

Charging Issues Standing Group Terms of Reference

Purpose of this Paper

This paper sets out the Terms of Reference for the Charging Issues Standing Group. This paper states the rationale for the group, its proposed membership, meeting frequency, scope of issues covered, appointment of the Chair and publication of relevant documentation.

Introduction

In October 2003, a DC Load Flow Expert Users' Group (DCLF EUG) was proposed by a member of the Transmission Charging Methodologies Forum (TCMF) in light of the proposed introduction of the DC Loadflow Investment Cost Related Pricing (DCLF ICRP) transport model through Use of System Charging Methodology Proposal UoSCM-M-10 "Proposal to amend the methodology for calculation of locational TNUoS tariffs". UoSCM-M-10 was implemented in April 2004 following confirmation of non-veto by the Authority on 19 December 2003. National Grid agreed that such a forum would be useful and established the group to run in tandem with the TCMF following the extension of its scope to become the Developmental GB TCMF from February 2004, and to similarly be open to both current E&W and future GB users.

In December 2004, National Grid suggested the establishment of a Charging Issues Standing Group to enable industry input to potential developments in GB charging. It was agreed at the December meeting of the DCLF EUG that the EUG would be best suited to evolve into the CISG.

Meeting Frequency and Location

The CISG will be held at NGT House, Warwick, or an alternative venue in the vicinity, depending on availability. Meetings are expected to take place on an alternative basis to the TCMF with proposed meeting dates to be published in advance, on National Grid's Industry Information Website.

Membership

The CISG is open to all electricity industry members. However, in the interests of providing a productive and developmental forum, National Grid reserves the right to limit the number of attendees if required. Where requests for attendance to the CISG exceed the acceptable number of participants, National Grid will primarily limit the number of participants to admitting one attendee per CUSC party. A secondary criterion of admitting one attendee per parent company will be followed where requests for attendance continue to be above the acceptable level.

Scope

The CISG will enable industry input to GB charging developments at the earliest opportunity. The scope of the CISG on charging issues will be defined by the TCMF, which will be expected to discuss and track charging issues for further analysis by the CISG. The CISG will report to the TCMF, providing feedback on progress and current issues under a TCMF standing agenda item.

National Grid may also propose the establishment of a smaller, sub-group to the CISG to focus on specific technical areas. The sub-group will be expected to liaise with the CISG and membership will be open to all on a similar basis as the CISG with TOR approved by CISG.

The CISG or sub-group will not be concerned with systematically reviewing the charging methodology but will focus on specific areas of charging. Charging modifications will continue to be instigated by National Grid but any member wishing to propose changes to the methodology should raise issues through the TCMF. The CISG will also enable detailed discussion of published modification proposals to the charging methodologies, such that users may provide informed consultation responses. A separate sub group may also be appointed through the CISG to discuss issues at a more detailed level.

Responsibilities and Appointment of the Chair

The Chair of the CISG will be appointed by National Grid and will be responsible for ensuring the smooth running of the Group. The Chair will also be responsible in ensuring the Terms of Reference are observed.

A Deputy Chair will also be appointed by National Grid.

Use of National Grid's website

Information pertaining to the CISG, including any reports to the TCMF may be viewed at National Grid's on National Grid's website. The CISG has a dedicated page on National Grid's Industry Information website, under the Charging area. Reports and information pertaining to the CISG can be accessed via the webpage, available at the link below.

www.nationalgrid.com/uk/indinfo/charging/mn_tcmf.html

The website is used as the prime vehicle for notifying meetings, publishing a report following each meeting, publishing final approved minutes and storing presentations and papers. This means that all papers and reports will be available to an audience wider than TCMF members. A report containing a short summary of proceedings at the CISG will be published on the website after each meeting and will form the basis of the report to the TCMF. National Grid will also maintain a distribution list for circulation of material by e-mail.

National Grid will constantly review the terms of reference to ensure an effective forum is maintained.