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CUSC Panel 2026

CUSC Panel Minutes

Meeting Number: 376

Date: 28/08/2026 **Location:** Microsoft Teams

Start: 10:00 AM **End:** 1:30 PM

Participants

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Anthony Pygram	AP	Independent Panel Chair
Teri Puddefoot	TP	Panel Secretary Code Administrator Representative (Alternate)
Ren Walker	RW	Panel Technical Secretary (Code Administrator)
Mollie Griffiths	MG	Code Administrator – Observer
Andrew Enzor	AE	Users’ Panel Member
Garth Graham	GG	Users’ Panel Member
Joe Colebrook	JC	Users’ Panel Member
Joe Dunn	JD	Users’ Panel Member Alternate
Nick Sillito	NS	Users’ Panel Member Alternate
Paul Jones	PJ	Users’ Panel Member Alternate
Dan Arrowsmith	DA	NESO Panel Member

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Robert Newton	RN	Consumers' Panel Member
Nadir Hafeez	NH	Authority Representative
Jonathan Bowes	JB	Authority Representative

Apologies

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Catia Gomes	CG	Panel Secretary Code Administrator Representative
Kyran Hanks	KH	Users' Panel Member
Lauren Jauss	LJ	Users' Panel Member
Jacob Snowden	JS	Elexon – Observer

Presenters / Observers

Attendee	Initials	Representing
Robert Hughes	RH	Workgroup Chair for CMP471
Muki Liu	ML	Proposer of CMP472
Mark Carolan	MC	Ofgem

1. Introductions, Apologies and Declarations of Interest

1. Apologies were received from Catia Gomes, Kyran Hanks and Lauren Jauss.
2. Declarations of interest were noted by GG for CMP479. GG advised the Panel that he would be presenting this modification proposal on behalf of his colleague from SSE Generation.

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2. Minutes from previous meeting

3. The meeting minutes from the CUSC Panel held on 10 July and 31 July 2026 were approved.

3. Review of actions log

4. The CUSC Panel agreed to review the following open actions at the August CUSC Panel:
 - Action 193: Action to remain open.

4. Chair's update

5. AP had no updates for the Panel.

5. Authority Decisions

6. NH and JB provided an update on modifications that have been decided upon, together with those currently awaiting their decision.

Awaiting Decisions

Modification	FMR submitted	Expected Decision Date
Decisions temporarily paused due to Reform National Pricing (RNP) Programme		
<u>CMP315</u> : 'TNUoS Review of the expansion constant and the elements of the transmission system charged for' and <u>CMP375</u> 'Enduring Expansion Constant & Expansion Factor Review'	07 February 2024	TBC pending update on RNP (previously 07 February 2025)
<u>CMP423</u> : 'Generation-weighted Reference Node'	09 December 2025	TBC pending update on RNP
<u>CMP440</u> : 'Re-introduction of Demand TNUoS locational signals'	10 April 2026	TBC pending update on RNP

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by removal of the zero-price floor'		
CMP445: 'Pro-rating first year TNUoS for Generators	10 July 2026	TBC pending update on RNP (previously 30 September 2026)
Charging/ Non – Charging Modifications		
CMP316: 'TNUoS Charging Methodology for Co-located Generation'	08 August 2025	TBC (Previously September 2026)
CMP397: 'Consequential changes required to CUSC Exhibits B and D to reflect CMP316 (Co-located Generation Sites)'	12 June 2024	TBC
CMP453: 'To Bill BSUoS on a net basis at BSC Trading Units'	11 November 2025	30 September 2026
CMP469: 'GC0186 Cost Recovery mechanism for CUSC Parties'	07 July 2026	30 October 2026
Connections Modifications		
CMP330 & CMP374: 'Allowing new Transmission Connected parties to build Connection Assets greater than 2km in length and Extending contestability for Transmission Connections'	10 August 2023	September 2026
CMP417 'Extending principles of CUSC Section 15 to all Users'	20 July 2026	TBC
CMP470 'Introducing an Oversubscribed Technologies Commitment Fee'	14 July 2026	14 October 2026
CMP474 'Fixed BSUoS Price Revision Mechanism'	10 July 2026	TBC

