

A Summary of the
Connection and Use of
System Code

nationalgrid



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Version control

Version	Date	Author	Change Reference
1.0	18/09/01	National Grid	First Issue
1.1	13/01/03	National Grid	Minor Updates
1.2	08/03/05	National Grid	Minor Updates
1.3	03/05/05	National Grid	Minor Updates
1.4	14/11/05	National Grid	Name Change
1.5	25/08/06	National Grid	Minor Updates
2.0	15/12/11	National Grid	Revised format and updated to reflect industry changes

National Grid is the owner of the CUSC and required by the terms of its Transmission Licence to prepare a CUSC and to produce this summary. This summary does not form part of the CUSC and therefore has no legally binding effect.

Foreword

The Connection and Use of System Code is a comprehensive document which constitutes the contractual framework for connection to, and use of, Great Britain's

(GB) high voltage transmission system. This document provides a summary of the CUSC document as required by the terms of the National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) Licence Condition C10.

This Summary along with the full CUSC and further information relating to the CUSC is available on our website:

<https://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/systemcode/>

Access to the CUSC is available at the following link:

<http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/systemcode/contracts/>

This document summarises the contractual arrangements that are in existence at the time of writing. National Grid will endeavour to keep this document as up to date as possible; however it is possible that at any particular moment in time this document may not fully represent the most up to date position.

All CUSC Modification Proposals currently being reviewed can be found in the modifications area of the link below, along with an archive on CUSC Modification Proposals:

<http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/systemcode/amendments/>

An index of revisions to the CUSC since 2004 can be found at the following link:

<http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/systemcode/contracts/>

Contact Information

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NGET welcomes any feedback regarding this document for future improvement; please contact the Electricity Codes team on the details above.

1. CUSC Introduction

1.1 CUSC and the GB Electricity Regulatory Structure

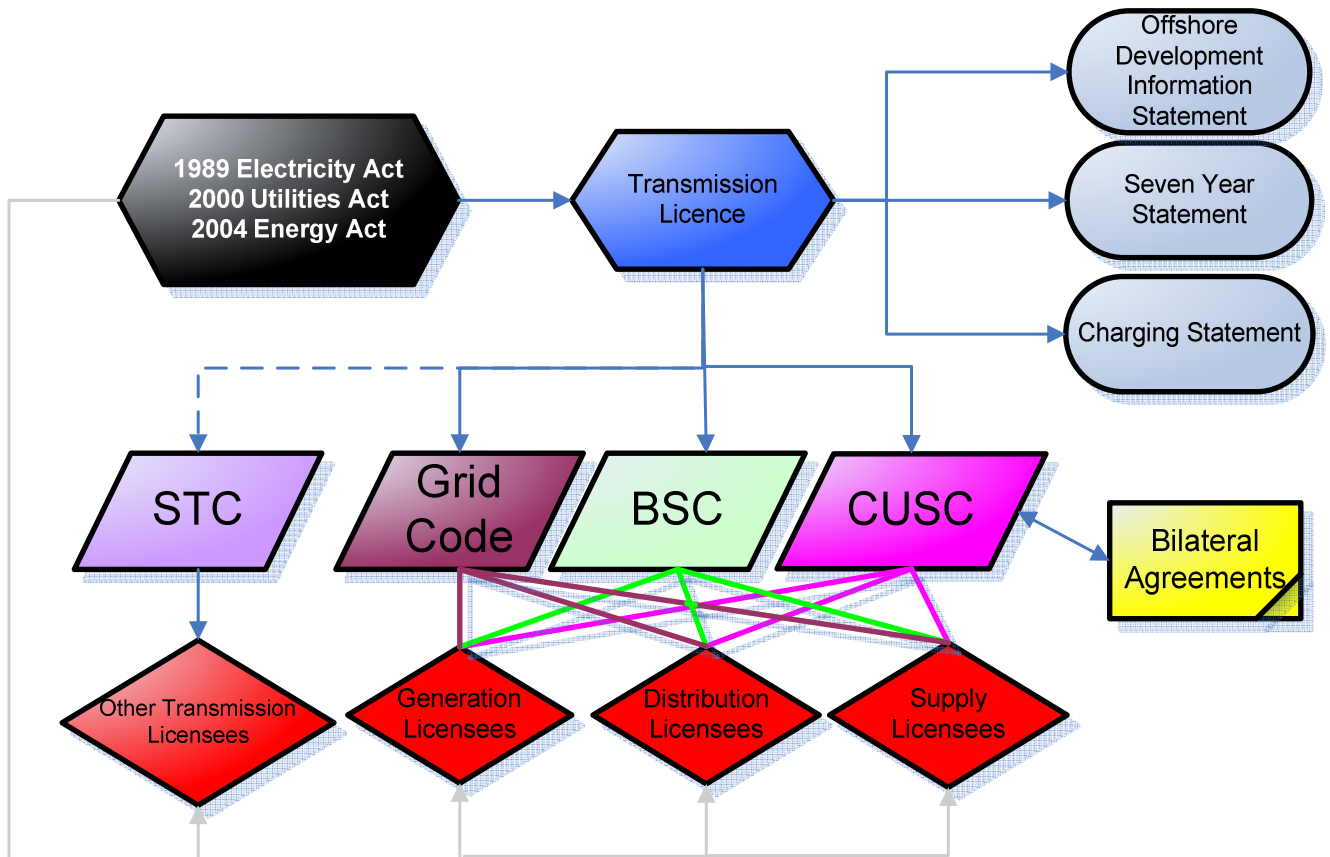
The electricity transmission network in Great Britain is owned by National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET) in England and Wales, Scottish Power Transmission Limited (SPTL) in south and central Scotland and Scottish Hydro Electric Limited (SHETL) in north Scotland. In addition to National Grid's role as transmission owner, it is also responsible for managing the operations of both the England and Wales transmission system, the two high voltage electricity transmission networks in Scotland and the high voltage electricity networks located in offshore waters surrounding Great Britain. The transmission system broadly comprises circuits operating at high voltage and is responsible for the transmission of energy from Generators to the lower voltage distribution network, which subsequently distributes the supply to users. NGET was appointed designate GB System Operator for offshore transmission networks in August 2006. The Offshore transmission regime was activated in June 2009 at which date NGET's role as system operator was extended to offshore waters.

