




Contestability Working Group - Conf Call		 UTILITY REGULATOR ELECTRICITY GAS WATER	
Subject: Contestability Working Group		Date: 07/06/22	Time: 14:00
Attendees:	Title	Representing	
Chris Kingston	CK	EW	
Kenny McPartland	KMP	UR	
Jody O'Boyle	JOB	UR	
Nigel Crawford	NC	NIEN	
Nigel Watkin	NW	NIEN	
Graham Caldwell	GC	NIEN	
Michael Boyle	MB	NIEN	
Nicola McMahon	NMM	SONI	
Dave Thornton	DT	NIEN	
Jennie Condron	JC	RNI	
Karl Miller`	KM	LRQA	
Apologies:			
Circulation: External			

Item	Main discussion points
1	<p>KMP- Welcomed the group to the meeting. JC is a new member to the group representing RNI, JC introduced herself to the group.</p> <p>KMP Set out the agenda which ran through the attached PowerPoint as well as a new version of the work plan. KMP handed over to DT to begin.</p> <p>NIEN Presentation DT- Talked through the presentation;</p> <p><u>Approach to Routine and Non Routine work</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Routine work is defined in the NIE safety rules and can proceed without a senior authorised person (SAP). - Worked not covered by SRI 13 attachment 1 & 2 are classed as Non-Routine, these works need a SAP present and typically involve modifications to existing plant. - DT provides an example of non-routine work - NIEN propose that non routine work should remain not contestable, the rest of the CWG are in agreement with this proposal. This is a proposed decision. - UR explained this is not a formal decision, but a direction of intent for now. The current intention is this and the other proposed decisions identified will be put forward when the UR publish a consultation paper.

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	<p data-bbox="331 286 564 315"><u>NIEN Safety Rules</u></p> <ul data-bbox="379 327 1396 936" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="379 327 1396 398">- ICPs when working in GB may work under the local DNO's safety rules or under their own safety rules (based on the model safety rules) <li data-bbox="379 405 1396 510">- NIEN considers that when undertaking contestable works ICPs shall operate under their own safety rules. This will require ICPs to authorise their own employees and those of any contractors. <li data-bbox="379 517 1396 546">- An assessment of ICP Safety Rules will be required. <li data-bbox="379 553 1396 824">- KMP asks for the reasoning behind ICPs having to use their own safety rules and not NIEN. DT explains that there will be fewer changes needed for NIEN's safety rules, it also gives a level playing for all ICPs in the market and any potential ICPs to come into the market, this ensures it is not anti-competitive. It also removes the possibility of ICPs working under their own safety rules for certain contestable works and then under NIEN's for the final connection works (or vice versa). <li data-bbox="379 831 1396 936">- The group are content with ICPs using their own safety rules going forward for these contestable works that are being established for LV final connections. This is a proposed decision. <p data-bbox="331 987 564 1016"><u>Access Agreement</u></p> <ul data-bbox="379 1066 1396 1211" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="379 1066 1396 1095">- Network access agreement has been circulated within NIEN <li data-bbox="379 1102 1396 1131">- Further review meeting in NIEN has been <li data-bbox="379 1137 1396 1211">- NIEN external solicitors are based in GB, DT believes the access agreement will not be dissimilar to GB equivalents. <p data-bbox="331 1263 549 1292"><u>Loan Agreement</u></p> <ul data-bbox="379 1341 1396 1756" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="379 1341 1396 1447">- NIEN are saying that it is the responsibility of the ICPs to identify the correct cable, but in exceptional circumstances they will make the VODCA device available under a loan agreement. <li data-bbox="379 1453 1396 1525">- Substation and equipment access keys will also be made available through a loan agreement. <li data-bbox="379 1532 1396 1603">- Charges for this service will be set out in the Statement of Connection Charges, NIEN have not decided on charges yet. <li data-bbox="379 1610 1396 1682">- JOB asks if other DNO loan out devices. NC the VODCA is more specific to NI and NIEN, but other DNOs would loan out HV equipment. <li data-bbox="379 1688 1396 1756">- The group is content with this proposal from NIEN, this is a proposed decision. <p data-bbox="331 1845 469 1874"><u>Work Plan</u></p> <p data-bbox="331 1881 916 1910">DT runs through the work plan (as attached);</p> <ul data-bbox="379 1960 1396 2024" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="379 1960 1396 2024">- Rows 13-17 demonstrate, these were pending the decision on safety rules

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Row 7 is relevant to routine and non-routine work - Row 24 – NIEN have allowed a consultation period, not under NIEN’s remit, but would fall under UR’s responsibility - NERs document will need updated however, not too many changes needed from GB document <p><u>Action from previous meeting</u></p> <p>CK made enquiries about the CDM and what occurred in GB. What NIEN have proposed previously (ie the Customer shall be “the Client” for the purposes of the CDM Regulations. The ICP will assume the roles of Principal Designer & Principal Contractor with NIE Networks becoming a named Designer.)</p> <p>CK stated that this is common practise and the group are content with this. This is a proposed decision.</p>
2	<p>Actions</p> <p>UR to organise next CWG meeting.</p>
3	<p>Attachments</p>

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	<div data-bbox="406 241 454 302"></div> <div data-bbox="347 309 518 369">NIEN Presentation final.pdf</div> <div data-bbox="606 241 654 302"></div> <div data-bbox="531 309 734 369">Expansion of contestability V5 - 7 Ji</div>