STC Modification Proposal by the Proposer.

- 5.4 Except as provided in paragraph 5.1, a person who is not a Party has no right under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 to rely upon or enforce any term of the Code but this does not affect any right or remedy of a third party which exists or is available other than pursuant to that Act.

6. TRANSFER AND SUB-CONTRACTING

- 6.1 The rights, powers, duties and obligations of a Party under the Framework Agreement, the Code or any TO Construction Agreement are personal to that Party and that Party may not assign or transfer the benefit or burden of those documents save in the following circumstances:

6.1.1 upon the disposal by that Party of the whole of its business or undertaking it shall have the right to transfer its rights and obligations under the Framework Agreement, the Code or any TO Construction Agreement to the purchaser thereof on condition that the purchaser (if not already a Party) enters into an Accession Agreement pursuant to Section B and confirms to the relevant Parties in writing either that all of the technical or related conditions, data, information, operational issues or other matters notified and/or agreed pursuant to Part One, Section C, paragraphs 3 and 4 or any other matters specified in or pursuant to a relevant TO Construction Agreement, by the purchaser will remain unchanged or, if any such matters are to be changed, the purchaser first notifies the relevant Parties in writing of such changes which the relevant Parties will consider and, until such consideration is complete, the transfer shall not be effective. If, having considered such changes, the relevant Parties in their reasonable opinion do not consider the proposed changes reasonably satisfactory to relevant Parties, they shall consult with the purchaser and, pending the outcome thereof to the relevant Parties' reasonable satisfaction, the transfer shall not be effective, provided always, that any failure to reach an agreement under this sub-paragraph 6.1.1 may be referred by a Party as a Dispute to the Authority under Section H, paragraph 4.1. Such transfer shall become effective once the changes are reasonably satisfactory to the relevant Parties or have been determined to be so following resolution of such Dispute;

6.1.2 upon the disposal by a Party of part of its business or undertaking comprising a part of its Transmission System that Party shall have the right to transfer its rights and obligations under this Code or any TO Construction Agreement to the purchaser thereof on condition that the purchaser (if not already a Party) enters into an Accession Agreement pursuant to Section B and confirms to the relevant Parties in writing either that all of the technical or related conditions, data, information, operational issues or other matters notified and/or agreed pursuant to Part One, Section C, paragraphs 3 and 4 by the purchaser will remain unchanged or if any such matters are to be changed, the purchaser first notifies the relevant Parties in writing of such changes which the relevant Parties will consider promptly and in any event within 28 days of receiving notice of such change and until such consideration

is complete the assignment shall not be effective. If having considered such changes the relevant Parties in their reasonable opinion do not consider the proposed changes reasonably satisfactory to the relevant Parties, they shall consult with the purchaser and pending the outcome thereof to the relevant Parties' reasonable satisfaction the transfer shall not be effective, provided always, that any failure to reach an agreement under this sub-paragraph 6.1.2 may be referred by a Party as a Dispute to the Authority under Section H, paragraph 4.1. Such transfer shall become effective once the changes are reasonably satisfactory to the Parties or have been determined to be so under Section H; and

6.1.3 a Party may assign or charge its rights or benefits under the Framework Agreement, the Code or any TO Construction Agreement in whole or in part by way of security.

6.2 Each Party shall have the right to sub-contract or delegate the performance of any of its obligations or duties arising under the Code without the prior consent of any other Party. The subcontracting by a Party of the performance of any obligations or duties under the Framework Agreement, the Code or any TO Construction Agreement shall not relieve that Party from liability for performance of such obligation or duty.

6.3 It is acknowledged that the undertaking of OTSDUW by a User does not constitute subcontracting by a Transmission Owner. Nevertheless, the Transmission Owner shall be responsible for the OTSUA (once they form part of the Transmission System) as if the OTSDUW had been undertaken by (or on behalf) of the Transmission Owner.

7. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

7.1 All Intellectual Property Rights relating to the subject matter of the Code or any TO Construction Agreement conceived, originated, devised, developed or created by a Party, its officers, employees, agents or consultants during the currency of the Code or any TO Construction Agreement shall vest in such Party as sole beneficial owner thereof save where the Parties agree in writing or the provisions of this Code expressly state otherwise.

8. FORCE MAJEURE

8.1 If any Party (the "**Non-Performing Party**") shall be unable to carry out any of its obligations under the Code or any TO Construction Agreement due to a circumstance of Force Majeure, the Code or any TO Construction Agreement shall remain in effect, but:

8.1.1 the Non-Performing Party's relevant obligations;

8.1.2 the obligations of each of the other Parties owed to the Non-Performing Party under the Code or TO Construction Agreement as the case may be; and

8.1.3 any other obligations of the other Parties under the Code or TO Construction Agreement owed between themselves which the relevant Party is unable to carry out directly as a result of the suspension of the Non-Performing Party's obligations,

shall be suspended for a period equal to the circumstance of Force Majeure provided that:

- (a) such circumstances do not constitute a Secured Event;
- (b) the suspension of performance is of no greater scope and of no longer duration than is required by the Force Majeure;
- (c) no obligations of any Party that arose before the Force Majeure causing the suspension of performance are excused as a result of the Force Majeure;
- (d) the Non-Performing Party gives the other Parties prompt notice describing the circumstance of Force Majeure, including the nature of the occurrence and its expected duration, and continues to furnish regular reports to the other Parties with respect thereto during the period of Force Majeure;
- (e) the Non-Performing Party uses all reasonable efforts to remedy its inability to perform; and
- (f) as soon as practicable after the event which constitutes Force Majeure, the Parties shall discuss how best to continue their operations so far as possible in accordance with the Code or TO Construction Agreement.

9. PRIVILEGE

- 9.1 No Party shall be required to produce documents pursuant to any provision of the Code which such Party could not be compelled to produce in civil proceedings in any court in England and Wales or Scotland or to supply information which such Party could not be compelled to give in evidence in any such proceedings.

10. WAIVER

- 10.1 No delay by or omission of any Party or the STC Modification Panel (including the Panel Secretary) in exercising any right, power, privilege or remedy under the Code, the Framework Agreement or any TO Construction Agreement shall operate to impair such right, power, privilege or remedy or be construed as a waiver thereof.
- 10.2 Any single or partial exercise of any such right, privilege or remedy shall not preclude any other or future exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right, power, privilege or remedy.
- 10.3 For the avoidance of doubt, the Parties acknowledge and agree that nothing in the Code, Framework Agreement or any TO Construction Agreement shall exclude or restrict or otherwise prejudice or affect any of the rights, powers, privileges, remedies, duties and obligations of the Secretary of State or the Authority under the Act or any Transmission Licence or otherwise under any applicable law.

11. NOMINATED REPRESENTATIVE

- 11.1 Each Party undertakes to the other Parties that where, under any provision of the Code, action is taken by a representative of that Party, it shall ensure that its representative is duly authorised to take such action.

12. COMMUNICATIONS

- 12.1. Save to the extent otherwise set out in the Code or any TO Construction Agreement or otherwise agreed by the Parties, any notice, direction, request or other communication to be given by one Party to another under or in connection with the matters contemplated by the Code, the Framework Agreement or any TO Construction Agreement shall be addressed to the recipient and sent to the address or email address of such other Party provided under Section B.
- 12.2 Such notice or other communication, shall be in writing and shall be given by letter delivered by hand or sent by first class prepaid post (airmail if overseas) unless otherwise specified in this Code or otherwise agreed between the Parties, and shall be deemed to have been received:
- 12.2.1 in the case of delivery by hand, when delivered; or
- 12.2.2 in the case of first class prepaid post, on the second day following the day of posting or (if sent airmail overseas or from overseas) on the fifth day following the day of posting; or
- 12.2.3 in the case of other agreed communication methods, the confirmation of receipt will be agreed between the Parties.
- 12.3 Each Party shall use all reasonable endeavours to ensure that all information provided from that Party to another is accurate and complete and submitted in good faith.
- 12.4 The provisions of this paragraph 12 extend to any notice or other communication to be given by or to the Panel Secretary.

