

Attachment 13.4

Distribution Low Voltage Connection Scheme Change Summary

Access Arrangement Information

1 February 2022



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1. Introduction

Section 5.17 of the *Electricity Networks Access Code 2004* (**the Code**) provides Western Power may develop a “Headworks Scheme” within the Contribution Policy that allows for the headworks charge payable by a connecting customer to be charged in accordance with the respective class of customer, rather than individually calculated contributions.

The Distribution Low Voltage and Connection Headworks Scheme (**DLVCHS**) is defined in section 6 of the proposed Contributions Policy and forms Western Power’s proposed scheme for customers connecting to the distribution system low voltage network and within 25 kms of the relevant zone substation. The Distribution Low Voltage Connection Scheme Methodology (**Methodology**) outlines the coverage of the scheme and approach to calculating scheme charges.

Application of the DLVCHS allows for the cost of infrastructure required for new customer connections to be shared by all customers using the installed network. The DLVCHS provides a charge on the basis of requested capacity (kVA) rather than on whether the current network will have to be expanded as a consequence of the submitted application (i.e., does not penalise the first mover).

This document summarises the proposed changes to the Methodology for AA5 and the rationale for each of these proposed changes.

This summary document supports the proposed changes to Access Arrangement Appendix C.2: Distribution Low Voltage Connection Scheme, which details proposed changes in both “tracked change” mode and as an unmarked version.

2. Proposed Amendments

The proposed amendments to the Methodology and the rationale for each change is detailed in Table 1 below.

Table 2.1: Proposed amendments to the Methodology

No.	Clause	Current State/Definition	Proposed Change	Rationale for Change
1	1	Defined Terms and interpretation	Included 'headworks charge' and 'headworks scheme'.	To align the use of these terms in the policy with the Access Code.
2	2	Introduction to the Distribution Low Voltage Connection Scheme Methodology	Include references to the Access Code that allows the Authority to approve a headworks scheme and content that must be included.	Expanded introduction to provide better context to the content of the policy in relation to the Access Code.
3	2.2, 4, 5	Western Power currently develops standard DLVCS prices every 12 months based on modelling of connections over the past 12-month period.	Western Power proposes to develop standard DLVCS prices based on modelling of connections over the immediately preceding 36-month period.	This will reduce price fluctuations to better meet the objective of the policy; provide price stability and certainty to enable network users to make informed investment decisions.
4	Miscellaneous		Various amendments to ensure alignment with Contributions Policy and the Access Code. Amendments to improve clarity and readability.	Some general edits to the Methodology including terminology used have been implemented to ensure consistency between the two documents and the Access Code.