##### *STCP18-2 Issue 009 Use of System Application*

##### STC Procedure Document Authorisation

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Party** | **Name of Party Representative** | **Signature** | **Date** |
| The Company |  |  |  |
| National Grid  Electricity Transmission plc |  |  |  |
| SP Transmission plc. |  |  |  |
| Scottish Hydro Electric  Transmission plc. |  |  |  |
| Offshore Transmission Owners |  |  |  |
| Competitively Appointed Transmission Owners |  |  |  |

##### STC Procedure Change Control History

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Issue 001 | 16/03/2005 | First Issue following BETTA Go-Live |
| Issue 002 | 25/10/2005 | Issue 002 incorporating PA034 & PA037 |
| Issue 003 | 24/11/2009 | Issue 003 incorporating changes for offshore |
| Issue 004 | 23/05/2017 | Issue 004 incorporates admin improvements |
| Issue 005 | 01/04/2019 | Issue 005 incorporating National Grid Legal Separation changes |
| Issue 006 | 13/05/2019 | ‘Housekeeping Modification to align STCP18-1 - STCP18-6 with existing working practices |
| Issue 007 | 06/04/2022 | Issue 007 incorporating changes for PM0123 |
| Issue 008 | 25/04/2023 | Issue 008 incorporating use of ‘The Company’ definition as made in the STC PM0130 |
| Issue 009 | 17/04/2025 | Issue 009 PM0144 Digital Communication System Integration |
| Issue 010 | 10/06/2025 | Issue 010 PM0143 Implementing Connection Reform‘ |

# Introduction

## Scope

### This process defines the data exchange required between The Company, as defined in the STC and meaning the licence holder with system operator responsibilities, and the TO(s) for the purposes of User Applications for use of the National Electricity Transmission System.

### This procedure describes the process of how TO(s) respond to a The Company Construction Application as a result of an Applicant (Embedded Generator, Small Power Station Trading Party or Distribution Interconnector Owner) applying to The Company for use of the National Electricity Transmission System. It defines the tasks, formal documentation, interface requirements, timescales and responsibilities between The Company and the Host TO, Affected TO(s) and Other Affected TO(s) from receipt of such User Application to the signing/Modification of a Use of System Offer.

### This procedure applies to The Company and each TO.

### For the purposes of this document, the TOs are:

* NGET;
* SPT;
* SHET;
* All Offshore Transmission Licence holders as appointed by Ofgem and
* All Competitively Appointed Transmission Licence holders as appointed by Ofgem.

## Objectives

### The objective of this procedure is to detail:

### how the User Application for use of the National Electricity Transmission System process is addressed across The Company ~ TO interface and the TO ~ TO interface;

### the requirements for exchange of information in relation to these activities; and

### the lines of communication to be used.

# Key Definitions

## For the purposes of STCP18-2:

### **Affected Parties** means the Host TO, Affected TO(s) and Other Affected TO(s) as appropriate, involved in assessing The Company Construction Application(s) relating to a particular User Application.

### **Affected TO(s)** means any Transmission Owner in relation to whose Transmission System is affected by the User Application for use of the National Electricity Transmission System and satisfies the criteria set out in the STC, Schedule four. [see STC Section D, part 2, paragraph 2.2.2].

### **Agreements** means a combination of the Bilateral Agreement and if relevant the Construction Agreement.

### **Application Programme** means a programme to manage the application process and forms part of the Scheme Briefing Note. The Application Programme lists the milestones and the dates agreed by all parties are inserted.

### **Host TO** means the Transmission Owner to which the DNO (who the Applicant is connecting to) is connected.

### **Lead Person(s)** means a team made up of representatives from The Company, Host TO, Affected TO(s) and Other Affected TO(s) (as appropriate), these individuals shall oversee the application process. These representatives shall collectively have the remit to agree the Application Programme, monitor progress and agree any changes. These Lead Person(s) are also responsible for resolving any disagreements relating to a The Company Construction Application at first instance, prior to any necessary escalation. Dialogue will take place in person, via Designated Information Exchange System, telephone or video conferencing as appropriate.

