

Public

Code Administrator Meeting

Summary

Workgroup Meeting 8: CMP447 'Removal of designated strategic works from cancellation charges/securitisation'

Date: 28 August 2025

Contact Details

Chair: Sarah Williams, Sarah.Williams@neso.energy

Proposer: Harvey Takhar, Harvey.Takhar@neso.energy

Key areas of discussion

The Chair noted that the purpose of the meeting was to review outstanding actions, consider and refine guidance documentation, address contingency planning if Ofgem does not make designations in time for gate 2 offers, and to consider an Alternative Proposal.

Action updates

Actions 24, 25 and 26 (Actions closed)

The Chair confirmed to the Workgroup that all three actions had been completed. The Workgroup agreed to close the actions.

Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC) Section 15 Guidance Note

The Proposer presented updates to the guidance note, including clarifications on designated works, the inclusion of substations, and caveats around Large Onshore Transmission Investment (LOTI) schemes and their funding approval.

Workgroup members raised points about the need for clear wording, the implications of Generator dependency, and the risk of ambiguity in designation criteria. The Proposer agreed to further refine the language within the CUSC Section 15 Guidance Note based on Workgroup feedback.

CMP447 Process Map

The Proposer shared a draft process map for the designation translation process, explaining the assessment flow for Transmission schemes, the role of NESO and Ofgem, and the ongoing nature of the process.

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Workgroup members asked about timing triggers and the scope of schemes included, with the Proposer clarifying that only works mapping to attributable works are relevant.

Contingency for potential Ofgem delay

The Workgroup discussed what would happen if Ofgem does not make designations in time for Gate 2 offers. The Proposer stated that, in such a case, the CUSC rules would have to be followed, meaning securities would be required as normal.

Workgroup members explored possible workarounds (e.g. adjusting the Strategic Investment Factor, waivers, offer acceptance extensions. The Proposer agreed to ask internally about the possibility of adjusting the Strategic Investment Factor (SIF) as a workaround if Ofgem's designation is delayed.

CMP447 Alternative Request 1: Strategic Alignment with Centralised Strategic Network Plan (CSNP)

The Alternative 1 Proposer explained the alternative aims to align the definition of Excepted Works with strategic network planning and NESO publications, moving away from reliance on Ofgem's case-by-case designation. The Proposal seeks to use established lists (Holistic Network Design (HND), Beyond 2030, and future CSNP) for clarity and certainty.

The Alternative introduces a revised definition of Excepted Works, referencing specific published lists and allowing Ofgem to designate additional works if needed. It includes a mechanism for both retrospective and prospective application.

Benefits noted: several Workgroup members emphasised increased certainty, transparency, and alignment with strategic planning, reducing the risk of delays and ambiguity for developers. The approach was seen as more robust and easier to implement in the long term.

Concerns noted: 2 Workgroup members expressed concerns about timing, potential Ofgem rejection, and the risk of missing certain schemes not explicitly listed in current strategic documents. They suggested the proposal might be better suited for future implementation once CSNP is established.

Alternative Vote

The Workgroup agreed to vote on the Alternative, with the majority supporting its further development as a WACM (WACMI).

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Of the 19 votes on whether the Alternative Proposal better facilitates the CUSC non-charging objectives than the original:

- 15 Workgroup members voted yes
- 3 Workgroup members voted no
- 1 Workgroup member abstained

Next Steps

The Chair noted that another Alternative Request has been received and will be presented and voted on at the next meeting.

Actions

For the full action log, click [here](#).

Action Number	Workgroup Raised	Owner	Action	Due by	Status
24	WG7	PM/HT	Update the guidance note based on Workgroup feedback and circulate it to Workgroup members by email before the next meeting	WG8	Closed
25	WG7	PM/HT	Create a hypothetical example process map illustrating the designation and translation process, and circulate it to Workgroup members for review	WG8	Closed
26	WG7	KH	Add an agenda item for the next meeting to discuss the process and next steps if Ofgem does not make the designation in time for Gate 2 offers	WG8	Closed
27	WG8	PM/HT	Further refine the language within the CUSC Section 15 Guidance Note based on Workgroup feedback.	WG10	New

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			Ask internally about the possibility of adjusting the Strategic Investment Factor (SIF) as a workaround if Ofgem's designation is delayed.		
28	WG8	PM/HT		WG10	New

Attendees

Name	Initial	Company	Role
Sarah Williams	SW	NESO, Code Administrator	Chair
Kat Higby	KH	NESO, Code Administrator	Tech sec
Paul Mott	PM	NESO	Proposer
Alan Kelly (leaving) / Marc Smeed (new)	AK	Corio Generation	Workgroup Member
Als Scrope	AS	Northland Power	Workgroup Member
Anthony Diccico	AD	ESB Generation and Trading	Workgroup Alternate
Barney Cowin	BC	Blue Float	Workgroup Member
Calum Duff	CD	Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm	Workgroup Member
Calum MacDonald	CM	Point and Sandwick Trust	Workgroup Member
Catherine Cleary	CC	Roadnight Taylor	Workgroup Alternate
Charles Yates	CY	Muir Mhor Offshore Wind Farm Ltd (50% owned by Vattenfall)	Workgroup Member
Ciaran Fitzgerald	CF	Scottish Power Renewables	Workgroup Member
Chris White	CW	Research Relay Ltd	Workgroup Alternate
Claire Hynes	CH	RWE	Workgroup Alternate
Damian Clough	DC	SSE	Workgroup Member
Dennis Gowland	DG	Research Relay Ltd	Workgroup Member
E Lian Diong	ELD	Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm	Workgroup Alternate
Glenn Smith	GS	EDF Energy Renewables	Workgroup Member
Holly Thomas	HT	Scottish Renewables	Workgroup Member
Kirsty Dawson	KD	Statkraft	Workgroup Member

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Kyle Murchie	KM	Roadnight Taylor	Workgroup Member
Mark Scott	MS	Muirhall Energy	Workgroup Alternate
Neil Bennett	NB	SSEN Transmission	Workgroup Member
Paul Smillie	PS	SPEN	Workgroup Alternate
Paul Youngman	PY	Drax	Workgroup Member
Richard Blanchfield	RB	Talisk-Magnora Offshore Wind Ltd (Grid Advisor)	Workgroup Member