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Code Administrator Meeting Summary

Workgroup Meeting 10 – CMP471: Interim Connection Date Delay Process Ahead of CMP434 Gated Application Window

Date: 13/08/2026

Contact Details

Chair: Robert Hughes, Robert.Hughes3@neso.energy

Proposer: Matthew Dowds, matthew.dowds@muirhallenergy.co.uk

Key Areas of Discussion

The Workgroup reviewed and closed out several comments on the draft Workgroup Report. Members also undertook a detailed review of the proposed legal text changes, including completion date delay requests, validity periods, assessment principles and monitoring requirements.

Significant discussion centred on the treatment of alternative requests, their interaction with queue management processes, and the approach to scoping and voting on Workgroup Alternative CUSC Modifications.

Objectives & Timeline

The Workgroup discussed the approach for progressing Alternative Requests and agreed that a further two meetings would be required to consider the eligibility of alternative requests, vote on any Workgroup Alternative CUSC Modifications, finalise the associated legal text, and agree the final draft of the Workgroup report. The Chair confirmed that Code Governance would consider the process for scoping alternative requests and return with a proposed approach for Workgroup consideration at the next meeting.

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Alternative Requests

The Chair advised the Workgroup that he had received the results of the legal review regarding the Alternative Requests and had asked the NESO Legal representative to attend the meeting to ensure transparency and allow members to hear the legal rationale directly. The NESO legal representative explained their view regarding whether certain elements of Alternative Requests 01 and 03 extended beyond the original intent of the modification. On balance it was felt that they did and so are out of scope for this modification. The Workgroup discussion which followed focused on proposed changes that could create wider interactions with connection agreements, queue management processes and associated contractual arrangements beyond the Completion Date Delay Request (CDDR) process itself.

Workgroup members discussed the legal position in detail and expressed differing views on the appropriate scope of the modification. Some Workgroup members considered that the CDDR process should align with existing queue management and Gate 2 to Whole Queue exception arrangements, including any consequential changes required to facilitate an efficient process. Other members questioned whether these elements formed part of the defect set out in the Original proposal and noted that adopting such changes could effectively broaden the modification beyond its intended scope. Members also discussed whether certain outcomes should be mandatory or remain discretionary within the legal text, reflecting wider differences of opinion on how far CMP471 should seek to influence related connection processes, especially User Progression Milestones.

Following the discussion, the Chair acknowledged that there remained differing views regarding the scope of Alternative Requests 01 and 03 and agreed to discuss the matter further with the Code Governance and NESO Legal teams. It was agreed that Code Governance would undertake further consideration of the Alternative Requests, including the approach to determining their relevance and eligibility for consideration by the Workgroup, and return with a proposed approach at the next meeting before Workgroup members consider progression and voting on the requests.

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Charging for the service

A Workgroup member from a TO raised a potential charging issue arising from the proposed Completion Date Delay Request (CDDR) process and requested that the implications should be considered as part of the legal text development. The discussion focused on the treatment of a CDDR within the contractual framework and whether the process should be treated in a similar manner to a Modification Application. Workgroup members discussed the practical implications of this approach, including how to apply the Modification Application fees to the CDDR, as well as the need to ensure that any charging arrangements are proportionate to the limited nature of the request being made.

Members considered advice provided by a member of the NESO legal team that a CDDR could be deemed to be a non-gated Modification Application for the purposes of the charging process. The associated legal drafting would reflect this approach and set out that the standard Modification Application fee would apply, with costs subsequently reconciled in accordance with existing arrangements. Workgroup members noted the need to ensure the process remains efficient and does not create unnecessary barriers for users seeking a completion date delay while still allowing costs incurred by NESO and Transmission Owners to be recovered appropriately. It was agreed that the issue would be included in the ongoing legal text development, with the necessary drafting amendments incorporated into the next version of the legal text presented to the Workgroup.

Action Log Review

The Workgroup reviewed the remaining open actions and noted that three actions were still outstanding. Action 25 could not yet be progressed as the relevant NESO SME was unavailable to provide a response. For Action 26, the NESO representative confirmed that discussions had taken place with colleagues and that further information was being sought before the action could be closed. Action 28 also remained outstanding due to the unavailability of the relevant NESO SME. The Chair advised that they would write officially to NESO on the Workgroup's behalf seeking responses to the outstanding points in the Workgroup action log. The intention is to close the last 3 points at the next meeting.

