

Final Modification Report

CMP436: Update CUSC arrangements to replace the Electricity Arbitration Association (EAA) with the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA) (Non-Charging)

Overview: This modification looks to replace the EAA references with the LCIA in the Non-Charging Sections of the CUSC.

Modification process & timetable



Have 10 minutes? Read the full [Final Modification Report](#)

Have 30 minutes? Read the full Final Modification Report and Annexes.

Status summary: This report has been submitted to the Authority for them to decide whether this change should happen.

Panel recommendation: The Panel has recommended unanimously that the Proposer's solution is implemented.

This modification is expected to have a: **Low impact:** CUSC Users

Governance route Standard Governance modification to proceed to Code Administrator Consultation

Who can I talk to about the change?
Proposer:
Joseph Henry, National Grid ESO
Joseph.henry@nationalgrideso.com

Phone: 07791257394

Code Administrator Chair:
Claire Goult
Claire.goult@nationalgrideso.com

Phone: 07938 737807

Contents

Contents	2
What is the issue?	3
Why change?	3
What is the solution?.....	4
Proposer’s solution.....	4
Legal text.....	4
What is the impact of this change?	4
Proposer’s assessment against the Applicable Objectives	4
Proposer’s assessment against CUSC Non-Charging Objectives	4
Proposer’s assessment of the impact of the modification on the stakeholder / consumer benefit categories.....	4
Code Administrator Consultation Summary	5
Panel Recommendation Vote.....	5
Panel conclusion.....	8
When will this change take place?	8
Implementation date	8
Date decision required by	8
Implementation approach	8
Interactions.....	8
Acronyms, key terms and reference material.....	8
Annexes.....	9

What is the issue?

Since 1993, the CUSC has used the Electricity Arbitration Association (EAA) as its official arbitration provider for any arbitration/disputes.

In the Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) modification [P457](#), it was highlighted that “[...]the EAA has not been used by a Market Participant since its inception in 1993 and does not provide good value for money for BSC Parties as monthly payments are required, irrespective of whether there are any disputes to consider. Moreover, the EAA is rarely used in commercial agreements, does not maintain its website and requires monthly payment, irrespective of whether their services are used. This therefore does not offer good value for money for BSC Parties”.

[P457](#) proposed that the EAA was replaced within the BSC by the London Court of Arbitration (LCIA) and removed the obligation on Elexon to make regular payments for arbitration services, instead only paying LCIA in the event of a dispute requiring resolution. This modification was approved by the Authority on 01 November 2023.

The CUSC currently contains multiple references to the EAA. As it has been established that the EAA is *de facto*¹ defunct, it would be appropriate to align arbitration to that of the other codes such as the BSC and the Retail Energy Code (REC).

Separate modifications have been raised for the Charging and Non-Charging sections of the CUSC.

Why change?

- i) The EAA has not been used in any industry dispute since 1993 and is not contactable. Its website is not updated, and as such it seems inappropriate for the CUSC to list this as its official arbitration provider.
- ii) The LCIA is an internationally recognised provider of arbitration services. The LCIA is also experienced in the resolution of Energy Codes disputes, and is the official arbitration service of both the BSC and the REC.
- iii) Elexon were responsible previously for paying the overhead costs of the EAA. Whilst the CUSC did not pay for this service, it references the service in non-charging sections on multiple instances. The LCIA offer a service whereby it requires payment in instances where there is a dispute requiring arbitration.
- iv) The LCIA is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee. The LCIA Board is “[...]made up largely of prominent London-based arbitration practitioners, is principally concerned with the operation and development of the LCIA's business and with its compliance with applicable company law²”. They provide an appropriate level of expertise to administer arbitration disputes within the CUSC. The charges for this arbitration service fall upon the party initiating the arbitration. These costs are set out on the LCIA website³.
- v) The proposed changes will be an improvement on the current service within the CUSC provisions.

¹ <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/de-facto>

² [Introduction \(lcia.org\)](https://www.lcia.org/)

³ [LCIA Website - Costs](#)

What is the solution?

Proposer's solution

Update the references to the EAA with LCIA within the following elements of the CUSC:

- CUSC Section 4, Section 6, Section 7 and Section 11
- CUSC Exhibit O Part 1B, Exhibit O Part 2B Exhibit O Part 1C, Exhibit O Part 2C
- CUSC Schedule 2 Exhibit 3A.

