

Terms of Reference for DCRP/MP/22/05 – Customer Islanding

Scope and Introduction

The Distribution Code Review Panel (DCRP) has approved the establishment of a workgroup to assess and provide guidance on Customer Islanding of single premises connected to the GB Distribution System DCRP/MP/22/05. This workgroup shall consist of ENA member company representatives and stakeholders with relevant experience in technical design and drafting of Engineering Recommendation (EREC) legal text.

The working group shall consider the required actions for safe detection, operation and re-synchronisation of the installation once supply can be safely reinstated. This process must be available through a manual process for customers who wish to island their installations voluntarily.

It is important that any proposed technical recommendations result in a clear and consistent approach through guidance provided in the existing relevant Engineering Recommendations documents framework (proposed to include guidance in EREC G99, and consequential changes to the Distribution Code).

Key Principles

The key principles of this modification will ensure a clear set of areas the Working Group (WG) will focus on to deliver this modification, they will be:

- (a) A customer's installation with suitable equipment and safety precautions installed may be able to operate in Islanding mode in the event of a loss of system supply.
- (b) In the event the installation should lose the system supply, it should be able to detect and automatically switch to a suitable alternate source of energy.
- (c) After an Islanding event the installation should be able to automatically reconnect to the Distribution System but retain a manual override for Customers who wish to utilise it.
- (d) The Islanding equipment should be able to isolate all phases (either single and neutral, or three phase and neutral) from the DNO's supply to ensure the protection of personal and DNO owned equipment upstream of the meter for the duration of the Islanding event.
- (e) The Customer should be able to, where required, prioritise the supply of selected demand circuits to maximise the efficiency and operational time of the equipment facilitating the supply of alternate energy to the installation. This is the choice of the Customer and not mandated in the legal text.
- (f) Have adequate earthing arrangements to guarantee the safety of any person in the event of a fault condition while operating in an Islanding event.
- (g) Any solution shall be fully compliant with the relevant standards (ERECs, BS 7671, IET Codes of practice etc).

Responsibilities

The modification proposal must be evaluated to consider whether it better facilitates achievement of the code objectives. These are to:

- (a) *permit the development, maintenance and operation of an efficient, coordinated and economical system for the distribution of electricity; and*
- (b) *facilitate competition in the generation and supply of electricity; and*
- (c) *efficiently discharge the obligations imposed upon distribution licensees by the distribution licences and comply with the Regulation and any relevant legally binding*

decision of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Co-operation of Energy Regulators; and

(d) promote efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Distribution Code.

Deliverables

The deliverables for the Workgroup to decide will be established via the Workgroup process and are expected to include:

- (a) Revised legal text to relevant Distribution Code guidance documents,
- (b) Guidance on the operational behaviour of the installation during an islanding event,
- (c) Re-synchronisation protocol of the site when connecting back to the GB distribution system, and
- (d) Provide regular reports to the DCRP.

- The ENA will be responsible for providing secretariate functions, ensuring all meeting materials and minutes are circulated in a timely manner.
- The Chair of this workgroup shall engage on additional responsibilities were required to guide and progress this modification while in post.
- It is recommended that the workgroup has the following members:

Role	Name	Representing (User nominated)
Chair	Andy Hood	NGED
Technical Secretary	Chris McCann	ENA
Member	Peter Twomey	ENWL
Member	Alan Creighton	NPg
Member	Alistair Oldfield	SPEN
Member	John Orr	SPEN
Member	John Smart	SSE
Member	TBC	UKPN
Member	Steve Mockford	GTC
Member	Jason Kirrage	Solar Edge
Member	Greg Swanepoel	Tesla
Member	Martin Cotterell	Tesla

- This workgroup membership can be amended from time to time by the DCRP and the chairman of the workgroup.

Compliance

The group will at all times comply with the requirements of the 1998 Competition Act and will not deal with any matter which will or is likely to prevent, restrict or distort competition or constitute an abuse of a dominant position as construed within the Act.