

November 2023

Independent Connection Provider (ICP) Design Approval / Inspection Dispute Escalation Process.

Northern Powergrid undertakes design approval and self design approval schemes submitted by ICPs. Northern Powergrid will either approve or inspect depending on whether the ICP is able to self-approve or not. These approvals/inspections will be carried out by Northern Powergrid Design Engineers with subsequent design approval being sent to the ICP. The same process will apply whether an ICP submits a design for approval, or it is looked at as part of an inspection regime.

This procedure is to be used where non-conformances are disputed. Northern Powergrid and the ICP shall seek to resolve disputes at the time of inspection, however, where there is a failure to agree, this escalation process shall be followed to ensure a speedy and effective resolution to the dispute.

Where non-conformances with any Northern Powergrid Codes of Practice are identified, these shall be clearly documented and communicated to the ICP by the appointed Northern Powergrid Design Engineer. The ICP will be expected to resolve the non-conformance in line with the current policy. If an ICP disputes any non-conformance, they may elect to escalate the dispute for resolution.

The escalation procedure consists of five steps. The nominated Managers in the escalation process are shown along with their email and telephone contact details.

It is imperative that this escalation procedure is followed in sequence.

Escalation Step 1

In the first instance, any disputed non-conformance shall require the ICP to contact the appointed Design Engineer who carried out the inspection and raised the non-conformance.

Escalation Step 2

Step 2 of the escalation process will be to the Design Team Manager for the area the ICP is working in. The name and contact details will be provided by the Design Engineer. It will be one of the following individuals.

LV/HV Design Team Managers

Chris Artist

Contact: 07568 112 213

Email: Christopher.Artist@northernpowergrid.com

Dave Pope
Contact: 07545 434498
Email: David.Pope@northernpowergrid.com

Richard Proctor
Contact: 07921 112352
Email: Richard.Proctor@northernpowergrid.com

Matthew Brown
Contact: 07740 456106
Email: Matthew.Brown@northernpowergrid.com

EHV Design Team Managers

Qaisar Malik - EHV Yorkshire
Contact: 07872 866262
Email: Qaisar.Malik@Northernpowergrid.com

Trevor David - EHV Northeast
Contact: 07858 679 550
Email: Trevor.David@northernpowergrid.com

The Design Team Manager will review the non-conformance and the case put forward by the ICP as to why they believe that there is no non-conformance. This will be done in conjunction with the appropriate Policy Managers. The resulting review by the Design Team Manager will be communicated directly to the ICP.

Escalation Step 3

Where an agreement cannot be reached between the ICP and the Design Team Manager, the details of the non-conformance and the Design Team Manager's response will be put forward to the Connections Input Services Operations Manager. The resulting review by the Connections Input Services Operations Manager will be communicated directly to the ICP.

Clare Roberts - Connections Input Services Operations Manager
Contact: 07809 584474
Email: Clare.Roberts@northernpowergrid.com

Escalation Step 4

Mark Johnston - Head of Major Connections
Contact: 07767 831285
Email: Mark.Johnston@northernpowergrid.com

Escalation Step 5

Paul Glendinning- Director of Energy Systems
Contact: 07541 683776
Email: Paul.Glendinning@northernpowergrid.com