13. COUNTERPARTS

- 13.1 The Accession Agreement, Framework Agreement and any TO Construction Agreement or Code Procedures may be executed in any number of counterparts and by the different parties on separate counterparts, each of which when executed and delivered shall constitute an original, but all the counterparts shall together constitute one and the same instrument.

14. SEVERANCE OF TERMS

- 14.1 If any provision of the Code or any TO Construction Agreement is or becomes or is declared invalid, unenforceable or illegal by the courts of any competent jurisdiction to which it is subject or by order of any other Competent Authority such invalidity, unenforceability or illegality shall not prejudice or affect the remaining provisions of the Code or TO Construction Agreement which shall continue in full force and effect notwithstanding such invalidity, unenforceability or illegality.

15. LANGUAGE

- 15.1 Every notice or other communication to be given by one Party to another under the Code shall be in the English language.

16. DATA PROTECTION ACT

- 16.1 Each Party warrants that it has effected, and undertakes that it will during the term of the Code effect and maintain all such notifications and registrations as it is required to effect and maintain under the Data Protection Act 1998 to enable it to lawfully perform the obligations imposed on it by the Code.
- 16.2 Each Party undertakes to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998 in the performance of its obligations under the Code.
- 16.3 Each Party undertakes that, in any case where information to be disclosed by it under the Code may lawfully be disclosed only with the prior consent of the person to whom the information relates, it will use its reasonable endeavours to obtain such prior consents so as to enable it promptly to perform its obligations under as envisaged by the Code.

17. JURISDICTION

- 17.1 Subject to Section H, the Parties irrevocably agree that only the courts of England and Wales and the courts of Scotland are to have jurisdiction to settle any disputes which may arise out of or in connection with this Code or any TO Construction Agreement and that accordingly any claim or action ("**Proceedings**") arising out of or in connection with this Code or any TO Construction Agreement may be brought in such courts.
- 17.2 Each Party irrevocably waives any objection which it may have now or hereafter to the laying of the venue of any Proceedings in any such court as is referred to in this paragraph 17 and any claim that any such Proceedings have been brought in an inconvenient forum and further irrevocably agrees that judgement in any Proceedings brought in the courts of England and Wales or the courts of Scotland shall be conclusive and binding upon such Party and may be enforced in the courts of any jurisdiction.
- 17.3 For the avoidance of doubt, nothing contained in paragraphs 17.1 and 17.2 above shall be taken as permitting a Party to commence Proceedings in the courts where the Code otherwise provides for Proceedings to be referred to arbitration or to the Authority.

18. GOVERNING LAW

- 18.1 This Code and any TO Construction Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with English law.

19. NO PARTNERSHIP

- 19.1 Nothing in this Code is intended to or shall operate to create a partnership or joint venture of any kind between the Parties.

20. TRANSMISSION DEROGATIONS

20.1 A Party's obligation(s) under this Code shall be relieved, as regards any other Party, to the extent and for such period as such obligation(s) are specified as being relieved by a direction issued by the Authority under paragraph 15 of Standard Condition B12 of its Transmission Licence or condition E.31 of the **ESO Licence** or under paragraph 4 of Standard Condition E13 of its Transmission Licence as appropriate.