### **Named Contact** means in terms of the TO, the person to initially receive The Company Construction Application and in terms of The Company, the person to whom a User Application for the Use of System is sent in accordance with the CUSC.

### **Other Affected TO(s)** means any Transmission Owner who is not a Host TO or an Affected TO, but which receives Construction Planning Assumptions or The Company otherwise identifies that it is likely to be required to enter into a TO Construction Agreement in respect of the Construction Project.

# Procedure

## Nuclear Site Licence Provision

### Where this process may interact with, impact upon or fall within the boundary of a Nuclear Site Licence holder's site, or may otherwise have any form of affect and/or implication for a nuclear power station, consideration must be given to the relevant provisions of the applicable Nuclear Site Licence Provisions Agreement, the CUSC Bilateral Connection Agreement for that site, paragraph 6.9.4 of the CUSC and Section G3 of the STC Code to ensure compliance with all of these obligations.

## Basic Process

### **The Company receives the User Application**

#### The Company Named Contact shall receive a completed User Application for use of the National Electricity Transmission System from an Applicant. This may include the results of any feasibility study work.

#### If the User Application is in relation to a Bilateral Embedded Generation Agreement then the process in STCP 18-1 Connection and Modification Application shall be followed from step 3. 2.

### **The Company checks the User Application**

#### The Company Named Contact shall appoint The Company Lead Person. The Company Lead Person shall check that the User Application is completed correctly. Where the User Application is not completed correctly or the correct fee is not received, The Company Lead Person shall inform the Applicant as soon as they determine that it is not correct. The Company shall issue the Applicant with an invoice for the Application Fee. The fee is dealt with by The Company and the TO(s) in accordance with STCP 19-6 Application Fees.

#### The Company Lead Person shall determine who is the Host TO, Affected TO(s) and Other Affected TO(s).

#### The Company Lead Person shall utilise the information in the User Application to produce the relevant The Company Construction Application, in accordance with Schedule 6 and/or Schedule 7 of the STC, for each of the Affected Parties. The Company Lead Person shall initially complete the appropriate Scheme Briefing Notes, with details from the User Application, the draft Application Programme dates, the Affected Parties, The Company Lead Person and a The Company unique scheme number.

#### Within 3 Business Days of receipt of the User Application, The Company Lead Person shall send via a Designated Information Exchange System the relevant The Company Construction Application and the appropriate Scheme Briefing Note to the TO Named Contacts.

#### The Company Construction Application will be sent to the Affected Parties within 3 Business Days of receipt of the User Application, regardless of whether the User Application is effective or not, so that the TO(s) are aware a User Application has been received. Should any Party decide to undertake any work on The Company Construction Application, before it is effective, then this will be at such Party’s own risk.

#### An effective The Company Construction Application is one that is technically effective and The Company has informed the TO via the appropriate Scheme Briefing Note that the Application Fee has been cleared.

### **Receipt of a The Company Construction Application acknowledged by TO(s)**

#### Within 2 Business Days of receipt of The Company Construction Application, the Affected Parties shall acknowledge receipt of The Company Construction Application to The Company Lead Person via a Designated Information Exchange System.

#### The Company Lead Person and Affected Parties Lead Person(s) shall agree the date to meet to discuss the Application Programme and The Company shall enter this date on the Scheme Briefing Notes.

### **The Company shall be informed as to whether The Company Construction Application is technically effective or not**

#### A technically effective The Company Construction Application is where all the necessary technical data has been provided.

