

SCHEDULE 18

Acquisition of wayleaves, easements and other rights

PART 2

ON BEHALF OF CODE OPERATORS

Court imposition of code rights

4.—(1) This paragraph applies where—

- (a) a code operator has agreed in writing with the undertaker that for the purpose of the authorised development it is necessary or expedient to remove electronic communications apparatus owned by the code operator within the Order limits and to install and keep installed electronic communications apparatus in substitution for it on, under or over specified land;
- (b) the code operator has agreed in writing that the undertaker may seek code rights on behalf of the code operator in respect of the specified land, including all of the other terms of the agreement sought; and
- (c) the code operator or the undertaker has given the relevant person a notice in writing—
 - (i) setting out the code rights, and all of the other terms of the agreement sought, and
 - (ii) stating that the person's agreement to those terms is sought.

(2) The undertaker may apply to the court for an order under this paragraph if the relevant person does not, before the end of 28 days beginning with the day on which the notice in sub-paragraph (1) (c) is given, agree to confer or be otherwise bound by the code rights.

(3) An order under this paragraph is one which imposes on the code operator and the relevant person an agreement between them which—

- (a) confers the code rights on the operator, or
- (b) provides for the code rights to bind the relevant person.

(4) Where the undertaker makes an application to the court under sub-paragraph (2), paragraph 21, 22, 23, 24 and 26 of Part 4 of Schedule 3A (The Electronic Communications Code) and Part 14 (Compensation under The Code) of the Communications Act 2003 shall apply as if:

- (a) reference to the making of an 'order under paragraph 20' were substituted for the making of an order under Schedule 18 of the Sizewell C (Nuclear Generating Station) Order 2022'; and
- (b) unless otherwise agreed on a case-by-case basis in writing between the undertaker and the code operator, all references to 'consideration' or 'compensation' provided for in any agreement or order or otherwise to be determined shall be read as being payable by the undertaker.

Compulsory acquisition of easements or other rights

5.—(1) The undertaker may seek a compulsory purchase order on behalf of a code operator where—

- (a) the code operator has agreed in writing with the undertaker that for the purpose of the authorised development it is necessary or expedient to remove electronic communications apparatus owned by the operator within the Order limits and to install and keep installed electronic communications apparatus in substitution for it on, under or over specified land;

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(b) the code operator has agreed in writing that the undertaker may seek an easement or other rights over land on behalf of the code operator in respect of the specified land.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3) and (4), where a compulsory purchase order is sought by the undertaker pursuant to sub-paragraph (1), the Secretary of State may authorise the relevant code operator to purchase compulsorily the specified land or an easement or right over the specified land if the Secretary of State is satisfied that it is required by the code operator—

(a) for, or in connection with, the establishment or running of the code operator’s network; or

(b) as to which it can reasonably be foreseen that it will be so required.

(3) Subject to sub-paragraph (4), paragraphs 3(2) to 3(7) of Schedule 4 of the Communications Act 2003 shall apply in respect of powers of compulsory purchase sought pursuant to this paragraph.

(4) Unless otherwise agreed between the undertaker and the licence holder in writing, where the undertaker seeks a compulsory purchase order on behalf of a code operator pursuant to this paragraph, all negotiations of compensation shall be undertaken by the undertaker and any consideration or compensation agreed or determined in respect of any easements or rights acquired shall be payable by the undertaker and Schedule 4 of the Communications Act 2003 shall be interpreted accordingly as it applies to this paragraph.

Interpretation

6. In this paragraph, the following terms have the following meaning:

“code operator’s network” has the meaning given for ‘operator’s network’ in paragraph 6 of Schedule 3A of the Communications Act 2003

“code rights” has the meaning given in paragraph 3 of Schedule 3A of the Communications Act 2003;

“court” has the meaning given in paragraph 94 of Schedule 3A of the Communications Act 2003;

“electronic communications apparatus” has the meaning given in paragraph 5 of Schedule 3A of the Communications Act 2003;

“code operator” has the meaning given for an ‘operator’ in paragraph 2 of Schedule 3A of the Communications Act 2003;

“relevant person” means the person in respect of whose interest in land a code right is required;

“specified land” means the land within or outside the Order limits on, under or over which an operator agrees, pursuant to sub-paragraph (1), that electronic communications apparatus should be relocated in substitution for existing electronic communications apparatus.