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Code Administrator Consultation

CMP469: GC0186 Cost Recovery mechanism for CUSC Parties

Overview: The GC0186 modification will place new obligations, within the Grid Code, upon Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC) Parties who are not contracted with National Energy System Operator (NESO) as Restoration Service Providers. Therefore, a one-year time extension of the codified cost recovery mechanism is required to prevent the affected parties being commercially disadvantaged by the implementation of the new obligations.

Modification process & timetable

1	Proposal Form 11 March 2026
2	Code Administrator Consultation 27 April 2026 – 19 May 2026
3	Draft Final Modification Report 18 June 2026
4	Final Modification Report 07 July 2026
5	Implementation 10 Business Days after Authority Decision

Have 5 minutes? Read our Executive summary

Have 30 minutes? Read the full Code Administrator Consultation

Have 45 minutes? Read the full Code Administrator Consultation and Annexes.

Status summary: We are now consulting on this proposed change.

This modification is expected to have a: High impact on Suppliers and Generators

Governance route	Standard Governance modification to proceed to Code Administrator Consultation	
Who can I talk to about the change?	Proposer: Garth Graham garth.graham@sse.com 01738 456000	Code Administrator Contact: Ren Walker Lurrentia.walker@neso.energy
How do I respond?	Send your response proforma to cusc.team@neso.energy by 5pm on 19 May 2026 .	

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What is the issue?

This proposal in essence duplicates the *issue* within CMP398¹ (which was approved by the Authority on 29 February 2024).

The Authority summarised CMP398 (in its decision letter²) in the following terms:

"It seeks to introduce a cost recovery mechanism into the Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC) for obligations that GC0156 imposed on CUSC parties without a Restoration contract. SSE believes that such parties would otherwise be at a commercial disadvantage stating that these CUSC parties without a restoration contract are the only obligated parties that would have costs arising from GC0156 but no funding mechanism..."

This is the same issue with respect to GC0186 which, like GC0156, relates to the Electricity System Restoration Standard.

In February 2026, National Energy System Operator (NESO) raised Grid Code Modification GC0186³ ("*Proposed Grid Code Changes – Post Electricity System Restoration Standard (ESRS)*") noting that "*This modification is expected to have a: High impact [on] Transmission System Operators, Transmission Owners, Network Operators and Generators*" [emphasis added].

Whilst details, of the GC0186 solution, is at an early stage of being developed we recognise that; as we did with GC0156; we need to raise a 'sister' CUSC modification in a timely manner (see below) to ensure an appropriate cost recovery mechanism is in place for the affected assets of Generator CUSC Parties (that do not have a Restoration Contract with NESO).

Based on the legal text introduced into the CUSC via an Alternative to our CMP398 modification, this modification proposes a simple one-year time

¹ See pages 3-4 of the proposal form: [download](#)

² [CMP398 Authority Decision](#)

³ [GC0186: Proposed Grid Code Changes – Post Electricity System Restoration Standard \(ESRS\) | National Energy System Operator](#)

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extension (of the CMP398, Workgroup Alternative CUSC Modification (WACM)¹ solution).

Timing – why now?

The Proposer is mindful of the Authority’s statement with respect to a recent⁴ similar case where two CUSC Modifications (CMP456 and CMP466) were raised with respect to the cost recovery arising from a Grid Code (GC0168) modification:

“We note from the information provided that the need for a CUSC modification [CMP456/CMP466] was identified during the GC0168 Workgroup consultation, indicating that the interaction with the CUSC and requirement for a further potential cost recovery modification was recognised at a very early stage. We consider that the Proposer could have therefore raised this [CUSC] code modification Proposal at the very least in June 2025, potentially negating the need for a request for urgency, and that the circumstances presented as requiring urgent treatment arise from the Proposer’s actions rather than from an inherent urgency in the issue itself”⁵

Accordingly, with this Authority position in mind, the Proposer wished to raise this cost recovery modification to the CUSC in a timely manner.

GC0186 was first discussed at the February 2026 Grid Code Review Panel meeting. One week later, the intention to raise this CUSC proposal was flagged to CUSC stakeholders at the March 2026 Transmission Charging Methodologies Forum (TCMF) meeting, in line with good practice. During the ‘AOB’ item, the draft legal text (shown below) was also shared in the meeting chat. One week after that TCMF meeting, this modification proposal is now being raised.

⁴ 19th December 2025.

⁵ The Authority’s letter rejecting urgency status for CMP456 (they wrote in similar terms for CMP466) [download](#).

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In doing so, it is believed that this has ensured that “the interaction with the CUSC and requirement for a further potential cost recovery modification was recognised at a very early stage.”

Why change?

This change is needed to ensure that any legitimate costs, associated with ESRS compliance, from the changes that NESO’s Grid Code Modification GC0186 (and GC0156) introduces is recoverable by CUSC generation parties (as was the case with GC0156 and CMP398).

What is the Proposer’s solution?

The solution is simply to extend, by one calendar year, the deadline for ESRS related claims from the current (GC0156 based) deadline of 31st December 2026 to a new deadline of 31st December 2027 to allow 12 months more for GC0156 and /or GC0186 cost recovery claims to be submitted.

