POC Self Identification and Self Design Approval

Guidance Note

Introduction

This guidance note is for accredited ICPs and IDNOs wishing to identify their own Point of Connection (POC) and/or approve their own network design. It sets out how to use our Standard Design Matrix to assess when you can identify your own POC. It also sets out when you are able to carry out your own design approval.

Identifying the POC

You can either request us to determine the POC, or determine the POC yourself in certain circumstances.

You will generally be able to determine a POC where:

- The load to be connected can be assessed by the ICP;
- We can make available all necessary network data;
- The ICP is accredited.

Our Standard Design Matrix ("the Matrix") should be referred to when you are considering whether you are able to identify your own POC. The Matrix also indicates whether technical studies, e.g. network studies, are required, as highlighted in yellow in the Matrix.

Once you have assessed whether you can determine the POC, you can then review the following documentation on our website:

- Geographical network records showing the location, size and type of assets;
- Load information for the Distribution System, including guidance on the rules to be applied when allocating demand diversity of new and existing customers to circuits;
- Relevant design standards and documents (e.g. the Energy Network Association's engineering recommendation G81);
- Asset sizes and ratings;
- Network operation diagrams.

Once you have identified that you are able to identify the POC and reviewed the above information, you will be in a position to submit a POC Notice to us.

Scottish and Southern Energy
Power Distribution

Table 1 – When an ICP can self determine their own POC

Market Segment	Self determination available (Yes/No)	Comment
LV demand	Yes	
HV demand	Yes	
HVEHV demand	No	
EHV132 demand	No	
DG LV	No	
DG HVEHV	No	
UMS LA	Yes	
UMS Other	Yes	
UMS PFI	Yes	

Table 2 – Criteria by which an ICP can determine their own POC

Criteria	Measurement	Comment
connection capacity	Up to 1MVA	Dependant on POC voltage
distance to substation	N/A	Design assessment using suitable analysis tools required for any extension greater than 10m.
service cable length	Service length <20m	Longer lengths require design assessment using suitable analysis tools.
transformer capacity	Transformer capacity >50kVA	Existing Transformer Load assessment required where connection is greater then 23kVA (ADMD).
asset types excluded	Connections involving EHV assets. Distributed Generation connections.	

For the criteria by which an ICP can determine their own POC, refer to our Standard Design Matrix ("**TG-PS-930_Summary_POC_Matrix**") that is published on our website.

Note:

These tables are to be published as per Ofgem's **CiC CoP 0001 decision letter** dated 27th April 2016 [Competition in Connections Code of Practice (CiC CoP) Modification 0001 – Self Determination of Point of Connection by ICPs].

Design approval

If you have suitable NERs accreditation, you can carry out your own design approval for all demand connections that are in low voltage (LV) or high voltage (HV) market segments. For all larger projects where extra high voltage (EHV) works are involved, or generation is present, we will continue to carry out the design approval.

Where you fit the above criteria and wish to approve your own design, you must still submit the design to us for information if you wish us to adopt the assets. If you do not intend for us to adopt the assets, then you may still submit the design to us for information if you wish. In all cases if we identify issues we shall notify you. Any uncorrected issues may result in delays in energisation and adoption.

If you would prefer for us to approve your design then just let us know. There will be a design approval fee and we will review your design once we have received this.

Once a design has been submitted, you may begin construction of your design, keeping us informed via the whereabouts process.

Table 3 – The market segments where the ICP is able to self-approve its designs

Relevant Market Segment	Self-approval of designs available (Yes/No)	Comment
LV demand	Yes	
HV demand	Yes	
HV/EHV demand	No	
EHV/132kV demand	No	
DG LV	No	
DG HV/EHV	No	

UMS LA	Yes	
UMS Other	Yes	
UMS PFI	Yes	

Table 4 – Qualifying criteria that will apply to allow an ICP to move between the different levels of design approval

Level	Criteria
1	If ICP has suitable NERs accreditation, the ICP then is fully able to self-approve contestable designs
2	N/A
3	N/A
etc	*ICP fully able to self-approve contestable designs**

*If applicable

Note:

These tables are to be published as per Ofgem's **CiC CoP 0002 decision letter** dated 27th April 2016 [Competition in Connections Code of Practice (CiC CoP) Modification 0001 – Self-Design Approval Processes].