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STCP Modification Proposal Form

PM0133: Network Services Feasibility Studies

Overview: Creating a codified process for the provision of network services feasibility studies.

Modification process & timetable

1	Initial STCP Proposal Form 08 April 2026
2	Approved STCP Proposal Form 29 April 2026
3	Implementation TBC

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

This modification is expected to have a: Medium impact on Transmission System Operators and Transmission Owners

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?

STCP 17-1 covers the process for Transmission Owners (TOs) supporting National Energy System Operator (NESO) in providing feasibility studies for connections. However, the feasibility support needed has evolved to include support for network services procurement exercises. Unlike with the feasibility study for connections, there is no defined process for carrying out or contracting other feasibility studies within the STCPs. Following the completion of several network services procurement exercises, it has been identified that standardising the process would provide efficiencies to all parties involved by reducing the administrative burden and delays caused by uncertainty and the need to agree contract forms and terms each time.

Why change?

This proposal will improve the way in which NESO formally contract with TOs for feasibility studies that will enable long term procurement exercises by clarifying and simplifying the process to ensure the effective delivery of work on consistent terms for feasibility studies.

Building the process and fixed Terms and Conditions into an STCP will help in clarifying obligations on the TOs and NESO when conducting feasibility studies. This will help govern the overall relationship with TOs and reduce the resource required to create individual contracts for each network services feasibility study.

What is the Proposer's solution?

It is proposed to specifically define the network services feasibility study process within a new STCP (STCP 17-2). This will include the process to be followed, with all parties' responsibilities, alongside standardised Terms and Conditions.

Legal Text

The proposed Legal Text for STCP 17-2 can be found in **Annex 01**.

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What is the impact of this change?

This will help govern the overall relationship between NESO and TOs for network services feasibility studies providing clarity regarding obligations, and reducing the resource required through standardisation of contracts.

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 Electricity Act 1989;	Positive Provides a standardised process for feasibility studies that aid network services procurement exercises
(b) efficient discharge of the obligations imposed upon the licensee by the Electricity System Operator licence, the Energy Act 2023 and Electricity Act 1989;	Positive Provides a standardised process for feasibility studies that aid network services procurement exercises
(c) development, maintenance, and operation of an efficient, economical, and coordinated system of electricity transmission;	Positive Process that supports procurement of network services that help operate the transmission system economically and efficiently
(d) facilitating effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity, and (so far as consistent therewith) facilitating such competition in the distribution of electricity;	Neutral

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(e) 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 and the licensee*;	Positive Improves the process of procuring network services that aid the security and quality of supply
(f) promotion of good industry practice and efficiency in the implementation and administration of the arrangements described in the STC;	Positive Provides a standardised process for feasibility studies that aid network services procurement exercises
(g) facilitation of access to the National Electricity Transmission System for generation not yet connected to the National Electricity Transmission System or Distribution System; and	Neutral
(h) compliance with the Electricity Regulation and any Relevant Legally Binding Decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency.	Neutral

* See *Electricity System Operator Licence*

Proposer's assessment against the STCP change requirements	Proposer's assessment
(a) the amendment or addition falls within the terms and arrangements set out in condition E4 of the ESO Licence Standard Condition B12 of the Transmission Licence;	Requirement met
(b) the amendment or addition does not impair, frustrate or invalidate the provisions of the Code	Requirement met

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(c) 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 the rights and obligations of the Relevant Parties under the Code;	Requirement met
(d) the amendment or addition is not inconsistent or in conflict with the Code, ESO Licence or Transmission Licence Conditions or other relevant statutory requirements; and	Requirement met
(e) 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:

13 May 2026.

Implementation approach:

There is no impact on systems. This change will require affected parties to use agreed legal text for future feasibility studies.

Interactions

☐Grid Code ☐BSC ☐CUSC ☐SQSS
☐European ☐Other ☐Other
 Network Codes modifications

No interactions identified.

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Panel Determination

Party	Determination
National Energy System Operator (NESO)	To be updated following Panel determination
National Grid (TO)	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
CUSC	Connection and Use of System Code
NESO	National Energy System Operator
PM	Procedure Modification
SQSS	Security and Quality of Supply Standards
STC	System Operator Transmission Owner Code
TO	Transmission Owner

Reference material

- No References

Annexes

Annex	Description
Annex 01	PM0133 Legal Text