

Distribution Code Consultation DCRP/MP/23/09

Title: Annual Revision to the Distributed Generation Connection Guides

Target Audience:

This modification may have an effect on all Distribution Code Stakeholders including Distribution Network Operators, Customers, developers and prospective owners of generation equipment connected to the GB Distribution System.

Date Published: 06 November 2023

Deadline for responses: 17:00 Friday 24 November 2023

Summary:

This consultation paper is seeking the views from across industry on proposed amendments to the Distributed Generation Connection Guides (DG Guides) as part of the annual review carried out under the requirements of the Distribution Code of Great Britain (GB).

The DG Guides Are revised on an annual basis to provide industry with relevant information on the connection processes, general guidance for connectees when completing the relevant forms, information on charging methodologies, and highlighting options available through the different contract types a DNO can offer for a connection.

1 Introduction

The DG Guides are governed by the Distribution Code Review Panel (DCRP) as an Annex 2 Qualifying Standard of the Distribution Code and published by the Energy Networks Association (ENA) and provide guidance to developers, owners and prospective owners of generation equipment looking to connect to the electricity distribution system of GB, as set out in EREC G98 and EREC G99.

Over the years the guides have evolved to keep pace with the changes across the relevant engineering documents to provide developers and connectees with a reliable source of supplementary guidance and assist in providing clarity when connecting distributed generation equipment.

Parties looking to connect generation equipment to the electricity distribution system can utilise the information within these guides to confirm generation type specific requirements and also gain background information on the GB power sector.

2 Defect

As part of ongoing efforts to maintain relevant guidance for industry, in line with current working practices the DG guides are reviewed on an annual basis. Historically the guides have comprised of a total of eight separate documents covering full and summary guidance on the requirements of EREC G98 and G99. A representation of each document is shown below,

- Engineering Recommendation (EREC) G98
 - Single Premises (Full Guide)
 - Single Premises (Summary Guide)
 - Multiple Premises (Full Guide)
 - Multiple Premises (Summary Guide)
- Engineering Recommendation (EREC) G99
 - Type A (Full Guide)
 - Type A (Summary Guide)
 - Type B, C & D (Full Guide)
 - Type B, C & D (Summary Guide)

The documents were arranged into full and summary documents due to the amount of information available within with the summary guides providing the key information required for industry. This can lead to customers needing to research several documents dependent on the granularity of information they sometime require.

The documents could benefit from being collated into a single document, removing the duplication of any information across the summary and full guides, and providing a single source of information for industry in conforming to the requirements of EREC G98 or G99 when connecting to the distribution system.

3 Proposal

This consultation is proposing modification is to revise the DG Guides into a collated single document incorporating the guidance provided in the previous eight guides into one clean, clear and concise document reducing any duplication of information across the summary and full guides, therefore creating one single source of guidance for developer, owners and operators of generation equipment connecting to the distribution system.

It is proposed to hold a public consultation period of 15 Business Days in line with the requirements as set out in the Constitution and Rules. As the DG guides are governed under Annex 2 in the Distribution Code approval will be through self-derogation of the Distribution Code Review Panel.

a full list of the proposed changes to the DG guides is listed below:

- The current version of the Guides have been combined into a single document to have everything in one place. This represents the biggest change to this year's updates to the Guides. Consideration was made on the appropriate material to include in the document that is applicable for both G98 and G99 readers,
- Replaced all the Chapters with Section numbers,
- Revisions made to 'Section 1: A Guide to GB Power Sector' to remove 'traditional' network terminology and updated to reflect the current HV electricity network in 2023,
- General updates made to 'Section 2: The Role of Distributed Generation' to reflect current landscape,
- Inclusion of a selection of tables and flowcharts at the start of Section 3 to guide users to the appropriate sections relevant to their generation type, (G98 or G99 Type A-D sections)
- Revisions made to the definition of Registered Capacity and inclusion of suite of examples developed by the Distributed Energy Resource Technical Forum. Page 74 contains the new definition and examples of how to determine registered capacity are in the appendix,
- Updates to Ofgem Significant Code Review into Network Access & Forward-Looking Charges. To reflect final decision and implementation date earlier this year. Page 136 contains the new text,
- Updates to the ENA Open Networks Project included,
- Updates to electricity storage to take account of recent Standard Application Form modifications on voltage step change assessments. Inclusion of recent updates by the ENA regarding three Tactical Solutions in relation to battery storage network access, and
- Updates to links and references.

4 Applicable Distribution Code Objectives

The Applicable Distribution Code Objectives are to:

- a) permit the development, maintenance, and operation of an efficient, co-ordinated, 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.

5 Consultation Questions

1. Do you agree with the general intent of the proposed modification? If not, please explain your view.
2. Do you agree with the proposed collated format for the guides going forward? If not, please explain your view.
3. Do you have any comments on specific sections within the guides? If so please elaborate on these comments.
4. Do you have any other relevant comments?

6. Next Steps

Responses to this consultation should be sent to the Distribution Code Review Panel Secretary at dcode@energynetworks.org by **17:00 Friday 24 November 2023** on the pro-forma provided expressly for the purpose. Responses after this date may not be considered.

7. Consultation Pack Contents

A copy of the DCRP/MP/23/09 Consultation pack can be found using the link below,

<http://www.dcode.org.uk/consultations/open-consultations/>

The consultation pack includes:

- A copy of the consultation paper;
- A draft copy of the DG Guides;
- A response proforma.

For more information, please contact:

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