#### Within 5 Business Days of receipt of The Company Construction Application, the Host TO and Affected TO(s) (as appropriate) Lead Person(s) shall notify The Company Lead Person via a Designated Information Exchange System, as to whether The Company Construction Application is technically effective or not. Where The Company Construction Application is considered to be technically non-effective, then the Host TO and Affected TO(s) (as appropriate) Lead Person(s), shall share via a Designated Information Exchange System to The Company Lead Person with detailed reasons as to why it considers it incomplete or unclear in a material respect and the amendments it considers are required to make it technically effective. This detail will also include the DNO network data identified by the Host TO as being required to process The Company Construction Application.

### **Applicant and TO(s) shall be informed that User Application is technically non-effective**

#### A technically non-effective User Application is one where all technical data (including DNO network data) has not been received.

#### If the User Application is technically non-effective, The Company Lead Person shall inform the Applicant of what data is missing and that network data is being obtained from the DNO. The Company Lead Person shall ask the DNO for the network data identified as being required by the Host TO in section 3.2.4.2 in accordance with the Grid Code. The Company Lead Person shall update the Scheme Briefing Notes with the date the Applicant and DNO were contacted and share via a Designated Information Exchange System the appropriate Scheme Briefing Notes to the Affected Parties.

### **Resolve technical non-effectiveness**

#### Where a The Company Construction Application is technically non-effective as a consequence of the User Application being technically non-effective, the Host TO and Affected TO(s) (as appropriate) shall use reasonable endeavours to liaise and assist The Company to resolve their elements of the technically non-effectiveness. In order to achieve this, The Company may request the TO to resolve the technical non-effectiveness with the Applicant directly.

#### If the Applicant cannot submit the data (e.g. because data is not available for new technology) then the Lead Person(s) shall assess and advise the Parties whether to progress The Company Construction Application or not and note/agree any assumptions made. If The Company Construction Application is to continue then alternative data may be requested from the Applicant.

#### If the Lead Person(s) assess that The Company Construction Application cannot progress without the missing technical data then The Company Construction Application will be put on hold as ineffective. If and when the missing technical data is supplied to The Company then the process will recommence from 3.2.7.

### **The Company informed that their The Company Construction Application is technically effective**

#### On receipt of the missing/additional data from the Applicant, The Company Lead Person shall circulate the data to the Host TO and/or Affected TO(s) (as appropriate) Lead Person(s). The Company Lead Person shall also record on the Scheme Briefing Notes, the date of when the missing/additional technical data has been received and share via a Designated Information Exchange System the appropriate Scheme Briefing Note to each Affected Party.

#### On receipt of network data from the DNO, The Company Lead Person shall circulate the data to the Host TO and Affected TO(s) (as appropriate) Lead Person(s). The Company Lead Person shall also record on the Scheme Briefing Notes, the date of when the missing/additional technical data has been received and share via a Designated Information Exchange System the appropriate Scheme Briefing Note to each Affected Party.

#### Within 3 Business Days of receipt of the missing/additional data, the Host TO and Affected TO(s) (as appropriate) Lead Person(s) shall confirm to The Company Lead Person via a Designated Information Exchange System whether their The Company Construction Application is now technically effective. If The Company Construction Application is still not technically effective then the process returns to 3.2.4 otherwise proceed to 3.2.8.

### **The Company confirms User Application Date and The Company Application Date**

#### Once The Company Construction Application is technically effective and the Application Fee has cleared The Company Lead Person shall update the Scheme Briefing Notes with the User Application Date, The Company Application Date and the draft Application Programme dates and shares via a Designated Information Exchange System the appropriate Scheme Briefing Note to each Affected Party.

### **Affected Parties provided with the Construction Planning Assumptions**

#### If The Company generates Construction Planning Assumptions it shall forward the Construction Planning Assumptions, including any updates to the network model, to the Affected Parties’ Lead Person(s) within 5 Business Days of the User Application Date.

#### If there is a delay between receipt of the User Application and the User Application being effective, it may be necessary for The Company to provide the Affected Parties with revised and updated Construction Planning Assumptions, which take account of the generation and Demand backgrounds in STCP 22-1 Production of Models for National Electricity System Planning.

