National and regional stakeholder engagement structures for the implementation of the European Network Codes and Guidelines

**Country: Germany**

1. **General information for stakeholder engagement, public consultations, and public workshops**

<https://www.vde.com/en/fnn/>

Homepage of VDE FNN, the association working towards common technical rules for network technologies and network requirements for connection. The general process for developing a VDE FNN application rule includes the involvement of stakeholders. This process is defined in a dedicated VDE FNN rule ([VDE-AR-N 4000](https://www.vde.com/de/fnn/aktuelles/2020-09-20-entwurf-4000)). Working groups are set up by steering committees ensuring that different relevant stakeholder groups are fairly represented. The members of a working group are usually nominated by the relevant umbrella association for their expert circles or through the steering committees and must have the relevant expertise to be selected. Members in a working group do not necessarily have to be VDE FNN Members. The draft of an application rule is published online, and a consultation process is opened to the public who can submit statements for change or improvements based on factual and technical information. These comments are then evaluated by the working group, which provides a justification and a reasonable response to the objecting party, which then can appeal to the outcome. When all objections have been evaluated and justified the draft is adopted by the VDE FNN steering committee and subsequently published as a final application rule. In summary, there are two options of stakeholder involvement: direct participation in a working group or steering committee by relevant experts and/or engagement through a public consultation. The process is described as well in the VDE-AR-N 4000.

<https://www.vde.com/de/fnn/aktuelles>

News feed of VDE FNN (in German): the announcement to establish a working group, call for experts and the publication of documents are published here and in the regular FNN Membership Newsfeed.

<https://www.vde.com/de/presse/pressemitteilungen>

The public consultation of an application rule is also announced on the VDE [homepage](https://www.vde.com/de/fnn/dokumente/vde-anwendungsregeln-ankuendigungen) (in German).

As required, VDE FNN organizes additional public workshops prior to the actual consultation in order to identify and mitigate sensitive stakeholder issues before the actual drafting process begins. Workshops are announced here: <https://www.vde.com/de/fnn/aktuelles> (in German).

1. **Permanent Stakeholder Engagement Structures**

**Name:** Steering Committees („Lenkungskreise“ in German)

**Link to Website**: [Information about the Steering Committes and the VDE FNN structure](https://www.vde.com/en/fnn/about-us/organization)

**Contact details**: [fnn@vde.com](mailto:fnn@vde.com)

**Other information (e.g.: governance, composition):**

There are three Steering Committees, whose role is These are the steering committees in VDE FNN which decide on establishing working groups and the publication of draft standards for consultation. These steering committees also adopt the final standards. The steering committees are composed of all stakeholders such as network and system operators, manufactures and producers, facility operators as well as research inistutes and NRA representatives.

There are three Steering Committees dealing with three main knowledge areas:

* Metering and digitalisation
* Network technology and operation
* System topics and network connection

1. **Ad Hoc Stakeholders Groups**

Several working groups were established for the national implementation of the Connection Network Codes.

**Name**: Working Group “Connection of demand and generating facilities to the LV transmission network” (“Projektgruppe TAR NS” in German)

**Link to Website**: none

**Contact details**: [fnn@vde.com](mailto:fnn@vde.com)

**Other information (e.g.: governance, composition)**: Terms of reference (not publicly available

**Name**: Working Group “Connection of demand and generating facilities to the MV transmission network” (“Projektgruppe TAR MS” in German)

**Link to website**: none

**Contact details**: [fnn@vde.com](mailto:fnn@vde.com)

**Other information (e.g.: governance, composition)**: Terms of reference (not publicly available)

**Name:** Working Group “Connection of demand and generating facilities to the HV transmission network” (“Projektgruppe TAR HS” in German)

**Link to Website**: none

**Contact details**: [fnn@vde.com](mailto:fnn@vde.com)

**Other information (e.g.: governance, composition)**: Terms of reference (not publicly available

**Name:** Working Group “Connection of demand and generating facilities to the EHV transmission network” (“Projektgruppe TAR HöS” in German)

**Link to Website**: none

**Contact details**: [fnn@vde.com](mailto:fnn@vde.com)

**Other information (e.g.: governance, composition)**: Terms of reference (not publicly available

**Name**: Working Group “HVDC connection” (“Projektgruppe HGÜ-Anschlusssysteme” in German)

**Link to website**: none

**Contact details**: [fnn@vde.com](mailto:fnn@vde.com)

**Other information (e.g.: governance, composition)**: Terms of reference (not publicly available)

**Name**: Working Group “TSO/DSO Interconnection” (“Schnittstellen ÜNB/VNB” in German)

**Link to website**: none

**Contact details**: [fnn@vde.com](mailto:fnn@vde.com)

**Other information (e.g.: governance, composition)**: Terms of reference (not publicly available)