The electricity industry in the UK has several stakeholder areas including Generators, Suppliers, Distribution Network Operators (DNOs), Transmission Owners (TO) and Interconnectors. These market players including NGET are governed by the 1989 Electricity Act and a series of subsequent legislation which sets out the legislative framework for participants, including the requirements for a Licence.

NGET has a Transmission Licence that obligates it to meet conditions set out in the licence. This includes the obligation to have in force a number of codes, which are in essence 'rule books' documenting how the industry will interact with the National Grid. Each code focuses on outlining the principles of a specific area of the market (see table below).

Code	Scope of Document
Connection and Use of System Code (CUSC)	Contractual Framework for connection to and use of National Grid's high voltage transmission system.
Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC)	Contains the rules and governance arrangements for electricity balancing and settlement in Great Britain. It provides the mechanism through which NGET recoups its costs from operating the system and is managed by a company called ELEXON.
Grid Code	Covers all material technical aspects relating to the planning, operation and use of the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS).
System Operator Transmission Owner Code (STC)	Sets out roles and responsibilities of the National Electricity Transmission System Operator (NETSO) and each Transmission Owner with regard to the planning and operation of the NETS.

The diagram below shows the legislative and contractual framework.



1.2 History of the CUSC

NETA

The CUSC was developed as a replacement to the Master Connection and Use of System Agreement (MCUSA) in 2001, coinciding with the introduction of the New Electricity Trading Arrangements (NETA) which brought about changes to how the Electricity markets would trade. All persons who were party to the MCUSA continued as original parties to the CUSC Framework Agreement. Other parties who have since acceded to the CUSC are additional parties.

BETTA

Until April 2005, the electricity wholesale market in Scotland operated under different arrangements from those in England and Wales. This changed with the introduction of the British Electricity Trading and Transmission Arrangements (BETTA), which introduced a single wholesale electricity market for GB, with a single transmission system operated by National Grid. The CUSC was amended to reflect changes under BETTA and the GB CUSC was implemented on 1st September 2005 (BETTA Go-Active Date).

