

DCUSA Issues Form (DIF)

This form should be used by parties to submit matters for consideration to DCUSA Standing Issues Group (SIG).

The completed form should be issued to DCUSA@electralink.co.uk

Document Control	
Date Submitted	15/04/2014
Issue Title:	Removal and Replacement of Seals by MOCOPA Operatives
Issue Number*:	DIF 039
Meeting Ref*:	25 April 2014
Attachments:	

**Assigned by DCUSA Secretariat*

Originator details	
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Nature of Issue
<p>Currently it is not clear whether MOCOPA Operatives are able to energise and de-energise (within the same day) if they are not appointed by the registered Supplier in the capacity of Meter Operator (MOP). A Supplier may only appoint a single MOP at any one time. This creates issues in a number of scenarios, which can add cost and inefficiencies to industry processes that are ultimately borne by the end customer.</p> <p>Specifically, these scenarios are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Operating on shared services where they may not be appointed by all Suppliers.2. Investigate for faults whilst acting on behalf of the registered Supplier, but not in the capacity as appointed MOP.3. Removing and replacing seals whilst working on behalf of a designated customer.

Solution Overview – if known

Solution description:

To create a framework, which allows MOCOPA operatives to access DNO/Supplier equipment in a controlled manner, where they are not the appointed MOP. Permission from Suppliers and Distributors is granted through the DCUSA. The state of the metering system is not changed in this process e.g. register configuration.

MOCOPA Operative Companies would become a new DCUSA party with limited obligations, powers and voting rights. Powers and voting rights would be strictly restricted to addressing only the three issue scenarios presented.

Practically, this could be achieved by adding a new DCUSA section, similar to the existing Section 2d (electricity supplier to gas supplier relationships).

This solution builds upon a proposed MOCOPA framework, which seeks to provide assurance to Distribution Businesses and Suppliers that MOCOPA parties working on the network and Metering Equipment are competent and working in a safe manner. The MOCOPA framework includes scope for assurance activities such as audit.

Crucially, liability for the acts or omissions of MOCOPA Operatives, operating under these new powers are clearly placed on the MOCOPA Operatives themselves in this solution.

Benefits Of This Solution Are:

- A reduction in broken seals, increasing theft detection.
- Increased competition and customer choice for safe isolation.
- Reduced cost and increased efficiency within industry process.

SMART Rollout Benefits Of This Solution:

- Addresses issue of shared services where visits may need to be aborted or require coordination of two meter operators to attend site at the same time.
- Allow Suppliers to audit SMART rollout performance if using a 3rd party MOP.
- Allow meter operators to increase field force size prior to SMART rollout.

Lead time for Implementation:

To be confirmed at workgroup.