

# ACER draft amendments to the Network Code on Demand Connection

Fields marked with \* are mandatory.

## Introduction

This consultation aims at presenting ACER's draft amendments to the **Commission Regulation (EU) 2016 /1388 of 17 August 2016 establishing a Network Code on Demand Connection ('NC DC')**.

For draft amendments concerning Network Code on Requirements for Generators ('NC RfG'), please go to the respective form: [NC RfG](#).

**Responses to this consultation should be submitted by 25 September 2023.**

## Background

Important developments in the policies of decarbonisation of the European Union (EU) energy and transport sectors have taken place since the inception of the development of the first European Grid Connection Network Codes (GC NCs) in 2012.

In the framework of the Grid Connection European Stakeholder Committee (GC ESC), the European Commission proposed for ACER to initiate the process towards the amendment of the existing GC NCs in September 2022. The amendment process, as presented to the GC ESC is outlined in the Figure below:



Following the scoping phase, ACER published the Policy Paper on the revision of the network code on requirements for grid connection of generators and the network code on demand connection in September 2022. The Policy Paper aimed to transparently indicate to stakeholders the key policy areas in which amendments were to be expected.

[Access the ACER Policy Paper on the revision of the NC RfG and NC DC.](#)

As a next step, ACER launched the Public Consultation to gather stakeholders' views and concrete amendment proposals regarding the GC NCs. The stakeholders could submit their inputs by 21 November 2022.

[Access the results of the Public Consultation on the amendments to the grid connection network codes.](#)

Additionally, in the preparation of the draft amendment proposals, ACER organised three dedicated public workshops, namely:

- [electromobility, power-to-gas demand units and heat-pumps](#) (held on 17 April 2023);
- [rate of change of frequency and grid forming capabilities](#) (held on 10 May 2023); and
- [electricity storage](#) (held on 11 May 2023).

After the evaluation of stakeholders' inputs, ACER has formulated its own proposal for the amendments of the GC NCs which is subject to this public consultation.

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## Stakeholder's details

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ACER is highly committed in processing personal data in a lawful way.

Find out more how we process your data: <https://www.acer.europa.eu/the-agency/about-acer/data-protection>

\* Name of the stakeholder:

IFIEC Europe

\* Contact person:

[REDACTED]

\* Contact person's email address:

[REDACTED]

\* Country of the stakeholder's headquarters or main country of operation:

Belgium

\* Type of the stakeholder:

- ☐ Generator (including association)
- ☒ Consumer (including association)
- ☐ Transmission system operator (including association)
- ☐ Distribution system operator (including association)
- ☐ Manufacturers (including association)
- ☐ Academia/research institution
- ☐ Regulatory authority
- ☐ Other (please, elaborate)

Please, elaborate on your answer above, if necessary:

\* Do you consent to the publication of the stakeholder's name?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No

\* Do you consent to the publication of provided answers?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No (please, note that your answer, without your name and organization, may be shared with the EU institutions and national authorities)

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## Instructions

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Stakeholders are invited to submit their comments to the NC DC articles amended by ACER in three mandatory steps:

1. by downloading the ACER draft amendments in the Word file provided below. The file could also be accessed on the right panel of the consultation form under the Background Documents;
2. by commenting on the ACER's draft amendments through this online consultation form and adding their alternative text proposals to the table, if any; and
3. by uploading the alternative amendment proposals to the **entire NC DC** using the Track Changes mode in the ACER draft amendments file downloaded from Step 1.

Where the stakeholder does not have any comments regarding the amendments, the relevant cells in the consultation form can be left blank.

The mandatory steps for submitting the comments are listed below.

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Step 1

Please see ACER's draft amendments in the Word file provided below. The file could also be accessed on the right panel of the consultation form under the Background Documents.

[Download ACER draft amendments to the NC DC here](#)

Step 2

Kindly note that this consultation form follows the structure of the NC DC amended legal text provided by ACER in Step 1.

The paragraph numbering in the form reflects paragraph numbers in the amended legal text. Nevertheless, stakeholders can comment on the deleted paragraphs/articles/titles, which are marked as [deleted]. New articles and titles are marked as [new].

Please use this form to comment on ACER draft amendments and/or to provide an alternative text proposal. The instructions are the following:

Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below.

 Includes new articles

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 1	1	2
Article 3		
Article 4		
Article 4a [new]		
Article 5		
Article 6		
Article 7		
Article 8		
Article 9		
Article 10		
Article 11		
Article 12		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below.