Legal text

The legal text for this change can be found in Annex 2.

N.B. This modification has been identified as having EBR impacts due to the proposed amendment to CUSC Section 4.

What is the impact of this change?

Proposer's assessment against the Applicable Objectives

Proposer's assessment against CUSC Non-Charging Objectives	
Relevant Objective	Identified impact
a) The efficient discharge by the Licensee of the obligations imposed on it by the Act and the Transmission Licence;	Positive Allows for a more efficient arbitration service within the CUSC
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;	Positive Allows for an effective disputes process within CUSC
c) Compliance with the Electricity Regulation and any relevant legally binding decision of the European Commission and/or the Agency *; and	Neutral
d) Promoting efficiency in the implementation and administration of the CUSC arrangements.	Positive Allows for a more efficient arbitration service within the CUSC
*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.	

Proposer's assessment of the impact of the modification on the stakeholder / consumer benefit categories

Stakeholder / consumer benefit categories	Identified impact
Improved safety and reliability of the system	Neutral

Lower bills than would otherwise be the case	Neutral
Benefits for society as a whole	Neutral
Reduced environmental damage	Neutral
Improved quality of service	Positive The appointment of the LCIA would be an improvement on the current arbitration service outlined in the Non-Charging sections of the CUSC.

Code Administrator Consultation Summary

The Code Administrator Consultation was issued on 10 June 2024 closed on 10 July 2024 and received 1 non-confidential response. A summary of the response can be found in the table below, and the full response can be found in Annex 3.

Code Administrator Consultation Summary	
Question	
Do you believe that the CMP436 Original Proposal better facilitates Applicable CUSC Objectives?	The Responder believes the proposal better facilitates objectives (a), (b) and (d) and supports the proposal because it allows for a more efficient arbitration service and an effective disputes process within the CUSC.
Do you support the proposed implementation approach?	Yes
Do you have any other comments?	No comments
Do you agree that CMP436 does impact the Electricity Balancing Regulation (EBR) Article 18 terms and conditions held within the CUSC?	Yes, as areas of the code are impacted by EBR.
Do you have any comments on the impact of CMP436 on the EBR Objectives?	No comments
Legal text issues raised in the consultation	
No issues raised	
EBR issues raised in the consultation	
No issues raised	

Panel comments on EBR impacts

Panel had no additional comments on the EBR impacts.

Panel Recommendation Vote

The Panel met on the 26 July 2024 to carry out their recommendation vote.



They assessed whether a change should be made to the CUSC by assessing the proposed change and any alternatives against the Applicable Objectives.

Vote 1: Does the Original proposal facilitate the Applicable Objectives better than the Baseline?

Panel Member: **Andrew Enzor, Users Panel Member**

	Better facilitates AO (a)?	Better facilitates AO (b)?	Better facilitates AO (c)?	Better facilitates AO (d)?	Overall (Y/N)
Original	Neutral	Yes	Neutral	Yes	Yes
Voting Statement					
An effective dispute process is an important aspect of any commercial arrangement. The Original solution will replace an ineffective disputes process in CUSC, better facilitating NCO(b). It is also more efficient than the current arrangements which appear to require a fee to be paid despite no service being delivered, better facilitating NCO(d). No impact on NCO(a) and NCO(c).					

Panel Member: **Binoy Dharsi, Users Panel Member**

	Better facilitates AO (a)?	Better facilitates AO (b)?	Better facilitates AO (c)?	Better facilitates AO (d)?	Overall (Y/N)
Original	Yes	Yes	Neutral	Yes	Yes
Voting Statement					
This is a pragmatic solution to a legacy agreement. The solution provides an efficient arbitration service within the CUSC.					

Panel Member: **Cem Suleyman, Users Panel Member (Alternate for Joe Dunn)**

	Better facilitates AO (a)?	Better facilitates AO (b)?	Better facilitates AO (c)?	Better facilitates AO (d)?	Overall (Y/N)
Original	Yes	Yes	Neutral	Yes	Yes
Voting Statement					
I believe that CMP436 better facilitates the Applicable CUSC Objectives for the same reasons as provided by the Proposer.					

Panel Member: **Daniel Arrowsmith, ESO**

	Better facilitates AO (a)?	Better facilitates AO (b)?	Better facilitates AO (c)?	Better facilitates AO (d)?	Overall (Y/N)
Original	Yes	Yes	Neutral	Yes	Yes
Voting Statement					
This modification updates the arbitration process in the CUSC to one which is functional and operational, meaning that this provides a better quality of service to CUSC users and represents efficiencies. Therefore, ESO believes this modification should be approved.					



