

# DCUSA Panel Open Session

<b>Paper Title</b>	DCUSA SIG Headline Report
<b>Meeting Date</b>	15 October 2014
<b>Purpose of Paper</b>	For Information
<b>Synopsis</b>	This report summarises the meeting headlines and key decisions taken at the DCUSA Standing Issues Group on 03 October 2014. Full minutes of that meeting are available at <a href="http://www.dcusa.co.uk">www.dcusa.co.uk</a> .

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report summarises the meeting headlines and key decisions taken at the most recent meeting of the DCUSA Standing Issues Group (SIG) on 03 October 2014.

## 2 DCP 213 'PROVIDING CLARITY ON LATE PAYMENT OF DCUSA INVOICES BEING CONSIDERED IN BREACH OF DCUSA' CHANGE PROPOSAL

- 2.1 The proposer of the DCP 213 Change Proposal (CP) attended the DCUSA SIG to discuss the withdrawal of the DCP 213 CP and the submission of a new CP.
- 2.2 The DCP 213 Working Group agreed that a CP with an amended intent should be submitted with a process for ElectraLink to chase payment from overdue Parties and following this comprehensive procedure if no payment was received then a name and shame policy would be pursued. DCUSA SIG members were invited to comment.
- 2.3 Members discussed the suggestion that late payment legislation may apply differently under Scottish law. One member noted that DCUSA is governed by English law and therefore English law would apply to the agreement.
- 2.4 The DCUSA SIG suggested that the provision for lateness and suspension should be a more defined line. The drafting could state that payment to the bank should occur by midday so that the payment was guaranteed to be received by close of business.

## 3 DIF 037 'THE CASE FOR PROVIDING A MEANS TO ENSURE SAFE TEMPORARY ISOLATION IN DOMESTIC AND SIMILAR PREMISES'

- 3.1 DIF 037 seeks to find a solution that will enable electricians to carry out the temporary de-energisation of electricity supplies to domestic and similar premises in order to undertake certain electrical installation work safely, including the replacement of consumer units (fuseboxes).
- 3.2 The DCUSA SIG discussed whether this issue was worth pursuing based on the fact that many of the Supplier respondents to the DIF 037 Request For Information (RFI) were not in favour of the change. Martyn Allen of Electrical Safety First offered to set up a meeting with the relevant Parties in order to get the issue resolved as the removing of cut outs by electricians is occurring illegally. Members considered that Ofgem, the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) and the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) would be best placed to consider this issue and provide a direction or put pressure on Parties to resolve it.
- 3.3 Members agreed that a letter should be sent to DECC with a firm proposal to set up a meeting with the heads of the organisations of Ofgem, HSE and DECC.

#### **4 PUBLIC FACING THEFT OF ENERGY CODE OF PRACTICE**

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- 4.1 Following the DCUSA Panel feedback, the DCUSA SIG agreed to invite the SPAA Theft Of Gas (ToG) Working Group to a joint meeting to revise the public facing Theft Of Energy Code of Practice based on comments received from the DCUSA Panel.

#### **5 HOUSEKEEPING AMENDMENT NO. 65**

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- 5.1 The DCUSA SIG considered Housekeeping Amendment No. 65 where an embedded customer with a Green Deal could be disconnected by a Private Network Operator (PNO).
- 5.2 The DCUSA SIG agreed that this issue is a licence/ commercial terms matter which would need to be dealt with by Ofgem or DECC rather than the Users themselves. DECC as the administrator of the Green Deal should appropriately manage the Green Deal in licence networks and this issue is a housekeeping issue for their amendment rather than for DCUSA.
- 5.3 DCUSA SIG Members considered the increase in Green Deal numbers provided by the Domestic Green Deal and Energy Company Obligation in Britain, Monthly Report. It was noted that about 940,000 measures (in 778,000 properties) were installed up to the end of July 2014 (through ECO, Cashback, Green Deal and the Green Deal Home Improvement Fund). The large majority of installed measures (98 per cent) were delivered through ECO.
- 5.4 Due to the month on month increase in the consumer adoption of Green Deals this issue is set to become much larger and as a result the loop hole in the Green Deal legal drafting has a greater probability of having an impact. Lesley Ferrando agreed to discuss the issue internally at Ofgem in order to provide suggestions on the best way forward for the issue at this stage.

#### **6 DRAFT DIF 041 'DNO WORK UPON METER TERMINALS, METER TAILS AND CUSTOMER TAILS FOLLOWING WORK UPON OR CHANGE OF DNO SERVICE EQUIPMENT' REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)**

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- 6.1 The DCUSA SIG reviewed the draft DIF 041 RFI which highlights the scenario where a DNO replaces a cut out resulting in an elevated risk that the meter terminals may have been disturbed. DIF 041 seeks to provide DNOs with the power under DCUSA to retighten the terminals to the meter.
- 6.2 Members agreed to add two questions to the DIF 041 RFI and to circulate the RFI to members to review for a period of one week. Members propose for this RFI to be issued from the 10 September to the 31 October 2014.

#### **7 DRAFT DIF 042 'SHARED FUSE/SHARED NEUTRAL FOR MULTIPLE EXIT POINTS – SUPPLIER AND DNO RIGHTS TO DE-ENERGISE' REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

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- 7.1 DIF 042 seeks to highlight an issue where Suppliers' Meter Operators (MoPs) are experiencing difficulty installing replacement meters where a single common end Distributor cut-out fuse controls the supply of voltage to more than one Exit Point, i.e. to more than one customer.
- 7.2 The DCUSA SIG discussed the additional text in the DIF 042 RFI notifying respondents of the future safety action code changes for items such as shared fuse arrangements in the service terminations document.
- 7.3 Members agreed to add one question to the DIF 042 RFI and to circulate the RFI to members to review for a period of one week on the 10 October 2014. Members propose for this RFI to be issued from the 17 September to the 07 November 2014.

#### **8 RECOMMENDATION**

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8.1 The Panel is invited to:

- NOTE the report.