#### The Company may change, or Affected Parties may request a change to, the Construction Planning Assumptions (see 3.3.3).

### **Affected Parties assess the Construction Planning Assumptions and draft Application Programme**

#### The Affected Parties shall assess the Construction Planning Assumptions and consider any implications to the draft Application Programme.

#### The Affected Parties’ Lead Person(s) shall amend or confirm the draft Application Programme to The Company Lead Person one Business Day prior to the meeting to agree the Application Programme or within 21 calendar days from receipt of effective The Company Construction Application by Affected Parties, whichever is the earlier.

### **The Company and the Affected Parties create National Electricity Transmission System models**

#### The Company and the Affected Parties shall, where required for an application, each take the relevant Construction Planning Assumptions, together with the relevant network models and create a series of consistent National Electricity Transmission System models in accordance with STCP22-1 Production of Models for National Electricity Transmission System Planning.

### **The Affected Parties assess the impact of The Company Construction Application on their respective Transmission System**

#### The Affected Parties shall assess the impact of The Company Construction Application on their respective Transmission System. The Affected Parties shall carry out the assessment in accordance with the Application Programme.

3.2.12.2 If the Affected Parties determine that there is no impact then they shall inform The Company via a Designated Information Exchange System that there are no Transmission Construction Works required by return email and within a maximum of 21 calendar days from receipt of effective The Company Construction Application (or such other time as may be agreed).At the same time as notifying The Company that they shall not be submitting a TO Construction Offer, the Affected Parties shall also notify The Company of any technical design or operational criteria which they intend to assume will apply to User Equipment at the Relevant Connection Site.

3.2.12.3 If the Affected Parties determine that there is an impact on their respective Transmission System then they will agree an Application Programme with The Company to enable The Company to make the Use of System Offer. The Company shall continue to make the Use of System Offer to the Applicant within 3 months of User Application Date by following the STCP 18-1 Connection and Modification Application process from 3.3.13 where the Affected Parties assess the impact of The Company Construction Application to the end of the process.

### **The Company issues Use of System Offer**

#### The Company shall complete and issue the Use of System Offer to the Applicant in accordance with the CUSC.

### **Post Use of System Offer negotiation**

#### If the Applicant requests clarification on certain aspects of the Use of System Offer or requests a meeting to clarify certain aspects of the Use of System Offer, The Company and the Affected Parties shall provide all reasonable assistance to answer any queries raised by the Applicant. The Company and the Affected Parties shall accommodate a request for a meeting at the convenience of all relevant parties.

#### Should the Applicant require a change to the Use of System Offer or request the extension of the offer acceptance period, The Company and the Affected Parties shall use reasonable endeavours to agree whether this is a material change requiring a new User Application or not. Where a new User Application is not required, The Company and the Affected Parties shall agree the process and timescales for agreeing a change to the terms of the original response to The Company Construction Application. The Company shall advise the Applicant of the timescales for the revised Use of System Offer or whether a new User Application is required.

### **Applicant signs Use of System Offer Agreements**

#### When signed Use of System Agreements are returned from the Applicant, The Company Lead Person shall send two copies of the duly executed original of the Transmission Owners Construction Agreement which has given rise to the Use of System Agreements to the TO.

## Subsidiary Processes

### **Requests for extension to application process timescale**

#### The Company may request from the Authority an extension in timescales for providing an Offer to an Applicant under its Transmission Licence. The STC allows The Company to agree alternative timescales for the provision of a TO Construction Offer from a TO.

#### A TO may request from the Authority an extension in timescales for providing a response to a The Company Construction Application under its Transmission Licence. Where a TO has been granted an extension by the Authority, The Company may need to separately request an extension in timescales for providing an Offer to an Applicant under its Transmission Licence.