21. **[NOT USED]**

22. DIRECTIONS RELATED TO NATIONAL SECURITY

22.1 The **Secretary of State** may issue a direction to **The Company** as referred to in condition B4 of **ESO Licence** where in the opinion of the **Secretary of State** there is a risk relating to national security that may detrimentally impact the resilience, safety or security of the energy system, or the continuity of essential services, and it is in the interest of national security that a direction should be issued to **The Company**

22.2 **The Company** must comply with any such direction that has been issued by the **Secretary of State**. **Users** should note that **The Company** is not required to comply with any other obligation in the **ESO Licence**, where and to the extent that compliance with that obligation would be inconsistent with the requirement to comply with such a direction, for the period set out in the direction. This includes the requirement set out in condition E3 of **ESO Licence** to comply with this **Code**.

22.3 **The Company** is required under condition B4 of its **ESO Licence** to inform the **Secretary of State** of any conflict with the obligations as identified in 22.2 as soon as reasonably practicable after the conflict is identified. **The Company** will include in such a notice, details of any identified impact or non-compliance that will be caused or will be likely to be caused to **Users or Transmission Owners**, and in such a case will also seek clarification of whether this can be shared with the affected **User or Transmission Owner**.

22.4 Where reasonably practicable and subject to the agreement of the **Secretary of State** to share any such specific details, **The Company** will inform affected **Users or Transmission Owners** as identified in 22.3 of what actions **The Company** will or has taken, or not taken, to comply with a direction or amended direction (including when such a direction is revoked) and what identified impact or non-compliance this will or is likely to cause to the **User or Transmission Owner**.

22.5 **The Company's** obligations under this code and any contracts made under this code shall be suspended without liability where and to the extent that compliance with any such obligation would be inconsistent with the requirement upon **The Company** to comply with a direction.

22.6 A **Transmission Owner's** obligations under this code and any contracts made under this code shall be suspended without liability where and to the extent that the **Transmission Owner** is unable to comply with any such obligation as a result of any action taken, or not taken, by **The Company** to comply with a direction.

22.7 The **Secretary of State** may at any time amend or revoke any direction issued to **The Company** as referred to in condition B4 of **The Company's ESO Licence**.

23. ADVISORY AND INFORMATION REQUESTS

23.1 **The Company** is required to provide advice, analysis or information to the **Authority** or to a **Minister of the Crown** when requested in accordance with section 171 of the **Energy Act 2023** and condition D1 of the **ESO Licence** and **GSP Licence**.

23.2 **The Company** may by notice request from a **User** such information as it reasonably requires in connection with the exercise of any of its functions, in accordance with section 172 (1) of the **Energy Act 2023**. It will do so by the issue of an **Information Request**

Notice. The purposes of this may include to assist in the fulfilment of a request for advice, analysis or information as set out in 23.1.

- 23.3 **The Company** is required by condition D2 of the **ESO Licence** and **GSP Licence** to prepare, submit for approval by the **Authority** and publish on its website once approved an **Information Request Statement** that sets out further detail on the process **The Company** expects to follow when requesting information from other parties.

The **Information Request Statement** must include, but need not be limited to, the following matters as set out in condition D2.5 of the **ESO Licence** and **GSP Licence**:

- (a) the process **The Company** expects to follow when issuing an **Information Request Notice**, including any further detail around the expected engagement between **The Company** and recipient of an **Information Request Notice**; and
- (b) the details to be included in an **Information Request Notice** issued by **The Company**.

- 23.4 A **User** to whom a request is made under 23.2 must, so far as reasonably practicable, provide the requested information within such reasonable period, and in such reasonable form and manner, as may be specified in the **Information Request Notice**.

- 23.5 **The Company** must, unless the **Authority** otherwise consents, maintain for a period of 6 years and provide to the **Authority** where required a record of information requests as detailed in condition D2.12 of the **ESO Licence** and **GSP Licence** including:

- (a) a copy of the **Information Request Notice**;
- (b) any subsequent variations to the original information requested;
- (c) the recipient's response to the notice, including any refusal or challenges to the notice or requested information;
- (d) the time taken for the recipient to provide the requested information;
- (e) the manner and form the information was provided in; and
- (f) the information provided in response to the notice, and whether such information complied, in **The Company's** view, with the **Information Request Notice**.