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CMP475 'Amendment to the BSUoS tariff reset process'	10 July 2026	TBC
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7. The Panel received an update on the status of outstanding Authority decisions and noted that a number of modifications remained delayed or subject to revised expected decision dates. Ofgem advised that the principal constraint related to legal and team resourcing, including the impact of the CMA appeal and the loss of specialist legal resource. CMP474 and CMP475 were identified as immediate priorities due to their wider market implications, while work was continuing to manage the broader backlog.
8. The Panel discussed the need for clearer coordination and communication on expected decision dates, particularly where the status shown in the supporting materials did not fully align with the verbal update. It was agreed that a written update would be provided to confirm the latest positions and ensure the headline report and minutes accurately reflected the status of relevant modifications, including those on hold due to resourcing constraints and those linked to national pricing reform.
9. The Panel also noted concerns around the implications of decisions being made after the nominal 30 September deadline for changes intended to take effect in the next charging year. Ofgem confirmed that implementation timing would continue to be discussed with NESO, and that work was under way to improve transparency, including through the development of decision-making KPIs and metrics.

6. New modifications

The following new Modification Proposal was presented to the Panel:

CMP479 'Milestone 8: inclusion of OFTO construction'

10. This modification amends Milestone 8 (Project Construction) in CUSC Section 16 to recognise Offshore Transmission infrastructure as construction activity for Offshore generation projects.
11. The Panel noted that the current drafting excludes such works, despite them being essential for export and potentially on the critical path to first power. It was explained that the proposed legal text would create an exception to the general

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OTSDUW exclusion for Milestone 8 and replicate the wording in the Milestone 8 table to avoid any ambiguity.

12. The Panel discussed whether the construction plan agreed at Milestone 8 would sufficiently cover the relevant offshore works. It was confirmed that the construction plan would include the necessary works and that supporting guidance would clarify expectations. It was also confirmed that only limited changes to guidance or internal processes were expected and that the proposal would not create a significant operational burden.
13. The Panel unanimously agreed that CMP479 had a clearly defined defect and scope and should proceed directly to Code Administration Consultation under Standard Governance.

7. In flight modification updates

CMP456 'Cost recovery for legacy plant in relation to GC0168'

14. The Panel approved the new timeline for the following modification as submitted within the Panel Papers.

CMP471 'Interim Contract Variation Process Ahead of CMP434 Gated Application Window'

15. An update was provided by the CMP471 Workgroup Chair on the progress, next steps and suggested timeline for CMP471.

The next Modification Tracker will be published on 07 September 2026.

8. Workgroup Reports

16. No Workgroup Reports were presented to the Panel.

9. Draft Final Modification Reports

The following Draft Final Modification Report was presented to the Panel.

CMP472 'Large Embedded Generators Original Red Line Boundary Sharing Without Customer Consent'

17. TP delivered a presentation on CMP472. TP explained that this modification seeks to introduce a new clause in Section 17 of the CUSC to permit NESO to share the

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Original Red Line Boundary (ORLB) submitted by Large Embedded Generators (LEGs) with the relevant DNOs without requiring explicit customer consent. This change enables DNOs to independently and consistently verify distribution contract validity for LEGs applying for Gate 2 offers, ensuring that only projects with compliant and valid distribution arrangements progress through the gated connections process

18. TP confirmed that the Code Administrator Consultation was run from 27 April to 19 May 2026 and received 9 non-confidential. The key points from the consultation were:
 - All nine respondents believe CMP472 better facilitates CUSC Objective (iv), with varying support for Objectives (i), (ii) and (iii). All respondents support the proposed implementation approach.
 - Respondents agree that the modification enables more efficient and accurate delivery of Connections Reform, reducing administrative burden for NESO and DNOs.
 - Respondents agree that sharing Original/Red Line Boundary (ORLB/RLB) data is critical for Gate 2 compliance, early validation, and consistency across transmission and distribution networks.
 - Respondents see CMP472 as improving queue management by identifying and removing ineligible or non-compliant projects earlier, reducing unnecessary costs and design work.
 - Agreement that data sharing is appropriate under existing arrangements, with safeguards in place; most support sharing without requiring additional customer consent. Viewed as supporting cost efficiency by avoiding unnecessary network build and improving system coordination.
 - Multiple respondents recommend clearer implementation detail, including defined SLAs (typically ~5 working days) for data sharing and use of accessible PDF formats rather than alternative file types. Additional suggestions include mandating inclusion of Point of Supply within ORLB, clarifying treatment of non-gated applications, and ensuring applicants are informed of data sharing.
 - Legal Text issues raised in consultation responses.
19. ML explained that, following review, the original legal text would remain unchanged. This was because the additional wording previously considered in relation to the timing for sharing ORLB data could have extended or changed the

