

DCUSA Standing Issues Group DCUSA Issues Form 50 Meeting 2

11 April 2018 at 10:00am

Workshop held at 10 Bloomsbury Way, London, WC1A 2SL.

Attendee	Company
Subgroup Members	
Chris Lawton [CL]	British Gas
Emslie Law [EL]	SSE
Nigel Kempson [NK]	Western Power
Steven Gough [SG]	SSE
Tim Newton [TN]	Gemserv
Warren Lacey [WL]	Northern Powergrid
Code Administrator	
John Lawton [JL] (Chair)	ElectraLink
Joseph Underwood [JU] (Technical Secretary)	ElectraLink

1. Administration

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed the members to the meeting.
- 1.2 The Subgroup reviewed the “Competition Law Do’s and Don’ts”. All members agreed to be bound by the Competition Laws Do’s and Don’ts for the duration of the meeting.
- 1.3 Attendees reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting and agreed they were an accurate reflection of discussions held.

2. Introduction

- 2.1 The Chair set out the main purpose of the workshop was to recap the Standing Issues Group (SIG) DCUSA Issues Form (DIF) 50 issue and to discuss any potential options for change.

3. Background of DIF 50

- 3.1 The proposer recapped the issue for attendees who did not attend the previous meeting.

- 3.2 The current Radio Teleswitch Service (RTS) functionality gives the ability to spread the load of a group of customers in a demand-controlled area over a number of switching times, rather than all at once. This smoothing of a demand profile alleviates any potential strain to a part of a network.
- 3.3 The Proposer noted that DCP 204 'Smart Metering Related Amendments to Schedule 8' highlighted an issue whereby a DNO can load profile customers who use conventional meters by RTS functionality but have no ability to do this if the customer has a SMETS2 meter. Only suppliers have access to the relevant commands to set the time switching settings on a smart meter.
- 3.4 The RTS is currently broadcast over radio 4 signal towers. However, these towers are scheduled to be decommissioned and therefore the RTS system is to be removed, probably by 2020. There seems to be no measures in place to replace the service.
- 3.5 There are concerns that many customers, particularly those in remote areas of Scotland, rely on the RTS and may not have smart meters installed by 2020. Further, once the RTS is removed, DNOs will no longer be able to load profile customers in demand-controlled areas, which have a limited capacity, and will be unaware of when loads will be switched. This could cause network constraints.

4. A review of previous workstreams

- 4.1 The Chair asked attendees if they knew of any previous or current workstreams which have touched on the subject.
- 4.2 The proposer noted that during DCP 204 Working Group meetings, the issue was highlighted but due to the remit of DCP 204, a solution was not arrived at.
- 4.3 A previous issue was raised to the SIG under DIF45 where a solution was proposed. It was suggested that the last digit of a customer's MPAN could be associated with a Group Code. Each Group Code in an area of demand control would be switched on at a different time thereby allowing for a smooth load profile. However, the DIF45 solution was never implemented.

5. Potential options for change

- 5.1 The Subgroup reviewed the solution proposed in DIF45 and considered how the process could work. Once Group Codes had been finalised by the DNO, it would be their obligation to notify the supplier, potentially as part of the Load Managed Areas notification process which includes the MPAN and post code. The Chair agreed to draft the solution and circulate it to the DIF50 group to review and finalise at the next meeting. Since the meeting, this action has been completed and the draft solution can be found as Attachment 1.

ACTION 02/01: The Chair to draft the solution derived from DIF45 and circulate it to the DIF50 group.

- 5.2 An attendee noted that DNOs are party to the Smart Energy Code (SEC) and questioned whether the solution proposed under SECMP 0046 'Allow DNOs to control Electric Vehicle chargers connected to Smart Meter infrastructure' could be extended to incorporate the DIF50 issue. SG took an action to investigate.

ACTION 02/02: SG to investigate whether the SECMP 0046 solution could be extended to incorporate the DIF50 issue.

- 5.3 One attendee noted that a subgroup under the smart programme called the Cost Control and Benefits Realisation Group (CCBRG) is looking into the policy where the Wide Area Network (WAN), the communications network which connects smart meters and the Data Communications Company

(DCC), will not reach certain areas of the country. ElectraLink took an action to contact BEIS and enquire as to what the policy is.

ACTION 02/03: Electralink to contact BEIS and enquire what their smart meter policy is if a geographical area does not receive WAN.

6. Agenda Items for the next meeting

6.1 The Subgroup agreed that agenda items for the workshop should include:

- A review of the draft solution; and
- Next steps.

7. Any Other Business

7.1 There were no items of AOB and the Chair closed the meeting.

8. Date of Next Meeting: 23 April 2018 at 14:00

8.1 The Subgroup agreed to hold the next meeting on 23 April 2018 at 14:00 via teleconference

9. Attachments

- Attachment 1 – DIF50 draft solution

New and open actions

Action Ref.	Action	Owner	Update
01/01	The Secretariat to formally invite colleagues from: BEIS, Energy UK, Genserv, Elexon and Ofgem	ElectraLink	
01/02	The Secretariat to confirm the date and location of the next meeting.	ElectraLink	