#### It may be necessary at any stage of the application process for an extension to the application timescales to be considered. Where a Party identifies the need for an extension in timescales then this request shall initially be discussed by the Lead Person(s). If the Lead Person(s) agree that there is a need for an extension, The Company shall submit an application to the Authority for an extension in timescales. The Affected Parties shall provide any relevant information reasonably requested by The Company to enable The Company to make a timely submission for such an extension to the application timescales.

#### Where a Party requires an extension to its timescales and the Lead Person(s) do not agree then that Party may submit such a request to the Authority. Any Party submitting such a request to the Authority shall inform (as appropriate) The Company and the other Affected Parties of the request. The Company may need to separately submit a request to the Authority for an extension to its application timescales. The Affected Party shall provide any relevant information requested by The Company to enable The Company to make a timely submission for such an extension to its application timescales.

#### The Company and the Affected Parties shall work to the agreed Application Programme, unless notified by the Party making the request that the Authority has granted an extension to its application timescales. If an extension to the application timescales is granted, the Parties shall discuss the Application Programme and The Company Lead Person shall update the Scheme Briefing Notes as necessary and share via a Designated Information Exchange System the appropriate updated Scheme Briefing Note to each Affected Party.

### **Amendments to User Application by Applicant**

#### If details of the User Application change after the User Application has been submitted, then The Company and the Affected Parties shall assess what impact this will have on the ability of the Affected Parties to respond to the The Company Construction Application to The Company in the required timescales. The Company shall then advise the Applicant on whether the changes are likely to have a Material Impact on The Company’s planned Use of System Offer in terms of use of the National Electricity Transmission System and whether the timescales need to be revised as a result of the amendment.

#### If the change will not have a Material Impact on the Affected Parties ability to respond to The Company Construction Application to The Company and subsequently The Company’s ability to make the Use of System Offer to the Applicant in the required timescales, then the Affected Parties shall proceed to make their response to The Company Construction Application as planned.

#### If the change is to have a Material Impact on the Affected Parties ability to respond to The Company Construction Application to The Company and/or The Company ’s subsequent ability to make the Use of System Offer to the Applicant in the required timescales, then the relevant STC Parties have the choice of:

* requesting an extension of time (using the process set out in 3.3.1); or
* requesting the Applicant to withdraw the original User Application and submit a new User Application with the new details.

### **Modifications to Construction Planning Assumptions**

#### **The Company initiated modifications to Construction Planning Assumptions prior to issue of the Use of System Offer to the Applicant**

#### At any time after providing the TO(s) with the Construction Planning Assumptions and prior to receipt of the response to The Company Construction Application, The Company may decide to change the Construction Planning Assumptions.

#### The Company may decide to convene a meeting of the Lead person(s) to discuss the revision of the Construction Planning Assumptions giving Affected Parties reasonable notice in writing.

#### The Company shall provide the revised Construction Planning Assumptions and request confirmation from the TO that the TO will meet the Application Programme. This may be at the meeting convened by the Lead Person(s) in 3.3.3.1.2.

#### The Affected Parties shall either confirm the Application Programme timescales or request a revision to the Application Programme. Where a requested revision to the Application Programme requires an extension to the application timescales then the process under 3.3.1 will be followed.

#### **TO initiated modifications to Construction Planning Assumptions prior to issue of the Use of System Offer to the Applicant**

#### At any time prior to issuing its response to The Company Construction Application, the TO may submit a request to The Company for a change to the Construction Planning Assumptions, including reasons for the request.

#### The Company may decide to convene a meeting of the Lead Person(s) to discuss the request for revision of the Construction Planning Assumptions giving Affected Parties reasonable notice in writing.

#### The Company shall consider how it will address the request and notify the TO and any other TO materially affected by the requested change. Where relevant The Company shall issue revised Construction Planning Assumptions and request confirmation from the TO that the TO will meet the Application Programme. This may be at the meeting of the Lead Person(s) convened in 3.3.3.2.2.

#### The Affected Parties shall either confirm the Application Programme timescales or request a revision to the Application Programme. Where a requested revision to the Application Programme requires an extension to the application timescales then the process under 3.3.1 will be followed.