Draft legal text

*“6.37 GC0156 **and GC0186** Cost Recovery Claims*

*6.37.1 All CUSC Users that are Generators that are not Restoration Contractors (as defined in the Grid Code) may submit claims during the annual claims submission month for the recovery of the cost of compliance with the new obligations imposed on them via Grid Code modification GC0156 **or GC0186**. Claims will be assessed by The Company as described in paragraph 6.37.5. All costs that are assessed as being payable shall be paid out as described in paragraph 6.37.7.”*

*6.37.4 The claims submission month will initially be September in each year, save that claims shall not be possible in September 2023. However, in 202**76**, the claims submission month will be December 202**76**, and this will be the last ever claims window. From 31st December 202**76**, no more claims will be accepted.*

*6.37.8 Each claimant shall use reasonable endeavours, exercising Good Industry Practice, to identify if compliance with the GC0156 **or GC0186** Grid Code requirements could be achieved at a materially lower cost by meeting a lesser*

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technical requirement (such as by providing resilience at their asset for fewer than 72 hours) and if so, then they shall advise The Company accordingly and liaise with The Company about possible solutions associated with a request to The Authority for a derogation against the Grid Code to the lesser level of resilience. If appropriate, The Company shall seek a derogation from The Authority on that basis. If the derogation request has been denied, or has not been granted by 1st December 2027~~6~~, then a claim can be submitted before 31st December 2027~~6~~ for assessment by The Company as per this section 6.37."

What is the impact of this change?

Generators, who'll be able to make a claim for their legitimate costs arising from GC0186 (as well as GC0156) for one (extra) calendar year, will be positively impacted.

As any legitimate cost claims will be recovered via the Balancing Services Use of System (BSUoS), Suppliers will be negatively impacted.

Proposer's assessment against CUSC Non-Charging Objectives	
Relevant Objective	Identified impact
(i) The efficient discharge by the Licensee of the obligations imposed on it by the Act and by this licence*;	Positive Provide assurance that the new licence obligation issued in Oct 2021 can be satisfied and discharged in a non-discriminatory way.
(ii) Facilitating effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity, and (so far as consistent therewith) facilitating such competition in the sale, distribution and purchase of electricity;	Positive By ensuring that CUSC Parties who are obligated by the Grid Code (but do not have a relevant contract with the NESO) to undertake activities required for ESRS are able to recover their bona

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	vide costs this will facilitate effective competition in the generation and supply of electricity.
(iii) Compliance with the Electricity Regulation and any relevant legally binding decision of the European Commission and/or the Agency **; and	Neutral
(iv) Promoting efficiency in the implementation and administration of the CUSC arrangements.	Neutral

* See *Electricity System Operator Licence*

***The Electricity Regulation referred to in objective (c) is Regulation (EU) 2019/943 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 on the internal market for electricity (recast) as it has effect immediately before IP completion day as read with the modifications set out in the SI 2020/1006.*

When will this change take place?

Implementation date:

10 Business Days after an Authority decision.

Date decision required by

To align with GC0186.

Implementation approach

It will be necessary to extend the existing CMP398 based claims process (as set out in 6.37 of the CUSC) by one year; from 31st December 2026 (baseline) to a new deadline of 31st December 2027.

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Interactions

☒ Grid Code ☐ BSC ☐ STC ☐ SQSS
☐ European ☐ EBR Article 18 ☐ Other ☐ Other
 Network Codes T&Cs¹ modifications

CMP469 is a consequential modification to GC0186.

How to respond

Code Administrator Consultation questions

- Please provide your assessment for the proposed solution against the Applicable Objectives versus the current baseline.
- Do you support the proposed implementation approach?
- Do you have any other comments?
- Do you agree with the Proposer's assessment that the modification does not impact the Electricity Balancing Regulation (EBR) Article 18 terms and conditions held within the Code?

Views are invited on the proposals outlined in this consultation, which should be received by **5pm on 19 May 2026**. Please send your response to cusc.team@neso.energy using the response pro-forma which can be found on the [modification page](#).

If you wish to submit a confidential response, mark the relevant box on your consultation proforma. Confidential responses will be disclosed to the Authority in full but, unless agreed otherwise, will not be shared with the Panel or the industry and may therefore not influence the debate to the same extent as a non-confidential response.

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Acronyms, key terms and reference material

Acronym / key term	Meaning
AOB	Any Other Business
BSC	Balancing and Settlement Code
BSUoS	Balancing Services Use of System
CUSC	Connection and Use of System Code
EBR	Electricity Balancing Regulation
ESRS	Electricity System Restoration Standard
GC	Grid Code
NESO	National Energy System Operator
STC	System Operator Transmission Owner Code
SQSS	Security and Quality of Supply Standards
T&Cs	Terms and Conditions
TCMF	Transmission Charging Methodologies Forum

Annexes

Annex	
Annex 01	CMP469 Legal text
Annex 02	CMP469 Proposal Form