Offshore Regime

In order to make the transition to a low carbon economy and to ensure the security, availability and affordability of energy, offshore electricity energy is being developed and expected to play a pivotal role. On 24th June 2009 ('Go-Active date'), the Secretary of State directed that National Grid's system coordination role was extended to offshore and that National Grid would develop an 'Offshore Development Information Statement' which builds on industry views for future offshore. Under the current regulatory regime, electricity transmission operating at 132 kV or above in offshore waters is considered a licensed activity and is regulated by Ofgem. Under this regime Offshore Transmission assets are owned and maintained by an appointed Offshore Transmission Owner (OFTO) as a result of a competition tender process, facilitated by Ofgem. An OFTO can be responsible for the design, consent and construction of the offshore transmission assets. Changes were made to the CUSC on 31st December 2010 to place obligations on offshore generators wishing to undertake activities otherwise undertaken by OFTOs to ensure that transmission assets comply with the same standards.

Connect and Manage

Access to the transmission networks was one of the main barriers for the UK in meeting its climate change and renewable energy targets. In order to address this, an initial consultation on 'Improving Grid Access' was conducted in 2009 by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC). Following that, the government implemented a Connect and Manage model to put in place enduring grid access reform and ensure that new generation is able to secure firm access dates in an appropriate timeframe. Changes to the licence and industry codes, including the CUSC were implemented on 11th August 2010.

1.3 What is the Connection and Use of System code (CUSC)?

The CUSC sets out the principal rights and obligations in relation to connection to and/or use of the NETS and additionally the provision of certain Balancing Services. National Grid is required under its Transmission Licence to be a party to the CUSC. It is also a requirement for holders of a generation, distribution or supply licence to be a party to the CUSC Framework Agreement and comply with the CUSC and all parties have to sign up to the CUSC in order to connect to the NETS.

NGET's Transmission Licence condition C10 states that *'The licensee shall only enter into arrangements for connection and use of system which are in conformity with any relevant provisions of the CUSC'*.

1.4 The CUSC Framework and Documentation

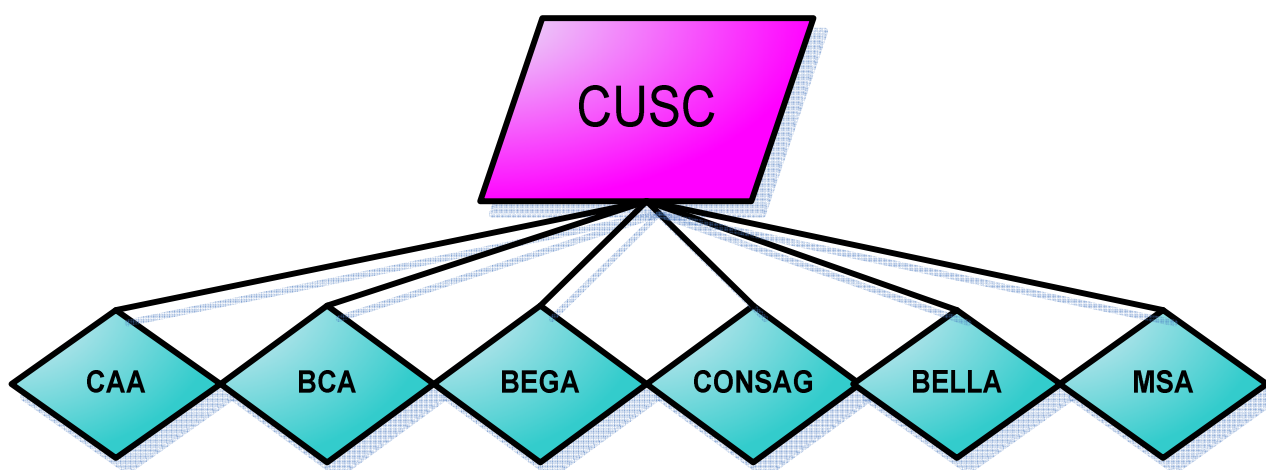
The CUSC interacts with a number of other documents which parties wishing to connect to, or use, the Transmission System may need to have in place.

In addition to licensees, the following parties need to be party to the CUSC Framework Agreement and comply with the CUSC:

Users who are:

- Required to sign an agreement pursuant to the Balancing and Settlement Code; or
- Not licensed nor subject to the Balancing and Settlement Code but who are directly connected to the NETS; or
- Who are embedded and required pursuant to Section 6, paragraph 6.5 of the CUSC to have an agreement with National Grid.