#### Notwithstanding any request submitted by the TO each Affected Party shall continue to take into account the Construction Planning Assumptions provided by The Company.

#### **The Company initiated modifications to Construction Planning Assumptions after issue of the Use of System Offer**

#### At any time after issuing of the Use of System Offer to the Applicant and prior to the acceptance of the Use of System Offer or the lapsing of the Use of System Offer, The Company may decide to change the Construction Planning Assumptions e.g. due to an interactive offer being accepted, a Disconnection, a TEC increase etc.

#### In such circumstances, The Company shall convene a meeting of the Lead Person(s) to discuss the revision of the Construction Planning Assumptions and a programme for a revised response to The Company Construction Application and a revised Use of System Offer to the Applicant. This will be based on relevant paragraphs from 3.2.10.

#### The Company shall provide to each Affected Party the revised Construction Planning Assumptions and a new Scheme Briefing Note setting out the revised Application Programme.

#### **TO initiated modifications to Construction Planning Assumptions after issue of the Use of System Offer by The Company**

#### At any time after issuing the Use of System Offer to the Applicant and prior to the acceptance or lapse of the Use of System Offer, the TO may make a request to The Company to change the Construction Planning Assumptions such request shall include reasons for the request.

#### The Company may decide to convene a meeting of the Lead Person(s)to discuss the request for revision of the Construction Planning Assumptions.

#### The Company shall consider whether or not and, where relevant, how it intends to address the request and notify the TO and any other TO materially affected by the requested change.

#### Where The Company decides to revise the Construction Planning Assumptions, The Company shall convene a meeting of the Lead Person(s) to discuss the revision of the Construction Planning Assumptions and a programme for a revised response to The Company Construction Application. This will be based on relevant paragraphs from 3.2.10.

#### The Company shall provide the revised Construction Planning Assumptions and a new Scheme Briefing Note setting out the revised Application Programme.

### **Withdrawal of a User Application by the Applicant**

## Where an Applicant withdraws their User Application, The Company shall update the Scheme Briefing Notes and shall send via a Designated Information Exchange System the appropriate Scheme Briefing Notes to the Affected Parties within 2 Business Days.

## Appendix A: Flow Diagram

### Note that the Process Diagrams shown in this Appendix A are for information only. In the event of any contradiction between the process represented in this Appendix A and the process described elsewhere in this STCP, then the text elsewhere in this STCP shall prevail.

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## Appendix B: Abbreviations & Definitions

Affected TO Affected Transmission Owner

DNO Distribution Network Operator

Host TO Host Transmission Owner

Other Affected TO Other Affected Transmission Owner

SBN Scheme Briefing Note (see STCP18-1 Connection and Modification Application)

SHET Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc

SPT SP Transmission Limited plc

TO Transmission Owner

## Definitions

**STC definitions used:**

Business Day

Connection

Connection Site

Construction Planning Assumptions

CUSC

Dispute

National Electricity Transmission System

Generator

Grid Code

Modification

The Company

NGET

The Company Application Date

The Company Construction Application

Party

Relevant Connection Site

System

TO Construction Agreement

TO Construction Offer

Transmission

Transmission Connection Assets

Transmission Construction Works

Transmission Licence

Transmission Owner

Transmission System

User Application

User Application Date

User Equipment

**CUSC definitions used:**

Applicant

Authority

Bilateral Connection Agreement

Bilateral Embedded Generation Agreement

Connection Site

Construction Agreement

Demand

Distribution Interconnector Owner

Embedded

Modification Application

Modification Notification

Modification Offer

Small Power Station Trading Party

Transmission Licence

Use of System

Use of System Offer

**Definition used from other STCPs:**

Application Fee STCP19-6: Application Fee

Scheme Briefing Note STCP18-1: Connection and Modification Application

Material Impact STCP18-1: Connection and Modification Application