

Formative Power Distribution Map

FORMATIVE POWER · PUBLIC RESEARCH COMPANION

A public mapping surface for separating formal decision authority from distributed influence over how a decision field was formed.

USE BOUNDARY Use on one bounded decision route. This map does not assign blame, assess governance maturity, determine accountability or score the adequacy of controls.

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BOUND THE ROUTE

DECISION / ROUTE _____	RECORD ID / DATE _____
FORMAL DECISION AUTHORITY _____	FINAL COMMITMENT POINT _____

01 Locate formal authority

Who could approve, reject, escalate or materially redirect the final route?

01	Is the role with formal decision authority explicitly identifiable?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ UNCLEAR	☐ N/A
02	Can that role actually alter the route, not merely record disagreement?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ UNCLEAR	☐ N/A
03	Is escalation authority distinct from recommendation or execution authority?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ UNCLEAR	☐ N/A
FORMAL AUTHORITY / OVERRIDE / ESCALATION _____ _____ _____					

02 Locate formative influence

Who or what shaped the object before that authority was exercised?

04	Can you identify actors or systems that defined categories, admissible evidence, alternatives or priorities?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ UNCLEAR	☐ N/A
05	Can you identify workflow, interface or timing choices that changed what was practically available?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ UNCLEAR	☐ N/A
06	Is evidence retained for those formative contributions?	☐ YES	☐ NO	☐ UNCLEAR	☐ N/A

Power distribution surface

Map the contribution that shaped what could be seen, compared, prioritised or recovered. A contributor may have formative influence without holding final authority.

LAYER	ACTOR / ARTEFACT	WHAT IT SHAPED	EVIDENCE
Data / intake			
Categories / taxonomy			
Representation / summary			
Ranking / prioritisation			
Thresholds / gates			
Interface / presentation			
Workflow / escalation			

WHERE FORMAL AUTHORITY AND FORMATIVE INFLUENCE DIVERGE

STANDARD INTERPRETATION RULE

Several NO or UNCLEAR answers indicate a bounded question requiring further inspection. They do not establish non-compliance, system defect, legal failure or an IDΔAC™ diagnostic conclusion.

NEXT STEP

Working with a live decision route?

Preserve the evidence, then request a bounded IDΔAC™ Scope Review.

[REQUEST SCOPE REVIEW →](#)