The diagram below illustrates some of the Agreements that set out the provisions for parties to comply with the CUSC.



CUSC Accession Agreement (CAA)

The CUSC Accession Agreement is contained as Exhibit A to the CUSC. A party will be required to accede to the CUSC via the Accession Agreement in order to become a party to the CUSC Framework Agreement, which gives contractual effect to the CUSC. The CUSC Framework Agreement can be accessed at the following link:

<http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/systemcode/contracts/cuscframeworkagreement.htm>

Bilateral Connection Agreement (BCA)

The BCA is applicable for those that wish to connect directly to the NETS. This applies to directly connected generators/demand sites and DNOs that have a connection to the NETS.

Bilateral Embedded Generation Agreement (BEGA)

This is for those that have requested access to the NETS but who are not directly connected. It is applicable to generators connected to a Distribution Network who wish to export to the NETS.

Construction Agreement (CONSAG)

This is applicable if there are any construction elements required. There is also an Offshore Construction Agreement which relates specifically to offshore users.

Bilateral Embedded Licence exemptable Large power station Agreement (BELLA)

This is an agreement in respect of an embedded exemptable large power station and is contained as Exhibit 5 to Schedule 2 of the CUSC.

Mandatory Services Agreement (MSA)

This is the agreement to cover the provision of and payment for Mandatory Ancillary Services. The requirement for the capability of certain Ancillary Services is contained within the Connection Conditions in the Grid Code.

2. An Overview of the CUSC Content

This section provides a more descriptive overview of the contents of the CUSC. The CUSC is divided into three key sections:

The CUSC

Exhibits to the CUSC

Schedules to the CUSC

2.1 The CUSC

The main body of the CUSC is divided into 14 sections that are applicable to various categories of User, depending on the nature of the users' connection to or use of the system. There is a general introduction to the CUSC which provided an overview and includes a description of how the CUSC interacts with the licences, the CUSC Framework Agreement, the CUSC Bilateral Agreements, the Construction Agreements, the Mandatory Services Agreement and the Charging Statements. This section is contained for information purposes only and does not form part of the CUSC itself or have any legally binding effect.

Section 1 - Applicability of Sections and Related Agreements Structure

This section acts as a general guide to inform CUSC signatories which sections and agreements are relevant to them. It also deals with Bilateral Agreements, Construction Agreements and Mandatory Services Agreements. In August 2010 the Connect and Manage Arrangements were also referenced in this section.

Section 2 - Connection

Section 2 deals with connection to the NETS of User's Equipment at Connection Sites. This Section is split into three parts;

Part I: Sets out general provisions relating to connection to the Transmission System.

Part II: Sets out provisions related to charging for connection.

Part III: Sets out the credit requirements related to Termination Amounts.

Section 3 - Use of System

Section 3 deals with use of the NETS and certain related issues. It is split into three parts:

Part I: Split into two parts, the first dealing with the general provisions for generation and the second dealing with the general provisions for supply.

Part II: Sets out the charging related provisions

Part III: Sets out the credit requirements relating to the Use of System.

Depending on the category of the connection and/or use of a User, section 2 may also be applicable.

Section 4 - Balancing Services

National Grid procures Balancing Services in order to balance supply and demand in real time and to ensure that the security and quality of electricity is maintained across the NETS. Section 4 describes the conditions and payment mechanisms for these services.

Section 5 - Events of Default, De-energisation, Disconnection and Decommissioning

Section 5 deals with events and obligations relating to Events of Default, De-energisation, Disconnection and Decommissioning, including Events of Default with regard to Balancing Services Use of System (BSUoS) Charges. The Section also contains additional provisions relating to Users that are directly connected to the NETS and/or Non-Embedded Customers, and Relevant Interruptions.

Section 6 - General Provisions

Section 6 contains those provisions which are generic to all users including Metering, Data, Intellectual Property and Third Party Rights. Details setting out obligations on CUSC Parties to comply with the Grid Code and Distribution Code and become party to the BSC are included in this section and it also sets out the obligations on Distribution System Operators with regard to the connection of embedded generation.

Section 7 - Dispute Resolution

Section 7 sets out how disputes under the CUSC, Bilateral Agreements, Mandatory Services Agreements and Construction Agreements are to be dealt with. It deals with Disputes (specifically charging disputes), and Third Party Claims.