Panel Member: Garth Graham, Users Panel Member

	Better facilitates AO (a)?	Better facilitates AO (b)?	Better facilitates AO (c)?	Better facilitates AO (d)?	Overall (Y/N)
Original	Yes	Yes	Neutral	Yes	Yes
Voting Statement					
This change will positively facilitate competition as well as discharging the licence obligations and in terms of the administration of the CUSC.					

Panel Member: Joe Colebrook, Users Panel Member

	Better facilitates AO (a)?	Better facilitates AO (b)?	Better facilitates AO (c)?	Better facilitates AO (d)?	Overall (Y/N)
Original	Yes	Yes	Neutral	Yes	Yes
Voting Statement					
This solution provides an efficient solution for arbitration and fixes the defect identified by the proposer. An effective and efficient dispute process positively impacts the ability to discharge license obligations, facilitates effective competition, and improves the efficiency of the implementation and administration of the CUSC arrangements.					

Panel Member: Paul Jones, Users Panel Member

	Better facilitates AO (a)?	Better facilitates AO (b)?	Better facilitates AO (c)?	Better facilitates AO (d)?	Overall (Y/N)
Original	Yes	Neutral	Neutral	Yes	Yes
Voting Statement					
Improves efficiency of the arbitration arrangements.					

Panel Member: Kyran Hanks, Users Panel Member

	Better facilitates AO (a)?	Better facilitates AO (b)?	Better facilitates AO (c)?	Better facilitates AO (d)?	Overall (Y/N)
Original	Yes	Yes	Neutral	Yes	Yes
Voting Statement					
A dispute resolution process that can actually be used is an improvement to the CUSC. As such, it improves the efficiency of the operation of the Code.					

Vote 2 – Which option best meets the Applicable Objectives?

Panel Member	Best Option	Which objectives does this option better facilitate? (If baseline not applicable).

Andrew Enzor	Original	b, d
Binoy Dharsi	Original	a, b, d
Cem Suleyman	Original	a, b, d
Daniel Arrowsmith	Original	a, b, d
Garth Graham	Original	a, b, d
Joe Colebrook	Original	a, b, d
Kyran Hanks	Original	a, b, d
Paul Jones	Original	a,d

Panel conclusion

The Panel has recommended unanimously that the Proposer's solution is implemented.

When will this change take place?

Implementation date

10 Business Days after Authority decision – The code changes would ideally be implemented prior to the 01 September 2024 to align with [CMP398](#) implementation and the potential for increased need for Arbitration.

Date decision required by

TBC

Implementation approach

No systems or processes will require updating, as a result of this modification.

Interactions

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grid Code | <input type="checkbox"/> BSC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STC | <input type="checkbox"/> SQSS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> European Network Codes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EBR Article 18 T&Cs ⁴ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other modifications | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

The Grid Code and STC are also proposed to be updated.

This modification has been identified as having EBR impacts due to the proposed amendment to CUSC Section 4. [Exhibit Y Mapping of EBR Article 18 Terms and Conditions for Balancing Service Providers and Balancing Responsible Parties to the CUSC.](#)

Acronyms, key terms and reference material

Acronym / key term	Meaning
BSC	Balancing and Settlement Code
CMP	CUSC Modification Proposal

⁴ If your modification amends any of the clauses mapped out in Exhibit Y to the CUSC, it will change the Terms & Conditions relating to Balancing Service Providers. The modification will need to follow the process set out in Article 18 of the Electricity Balancing Guideline (EBR – EU Regulation 2017/2195) – the main aspect of this is that the modification will need to be consulted on for 1 month in the Code Administrator Consultation phase. N.B. This will also satisfy the requirements of the NCER process.

CUSC	Connection and Use of System Code
EAA	Electricity Arbitration Association
EBR	Electricity Balancing Regulation
LCIA	London Court of International Arbitration
REC	Retail Energy Code
SQSS	Security and Quality of Supply Standards
STC	System Operator Transmission Owner Code
T&Cs	Terms and Conditions

Annexes

Annex	Information
Annex 1	Proposal form
Annex 2	Legal text
Annex 3	Code Administrator Consultation response