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scope of the proposal. Instead, the timing and process for sharing ORLB data will be addressed through supporting guidance.

20. ML clarified that ORLB data would not be required at the point a BEGA or BELA application is submitted. Instead, the relevant information would be provided through the separate Readiness Declaration process. If CMP472 is approved before the next application window, the Readiness Declaration form will make clear that submitting the application constitutes consent for the relevant data-sharing arrangement set out in the CUSC. This approach was presented as a way of ensuring that the relevant generator has a clear decision point, while still enabling the application to progress where consent is provided.
21. ML advised that the guidance setting out the ORLB data-sharing timing would be published ahead of the next application window, with a target of making it available at least six weeks before the window opens. Where required, bilateral discussions with DNOs would also support understanding of the process and expectations. A Panel member noted that the revised approach provided clarity for the relevant generator while allowing the data to be passed to the DNO where consent had been given.
22. The Panel held their recommendation vote for CMP472. The Panel has recommended unanimously that the Proposer's solution better facilitate the CUSC Applicable Objectives. The Final Modification Report was sent to Ofgem on 11 September 2026.

10. Discussion on Prioritisation

23. The Panel discussed the prioritisation of the following modifications using the modification prioritisation framework, assessing active modifications against SDS alignment, importance and complexity.
24. The Panel agreed to the following changes to the prioritisation stack:

Modification	Panel Comments	Position in Prioritisation Stack

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<u>CMP405 'TNUoS Locational Demand Signals for Storage'</u>	The Panel agreed to move CMP405 to high priority because it aligns with SDS "Act Now" priorities for long-duration electricity storage and near-term system efficiency, despite recognised interactions with wider pricing and storage policy that require further assessment.	High
<u>CMP457 'Revision of the Obligatory Reactive Power Service (ORPS)'</u>	The Panel agreed to move CMP457 to high priority due to its potential to deliver significant consumer savings by reducing ORPS costs.	High

25. The CUSC Panel will be convening for a Special Panel meeting on 18 September to discuss the prioritisation of all CUSC Modifications.

11. Standing Groups

Transmission Charging Methodology Forum (TCMF)

26. DA confirmed that the TCMF was held on 06 August. The meeting materials can be found via the following [link](#).

The next TCMF meeting will be held on 03 September.

12. European Updates

Joint European Stakeholder Group (JESG)

27. GG advised that the JESG meeting was held on 11 August. The meeting materials can be found via the following [link](#).

The next JESG meeting will be held on 08 September.

13. Update on other Industry Codes

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28. The Panel papers and Headline Report for the following meetings can be found at the below links:

- 28 July 2026 SQSS [Panel Papers and Headline Report](#)
- 29 July 2026 STC [Panel Papers and Headline Report](#)
- 30 July 2026 Grid Code Review [Panel Papers and Headline Report](#)

14. Relevant Interruptions Claim Report

29. No further updates for the Panel.

15. Governance

30. No further updates for the Panel.

16. Horizon Scan

31. No further updates for the Panel.

17. Code Administrator Update

32. There were no updates for the Panel.

18. Any Other Business (AOB)

Panel Dates 2027

33. The Panel agreed to the proposed 2027 CUSC Panel meeting dates and as such RW confirmed that invites would be sent following the Panel meeting.

19. Close

34. The Chair thanked the Panel for their time and contribution and brought the meeting to a close.

The next CUSC Panel meeting will be held on 25 September via Microsoft Teams.

New Modification Proposals to be submitted by 10 September.

CUSC Panel Papers Day is 18 September.

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Special CUSC Panel: 18 September.