Section 8 - CUSC Modification

This section of the CUSC sets out the governance process under which the CUSC can be amended. Further details of the CUSC modification process can be found in Part 3 of this document.

Section 9 - Interconnectors

Section 9 deals with Interconnectors other than Distribution Interconnector Owners. It is split into 2 parts:

Part I – Connection to the National Electricity Transmission System by Interconnector Owners.

Part II – Use of the National Electricity Transmission System by Interconnectors Users and Interconnector Error Administrators.

Section 10 - Removed

This section was dedicated to Transitional Issues and was removed on 15th February 2007.

Section 11 - Interpretation and Definitions

Section 11 sets out the general rules to be applied in interpreting the CUSC, Bilateral Agreements, Construction Agreements and Mandatory Services Agreements. It also sets out the defined terms used by the CUSC and other agreements.

Section 12 – BETTA Transition Issues

During 2005 the structure of the Electricity Markets in England and Scotland went through a transition. The New Electricity Trading Arrangements (NETA) which governed how the markets would trade in England and Wales was extended to include Scotland to become the British Electricity Trading and Transmission Arrangements (BETTA). Section 12 deals with issues arising out of the transition associated with the designation of amendments to the CUSC by the Secretary of State in accordance with the provisions of the Energy Act 2004 for the purposes of Standard Condition C10 of the Transmission Licence.

Section 13 – Enabling Works

This section, added in August 2010 as part of Connect and Manage deals with the identification of and assessment of the Enabling Works to be included in an Offer made under the Connect and Manage Arrangements and the assessment of the need for and scope of a Connect and Manage Derogation.

Section 14 – Charging Methodologies

This most recent section was added as a result of Ofgem's Code Governance Review (see glossary). One of the biggest impacts of the Review was that National Grid's charging methodologies were required to become part of the CUSC and therefore be open to change proposals from industry parties using the Modification Process. It is split into two parts – The Statement of the Connection Charging Methodology and The Statement of the Use of System Charging Methodology.

2.2 Schedules and Exhibits to the CUSC

The Schedules and Exhibits form part of the CUSC documentation and contain pro-formas of the bilateral agreements associated with the CUSC. It also lists all the users that are party to the CUSC. The other exhibits include examples of application forms and offer letters.

2.3 Applicability of CUSC Sections

Sections 1, 5 to 8 and 10 and 11 apply to all categories of signatory. In relation to sections 2 (Connection), 3 (Use of System) and 9 (Interconnectors) the table

below sets out the applicability of those sections in addition to the sections of general applicability.

User Categories	Applicable CUSC Sections	Other Relevant Agreements
Power Station directly connected to the NETS	2 and 3	Bilateral Connection Agreement (Schedule 2 - Exhibit 1) Construction Agreement (Schedule 2 - Exhibit 3) Mandatory Services Agreement (Schedule 2 - Exhibit 4)
Non-Embedded Customer Site	2 only	Bilateral Connection Agreement Construction Agreement
Distribution System directly connected to the NETS	2 only	Bilateral Connection Agreement Construction Agreement
Suppliers	3 only	Use of System Supply Confirmation Notice
Embedded Power Station	3 only	Bilateral Embedded Generation Agreement Mandatory Services Agreement (where appropriate)
Small Power Station Trading Parties	3 only	Bilateral Embedded Generation Agreement
Interconnector User	9 Part II only	Use of System Interconnector Confirmation Notice
Interconnector Error Administrator	9 Part II only	Use of System Interconnector Confirmation Notice
Interconnector Owner	9 Part I only	Bilateral Connection Agreement Construction Agreement
Distribution Interconnector Owner	3 only	Bilateral Embedded Generation Agreement
Embedded Exemptable Large Power Stations whose Boundary Point Metering System is either SMRS registered or is registered in CMRS by a User who is responsible for the Use of System Charges associated with the BM Unit registered in CMRS	None	

3. Overview of the CUSC Modification Process

As the electricity industry evolves it may be necessary to amend the CUSC to address new developments, changes in the Transmission Licence and various other changes that occur over time. NGET's Transmission Licence states in Condition C10 that the *'licensee shall establish and operate procedures for the modification of the CUSC'*. Both the Licence and Section 8 of the CUSC stipulate the governance process to be followed for the CUSC Modification Process.