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

3

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

 The maximum file size is 1 MB

Select file to upload

4

1. Leave comments on the ACER draft amendment proposals.
  2. Propose (if any) alternative wording of the relevant provision, as you provided in the Word file.
  3. Provide (if any) your proposals for adding new provisions to the relevant section of the NC DC, as you provided in the Word file.
  4. Upload figures or tables if necessary; text inputs should be provided directly in the consultation form.
- 

### ***Step 3***

Where the stakeholder would like to propose an alternative amendment to the **entire NC DC**, please upload the Word file (**downloaded from Step 1**) containing all your alternative amendment proposals in the Track Changes mode to the next **FILE UPLOAD** section and rename it with your stakeholder's name ("ACER\_draft\_DC\_stakeholder\_name"). You can also upload your justification documents, where applicable.

To facilitate the process, please, make sure that the **alternative text proposals provided in this consultation form are consistent**, to the extent possible, **with those in the Word file** you are uploading, taking into account the character limitations of each cell (max 5000 characters).

## **FILE UPLOAD**

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Please upload your file here

The maximum file size is 1 MB

Only files of the type pdf,doc,docx,odt,txt,rtf are allowed

**aa048e1d-7025-4ecb-8ee8-b7fc16cc8d9b**

**/NC\_DC\_ACER\_draft\_amendments\_for\_PC\_2023\_E\_07\_IFIEC\_comments.docx**

Please also upload any other document (i.e. **justifications**) below, if relevant.

Please upload your file

The maximum file size is 1 MB

**a00fc689-fc30-420e-8fb6-0f1fd63188d0/IFIEC\_Europe\_-\_Input\_NC\_DCC.docx**

Please upload your file

The maximum file size is 1 MB

Please upload your file

The maximum file size is 1 MB

Due to the significant length of this survey:

- you have the possibility to edit your answer after submission. When clicking on "Submit" button, you will be given a Contribution ID which you can then use to access your answers and edit them, if necessary.
- we kindly suggest that you download the entire survey as .pdf (link on the right), prepare your answers and then upload them at once in the EU Survey Tool, to avoid a session timeout on submission.

The maximum length of each cell is 5000 characters. This is the maximum technical limit set by the EUsurvey tool, which cannot be increased.

## Whereas Section

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Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

Numbers in the first column correspond to the recitals of the amended version of NC DC Whereas section, including new recitals

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
(1)		
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
(**)		
(8)		
(9)		
(10)		
(11)		
(12)		
(13)		
(14)		
(15)		
(16)		
(17)		
(18)		
(19)		
(20)		
(21)		
(22)		
(23)		
(24)		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New recital	

## Definitions (Article 2)

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Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

Includes new definitions

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 2(1)		
Article 2(2)		
Article 2(3)		
Article 2(4)		
Article 2(5)		
Article 2(6)		
Article 2(7)		
Article 2(8)		
Article 2(9)		
Article 2(10)		
Article 2(11)		
Article 2(12)		
Article 2(13)		
Article 2(14)		
Article 2(15)		
Article 2(16)		
Article 2(17)		
Article 2(18)		
Article 2(19)		
Article 2(20)		
Article 2(21)		
Article 2(22)		
Article 2(*)		
Article 2(**)		
Article 2(***)		



Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New definition	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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## TITLE I - General provisions

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Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

Includes new articles

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 1		
Article 3		
Article 4		
Article 4a [new]		
Article 5		
Article 6		
Article 7		
Article 8		
Article 9		
Article 10		
Article 11		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

The maximum file size is 1 MB

## **TITLE II - Connection of transmission-connected demand facilities, transmission-connected distribution facilities and distribution systems**

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Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 12		
Article 13		
Article 14		
Article 15		
Article 16		
Article 17		
Article 18		
Article 19		
Article 20		
Article 21		
Article 22		
Article 23		
Article 24		
Article 25		
Article 26		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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### TITLE III - Connection of demand units used by a demand facility or a closed distribution system to provide demand response services to system operators

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Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 27		
Article 28		
Article 29		
Article 30		
Article 31		
Article 32		
Article 33		



Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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**[NEW] TITLE XXX - Connection of V1G electric vehicles and associated V1G electric vehicle supply equipment, power-to-gas demand units and heat-pumps**

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Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article XX		
Article XX+1		
Article XX+2		
Article XX+3		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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## TITLE IV - Compliance