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Workgroup Report Review

The Chair led a review of comments received from Workgroup members on the draft Workgroup Report. Several comments were considered resolved where Workgroup members agreed that the issues had already been addressed elsewhere in the report. Where comments remained relevant, they were discussed and retained for incorporation into the next version.

The Chair confirmed that a further draft of the Workgroup Report would not be circulated until the outcome of discussions on the Alternative Requests was known. This was because this would materially affect the report's final content, including the treatment of the alternatives in the report and voting outcomes. It was explained that discussions since the Workgroup consultation would be incorporated, alongside the outcomes of the Alternative Request discussions and voting report, to produce an updated final draft version for consideration at the final Workgroup meeting. The Chair noted that the next meeting would focus on the Alternative Requests, completing the two-stage Workgroup vote, and reviewing the finalised legal text before producing the final draft and progressing the report towards completion.

Legal Text Review

The Workgroup undertook a comprehensive review of the latest legal text, focusing primarily on Sections 11 and 19.

Members reviewed the proposed eligibility criteria for submitting a Completion Date Delay Request, the information required from applicants, the assessment principles that would be applied by NESO and the relevant Transmission Owner, and the timeframes governing the application process. Particular attention was given to the validity periods for revised offers and the interaction between revised completion dates and existing contractual milestones.

A significant proportion of the discussion focused on issues that may arise following an approved delay request. Workgroup members considered issues such as existing connection agreements, Queue Management process and Gate 2 to Whole Queue exceptions.

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Workgroup members agreed that further drafting work would be undertaken ahead of the next meeting before it is brought back to the next Workgroup meeting for final consideration.

AOB Discussion

Members discussed the approach to assessing Alternative Requests. The Chair outlined Stage 1 of the voting process for determining whether Alternative Requests should progress as Workgroup Alternative CUSC Modifications (WACMs).

Next Steps

Further drafting work would be undertaken on the legal text before the next meeting. The Proposer and the NESO legal team will continue refining the legal text.

The next Workgroup meeting will review the updated legal text, consider Alternative Requests and undertake the full voting process. The subsequent and proposed final Workgroup will review the final draft of the Workgroup Report.

Actions

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

Action Number	Workgroup Raised	Owner	Action	Due by	Status
25	WG7	RM/TB	NESO to provide the workgroup with data indicating the potential volume of Connection Date Delay Requests, including relevant information gathered through its request for information process.	WG9	Open
26	WG7	TB	NESO to share its response on implementation and process arrangements once feedback has been received from the relevant internal IT and Connections teams.	WG9	Open

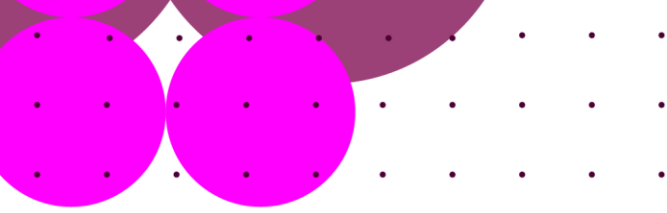
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Review the treatment of transitional offers and confirm whether this affects the proposed

28 WG7 MD/TB/RMremoval or retention of Section 18 drafting. Seek WG9 Open views from Ruth Matthew and TO representatives before finalising the legal text.

Attendees

Name	Initial	Company	Role
Robert Hughes	RH	NESO	Chair
Ryan Baldwin	RB	NESO	Technical Secretary
Matthew Dowds	MD	Muir Hall Energy	Proposer
Terry Baldwin	TB	NESO	NESO Rep
Angela Quinn	AQ	NESO	NESO Legal Rep
Isabelle Vasko	IV	National Grid Electricity Transmission	Workgroup Member
Lamin Saidy Vulart	LSV	Qair UK	Workgroup Member
Thomas O'Neill	TO	Qair UK	Workgroup Member (alt)
Andrew Allan	AA	RWE	Workgroup Member (alt)
Niall Stuart	NS	Hutcheson Associates	Workgroup Member
David Barber	DB	GridLink Interconnector Ltd	Workgroup Observer
Gareth Williams	GW	Scottish Power Transmission	Workgroup Member
Fiona Casey	FC	SSE Transmission	Workgroup Member
Emma Webster	EW	Bute Energy	Workgroup Member (alt)
Damian Clough	DC	SSE Generation	Workgroup Member
Alejandro Castro	AC	RE Projects Development	Workgroup Member



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