3.1 Raising a CUSC Modification Proposal

A CUSC Modification Proposal can be made by a CUSC Party, a BSC Party or The National Consumer Council (Consumer Focus). The CUSC Modification Proposal is submitted in writing to the Panel Secretary and is discussed by the CUSC Modifications Panel who, after consultation with the industry, will make a recommendation to the Authority* as to whether it believes that the CUSC Modification Proposal should be approved or rejected, based on an assessment of the merits of the proposal against the Applicable CUSC Objectives.

The CUSC and related arrangements are such as to facilitate the achievement of the following objectives:

- (a) the efficient discharge by The Company of the obligations imposed on it by the Act and the Transmission Licence
- (b) 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.

It is to be noted that the CUSC interacts with a number of other documents. Therefore, when raising a proposal, the impact that the proposal may have on other Codes and supporting documents may have to be assessed. Guidance and associated forms on the CUSC Modifications Process is available on the following link:

http://www.nationalgrid.com/uk/Electricity/Codes/systemcode/amendments/forms_guidance/

3.2 CUSC Modification Process

The NGET Licence and CUSC contain provisions for modifications to the CUSC. A CUSC Modification Proposal has to follow the governance process documented in the CUSC before being implemented. There are different processes for the different types of changes proposed. The CUSC Panel decide on the most appropriate process to develop a proposal into a consultation. Which method used depends on the complexity, urgency and impacts on other codes of the proposal raised.

* Ofgem is governed by the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority (GEMA) whose principal objective is to protect the interests of existing and future consumers in relation to gas and electricity. More information can be found at <http://www.ofgem.gov.uk/About%20us/Authority/Pages/TheAuthority.aspx>

A number of different parties are involved in the process either as an impartial representative or a subject matter expert. The Authority have to approve a CUSC Modification Proposal before it is implemented and ensure that the correct procedure was followed as well as whether or not the modification proposed better facilitates the Applicable CUSC Objectives.

Once a proposal is raised, the first stage is for the CUSC Modifications Panel to decide whether to accept or reject the proposal. If accepted, the Panel also decide the appropriate route to develop the CUSC Modification Proposal.

There are four routes a proposal could take:

1. Workgroup/Standing Group: A CUSC Modification Proposal may need to be developed further by 'subject matter experts' before it goes into consultation. If the CUSC Modifications Panel decides to progress a CUSC Modification Proposal through this route, a Workgroup will be formed to review this, or an existing Standing Group may act as a Workgroup. Generally, complex CUSC Modification Proposals may be reviewed through a Workgroup. The Workgroup can develop alternative solutions to the CUSC Modification Proposal.

2. Straight to Code Administrator Consultation: For straightforward amendments, the Panel may agree to send the CUSC Modification Proposal to Code Administrator Consultation to seek wider industry views and bypass the Workgroup phase.

3. Urgent CUSC Modification Proposals: In cases where the proposer deems the CUSC Modification Proposal to be of an urgent nature, a recommendation will be made to the Panel Secretary who in turn informs the Panel Chairman. Once the views of the Modifications Panel have been gained, consent is sought from the Authority as to whether the proposal may be treated as urgent, and a timetable is provided. An Urgent CUSC Modification Proposal can, with the approval of Ofgem, deviate from the 'normal' CUSC Modification Procedures either in part or in full and there is no set process this could follow. For example, an Urgent Proposal can be proposed and be implemented on the same day.