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Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 34		
Article 35		
Article 36		
Article 37		
Article 38		
Article 39		
Article 40		
Article 41		
Article 42		
Article 43		
Article 44		
Article 45		
Article 46		
Article 47		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

The maximum file size is 1 MB

## TITLE V - Applications and derogations

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Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 48		
Article 49		
Article 50		
Article 51		
Article 52		
Article 53		
Article 54		
Article 55		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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## TITLE VI - Non-binding guidance and monitoring of implementation

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Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 56		
Article 57		



Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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## TITLE VII - Final provisions

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Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Article 58		
Article 59		

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
New article	

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## ANNEX I

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Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Annex I		

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

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## ANNEX II

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Please write your comments on the ACER draft amendments and your alternative text proposals, if any, in the table below

	Comment on the ACER draft amendments	Alternative text amendment proposal (if applicable)
Annex II		

Please upload figures or tables if necessary

The maximum file size is 1 MB

## Other additional provisions

Please write your amendment proposals, if any, in the table below

	Text amendment proposal (if applicable)
	<p>IFIEC Europe remains of the opinion that, while it is important that demand facilities can provide demand response services to system operators and relevant TSOs and while many (industrial) demand facilities are already doing so, these requirements should not be tackled via a (non-agile) Network Code but rather be specified in the product requirements of the specific products of these system operators. This would allow much faster modifications if needs and/or capabilities change and would also avoid that facilities would not deliver some demand response service for which they have capabilities because they would not be able to fulfil (without costly investments) all requirements of the network code.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the above, IFIEC Europe has observed that in the consulted version of the NC DCC, ACER has opted to remove “to system operators and relevant TSOs” from the concept of “demand unit providing demand response services”. In case the above option of completely removing this notion from the NC DCC is not chosen, IFIEC Europe most strongly insists that this limitation is reinstated for all instances within the document, to avoid that all demand response services would be envisaged by the NC DCC, as this would lead first to a very difficult discussion of an exhaustive definition of what demand response services are and secondly would definitely hinder the development of flexibility at consumers. Whenever an action would be taken by them that could be considered demand response services, they would have to comply with all the relevant requirements of the NC DCC, even if it would only constitute their legal right to modify their electricity consumption or offtake profile in the day ahead or intraday markets. This could lead to excessive costs and could thus create a severe barrier for participation in the energy markets and</p>

#### Other new provisions

would as a result go contrary to all the endeavours and stipulations in European legislation to empower consumers and help consumers valorise their flexibility.

Furthermore, and as also already discussed several times and already indicated during the timeframe of this consultation to ACER, IFIEC Europe regrets that the specific topic of the discrepancy between DCC (sites/CDSs and provisions applicable on their connection points) and RfG (installations and provisions applicable on the equipment) has not yet been addressed. This discrepancy comes from the fact that a DCC site can contain one or several installations falling in the perimeter of the RfG code, which can directly lead to potential conflicts, e.g. asking under RfG that a PGM is providing reactive power, while at the same time under DCC the site where that PGM is based needs to be remain between certain thresholds and thus has to counteract against the (requested!) reaction of that PGM (and maybe not succeeding to it and then being exposed potentially to penalties). This not only reduces the effectiveness but also the efficiency of the system, leading to less than the desired effect while increasing the overall system costs.

IFIEC Europe wonders whether it would not be possible to add an article to DCC (and/or RfG) stipulating that all requirements are only applicable insofar under RfG (or other codes, e.g. the future NC DSR) no countermanding requirements are applicable and activated/used, in which case the requirements under DCC would only be applicable insofar taking into account those other required/requested actions. In such case, under the above example, the site would only have to maintain its reactive power balance within a certain range after taking into account the requested reaction on the PGM, thus allowing both parties to be able to respect the relevant provision while still getting the desired effect on the grid and increasing the efficiency of the system. By including explicitly such a provision, it would be possible on a national level to take this element explicitly into account.

Even further, IFIEC Europe would even ask that in



such cases, under DCC the owner of a site/CDS would be allowed to chose the most optimal means to achieve the desired effects on its connection point, thus allowing them, if possible, to apply other means in a more efficient manner (e. g. in the above example use central condensators instead of reactive power actions on one or several (small) PGMs, which could be much more efficient). Again, a broad provision of this kind would allow on a national level to take such elements into account , wherever relevant.

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## Background Documents

[NC\\_DC ACER draft amendments for PC 2023 E 07.docx](#)

## Contact

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