Electricity Connection Agreements

Distributors are obliged by condition 4B of their Electricity Distribution Licence to offer to enter into an agreement with a User (Supplier) for the provision of Use of Distribution System. The Distribution Use of System Agreement sets out the charges which will be levied against users of their network. The agreement also contains within it a schedule which sets out the mandatory terms for supply contracts which must be acted on by suppliers.

For standard connection agreements (where the customer has a low voltage connection) the supplier acts as an agent of the distributor. The supplier ensures that the customer understands that when they sign their supply contract they are also signing up to a connection agreement which bestows rights onto the customer and onto the distributor.

A non standard connection agreement is entered into between the customer and the distribution network operator where the customer has a high voltage connection. The customer's name appears on the connection agreement along with the name of the distributor.

Change of Tenancy Scenario

Where a change of tenancy occurs the connection will remain at its original level until the new tenant informs the distributor of their desired voltage. The original agreement will become null and void and a new agreement will have to be entered into between the distributor and customer.

Change of Supplier Scenario

The voltage will not be affected by a change of supplier event as the parties to the agreement will not have changed.

Rosie McGlynn of EON