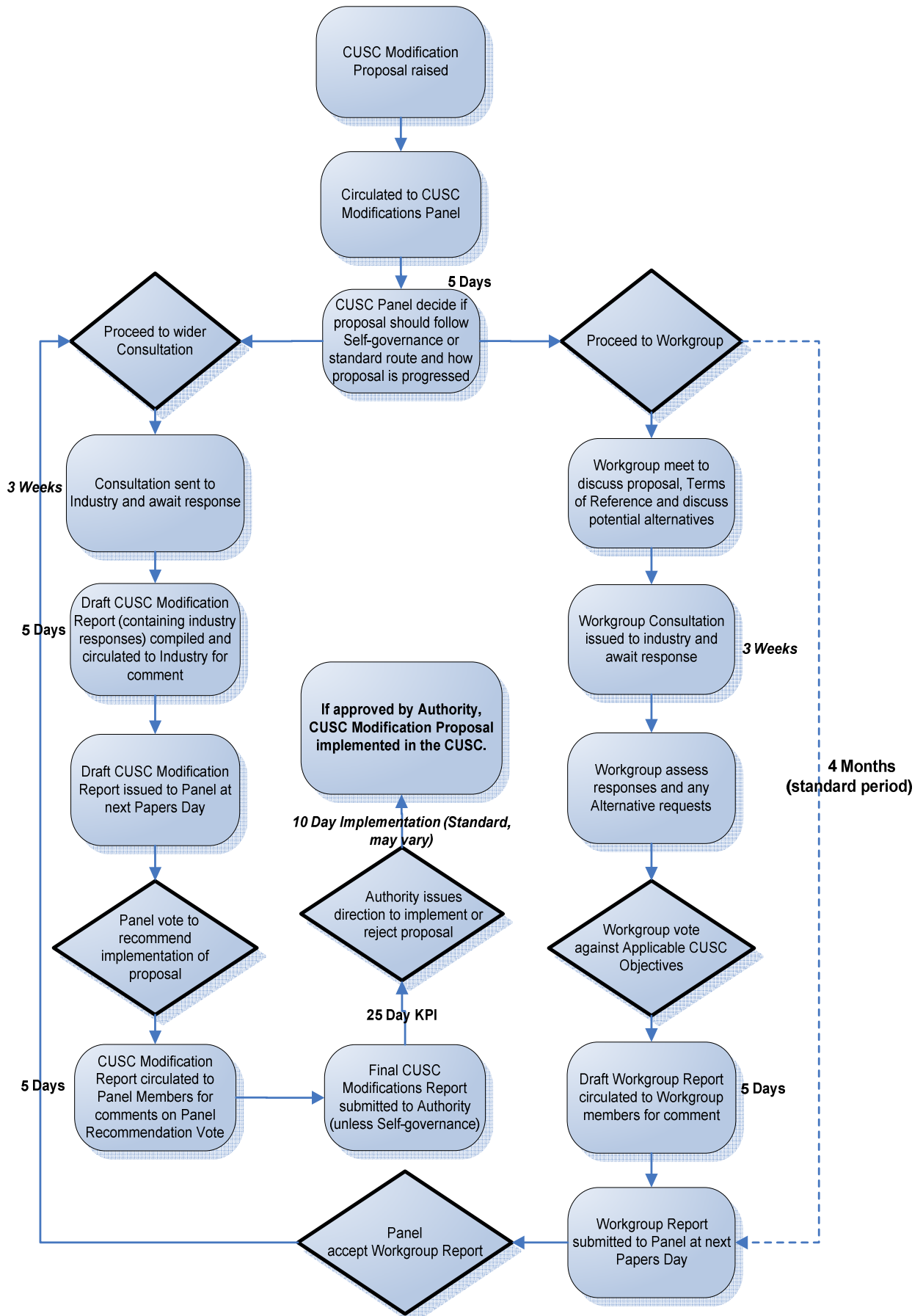
Self-governance: This is an alternative route through which to progress a modification. It allows the CUSC Modifications Panel to make a determination on a CUSC Modification Proposal instead of the Authority. The Self-governance route is used for a CUSC Modification Proposal that, if implemented, is unlikely to discriminate between different classes of CUSC Parties and is unlikely to have a material effect on:

- i) Existing or future electricity customers;
- ii) Competition in the generation, distribution, or supply of electricity or any commercial activities connected with the generation, distribution or supply of electricity,
- iii) The operation of the National Electricity Transmission System
- iv) Matters relating to sustainable development, safety or security of supply, or the management of market or network emergencies
- v) The CUSC's governance procedures or the CUSC's modification procedures

4. Once the Code Administrator consultation phase is completed, a CUSC Modification Report is produced and it is the role of the CUSC Modifications Panel to vote on whether they believe the proposal better facilitates the Applicable CUSC Objectives. The voting and recommendations are included in the final CUSC Modification Report which is then submitted to the Authority for a decision, unless the Self-governance route has been taken. The report is also copied to relevant parties and published on the National Grid industry information website. The Authority then determine whether the CUSC Modification Proposal, or where applicable any Workgroup Alternative CUSC Modification(s) as developed through the process, should be approved for implementation. If the CUSC Modification Proposal has been progressed through Self-governance, a 15 business day window commences after the Panel vote to allow a party to raise an appeal against the decision. If no appeal is raised, the CUSC Modification Proposal is implemented the next business day after the appeal window closes.

