

## Competition in Connections Code of Practice Panel

### Minutes

Wednesday 14 February 2024 3:00 – 4:00pm

David Overman (Chair)	DO	GTC/Independent Networks Association
Kyle Smith	KS	NGED
Kelly McLaughlin	KM	NGED
Clare Roberts	CR	NPG
Jeff Graham	JG	NPG
Brian Hoy	BH	ENWL
Maryline Guinard	MG	SSE
Martyn Crocker	MC	UKPN
Paul Costelloe	PC	Lloyds Register Quality Assurance
Gareth Pritchard	GP	Unmetered Connections Customer Group
Colin Jamieson	CJ	Independent Networks Association
Chris Roe	CR	Unmetered Connections Customer Group
Jayson Whitaker	JW	Metered Connections Customer Group
Julia Phillips (Secretariat)	JP	ENA

#### 1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed and reminded the group of the respective obligations of the Competition Act.

JG joined the group, will be the alternate for NPG.

**Action: JP to update the list of panel members on the website.**

KS introduced KM who is the new NGED representative in the interim as KS is leaving the business, new representative will be confirmed at a later date by email once his replacement is found.

#### 2. Minutes of previous meeting/actions

The group approved the minutes as an accurate record of the previous meeting.

#### 3. AOB

KS raised an item relating to a request from an ICP: how does everyone else deal with approving designs when a construction ICP has not been appointed? Novate over from the design house to the construction ICP. PC replied that they had a comment from an ICP stating this was anti-competitive that a construction ICP must submit the design for approval. If a developer is looking at feasibility, may not have a construction ICP. MC replied that they have a different approach, as long as design house has the appropriate NERS accreditation. Others agreed with the approach.

KS asked a question about disconnections: Do we need to include disconnecting an ICP from an IDNO network in the code of practice? For example a temporary builder supply, ICP builds and IDNO adopts, the ICP then wants to disconnect. BH suggested that would put a bottle end, no customers connected. KS asked if an IDNO would want to own that

cable with no connected customers? JW commented that it comes down to the boundary point at which the ownership changes. DO commented that the within the code it doesn't talk about disconnection. KS commented that NGED policy would be to adopt once it has been disconnected. Only streetlight disconnections are mentioned in the code of practice. BH suggested that if all are able to agree to the same industry standard of adopting the cable then may not be necessary to go through the process of raising a mod to make a change to the code of practice. BH also suggested that first we need to find out what the desired outcome is for IDNOs. DO suggested that JW raise this at the INA technical committee.

**Next meeting date: 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024 3:00-4:00pm**