

Meeting Session	DCUSA Panel (Open Session)
Paper Reference	Panel_2017_0621_03_Ofgem's Switching Programme Update
Action	For Information

Ofgem Switching Programme Update

This paper provides an update to the DCUSA Panel on the status of Ofgem's Switching Programme.

1. Background

- 1.1 Since November 2015, ElectraLink has been providing resource to a number of Ofgem Switching Programme workstreams, alongside other Code Administrators and the Data Communications Company (DCC).
- 1.2 Following a request at the July 2016 DCUSA Panel meeting, this paper provides the DCUSA Panel with an update of the status of the following Ofgem project Design Teams:
 - E2E Design;
 - Regulatory Design; and
 - Delivery Strategy Design

2. Project Update

- 2.1 The following section provides a high-level overview of the Design Teams progress over the past month, as attended by ElectraLink.

Regulatory Design Team (RDT) **Enduring Governance**

- 2.2 During the Blueprint Phase, the RDT highlighted a preference for developing a dual fuel Retail Energy Code (REC) which will, in the long term, contain all gas and electricity retail provisions. The RDT is now seeking to understand how the REC should be established and the more detailed governance provisions such as funding, to enable this information to be included in the Autumn policy consultation. It has been proposed that retail provisions which do not directly link to the switching process may not be included in the REC from day one. A process will be agreed to determine which provisions should be included in the initial REC, with a view that remaining retail provisions will transition over time.

- 2.3 It is anticipated that both Suppliers and Network Operators will be required to accede to the REC. The inclusion of other parties will be considered further based on scope of the REC, the role of the DCC and responses to the policy consultation. It is assumed that the development of the initial REC will be incorporated within the Switching Programme and therefore funded in line with the programme funding; enduring funding arrangements will be considered further once the scope of the service and delivery mechanism has been finalised.

Transitional Governance

- 2.4 The RDT has also been considering the transitional regulations that will be required ahead of the implementation of the new switching arrangements to include for example data migration, testing and data cleansing. The RDT has identified four options for delivering the transitional regulatory requirements:
- Option 1: The transitional arrangements would be included within phase 1 of a new Retail Energy Code (REC) which includes enduring governance provisions such as a modification process and governance body/Panel;
 - Option 2: The transitional arrangements would be included within phase 1 of the REC but this would not follow the enduring governance route, instead the REC would have interim governance provisions such as a streamlined change process which is governed by Ofgem;
 - Option 3: The transitional arrangements would be outlined in a standalone transitional document that would only exist for a limited period of time i.e. the duration of the transitional arrangements;
 - Option 4: The transitional arrangements would be outlined in a schedule within an existing Code that would only exist for a limited period of time i.e. the duration of the transitional arrangements.
- 2.5 Further assessment of these options will be undertaken when there is more clarity on the scope of the CSS and the transitional requirements.
- 2.6 The RDT will be seeking User Group views in relation to both the transitional and enduring governance arrangements at the meeting on 26 June 2017.

Business Process Design Team (BPDT)

- 2.7 The DLS phase began in early April 2017. The design teams have now mobilised, composed of code body representatives, Ofgem and DCC resources.
- 2.8 Within this Workstream, the focus has been on developing the baseline architectural model, within the Abacus case tool. The team is now working on the delivery of detailed design models. Access will be provided to Suppliers and other stakeholders to view the architectural model within Abacus, which shall be refreshed as the model develops at frequent intervals.

Delivery Strategy Design Team (DSDT)

- 2.9 The switching programme DLS phase has reached the mid-point in the design of the artefacts that will comprise the initial 'Wave 1'.
- 2.10 Wave 1 will be composed of the production of the end to end Process Model, for gas and electricity switches. The data model to support switching and the business rules which will constrain switching activities. It will focus on switching interactions between the Central Switching System (CSS) and

Energy Suppliers and will also include the synchronisation of registration data to the UKLink and MPRS services.

- 2.11 Industry participants will be provided with online access to the Abacus CASE tool, at the end of May, which will allow all of the artefacts to be reviewed.
- 2.12 Wave 2, which will begin in June, will focus on the life cycles of Meter Points. Which will primarily encompass the synchronisation of the related data between Network Operators services and the CSS. Other more complex scenarios will be addressed within later Waves.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 The Panel is invited to:

- **NOTE** the contents of the paper.

4. Attachments

- There are no attachments to this paper.

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