A flowchart depicting the CUSC Modification Process can be found on the following page.

CUSC Modification Process



NB. Timescales refer to Working Days. Timescales in *italics* are a guideline and not a specific requirement in the CUSC. NB. Urgent Modification Proposals will deviate from the normal route depending on the nature of the Proposal and the direction from the Authority.

4. Glossary

TERM	DEFINITION
British Electricity Trading and Transmission Arrangements (BETTA)	<p>Introduced in 2005 to replace NETA (New Electricity Trading Arrangements) market arrangements. The main difference with BETTA is that it replaced Scottish trading arrangements to create a GB System Operator.</p>
Charging Statements	<p>The Charging Statements are a suite of three documents describing National Grid’s charges and the methodologies behind them (summarised below). The methodology Statements are published and modified in accordance with Section 14 of the CUSC and are approved by the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority. The two methodology statements were incorporated into the CUSC following the Code Governance Review (see below) and as a consequence, are subject to the CUSC governance arrangements. The Statement Use of System Charges is a separate document to the methodologies, calculated in accordance with the methodologies and is routinely updated each year.</p> <p><u>The Statement of the Connection Charging Methodology</u> This document describes the methodology that NGET employs to levy charges to cover the costs involved in providing assets that afford connection to the NETS. Connection charges relate to the costs of assets installed solely for and only capable of use by an individual user.</p> <p><u>The Statement of Use of System Charging Methodology</u> This describes the methodology that NGET employs to levy charges for use of the transmission system in Great Britain. The charges recover the costs of installing, operating and maintaining the transmission system.</p> <p><u>The Statement Use of System Charges</u> This sets out the annual tariffs for Transmission Network use of System charges and fees charged by NGET in relation to applications for connection, use of system and engineering works.</p>

Code Governance Review	The Code Governance Review was conducted by Ofgem between November 2007 and July 2010 as a result of concerns that there may be weaknesses in the way the gas and electricity industry is governed and that this may prevent industry and customers from getting full value from the arrangements. Ofgem published their Final Proposals and Licence Modifications in March 2010 and on 1 st July 2010 National Grid accepted the Licence Modifications. This resulted in a number of CUSC Modification Proposals which were implemented in November and December 2010.
Connect and Manage	Connect and Manage is a model implemented as a result of a consultation by DECC on grid access reform. This is fundamentally to ensure that climate change targets are met and that security of supply is maintained through connecting renewables and other low carbon generation to the electricity networks. Under Connect and Manage, all new generation will be able to apply for an accelerated connection based on the time taken to complete their 'enabling works', with wider network reinforcement carried out after they have been connected. The new generation will be able to secure firm access dates in an appropriate timeframe.
De-energisation	The movement of any isolator, breaker or switch of the removal of any fuse whereby no electricity can flow to or from the relevant system through the User's equipment.
Interconnector	Link between two countries transmission systems for the transfer of electricity.
National Consumer Council (NCC)	Now part of Consumer Focus, this is an organisation whose role is to promote the interests of consumers through research, supporting consumer representatives and working with decision-makers to campaign for change.
New Electricity Trading Arrangements (NETA)	NETA Market arrangements were introduced in 2001 to replace the Pool arrangement. Many changes were introduced including the 'option' to partake in generation, scheduling moving from day ahead to 3.5 hours ahead of generation. Prices were also moved from pay as bid to pay the highest price accepted.
Non-Embedded Customers	A customer receiving electricity directly from the National Electricity Transmission System irrespective of from whom it is supplied.
Pool	The market arrangement before BETTA and CUSC were introduced. The key feature of the Pool arrangement was that all major generators connected to the Grid had to partake in generation. All generation bids were put into a pool one day ahead and then scheduled by National Grid based on day ahead prices. All generation was paid according to the highest bid price of scheduled generation.
Standing Group	Set up by the Modifications Panel to consider and report on issues relating to the connection and use of system

	arrangements in Great Britain.
Workgroup	Established specifically to assist the Modifications Panel in evaluating whether a Modification Proposal better facilitates the Applicable CUSC Objectives.