

# DCUSA SIG Meeting Minutes

<b>Meeting Name</b>	DCUSA Standing Issues Group (SIG)
<b>Meeting Number</b>	067
<b>Date</b>	27 March 2015
<b>Time</b>	10:00
<b>Location</b>	Webinar

<b>Attendee</b>	<b>Company</b>
Richard Vernon [RV] (Chair)	Npower
Andrew Monks [AM]	SSE
Alex Greetham [AG]	UK Power Networks
Chris Allanson [CA]	Northern Powergrid
Dominique Tilquin [DT]	SSE Power Distribution
Emslie Law [EL]	SSE
Graham Smith [GS]	Western Power Distribution
Helen Fosberry [HF]	E.ON Energy
Lesley Ferrando [LF]	Ofgem
Maria Hesketh [MH]	Scottish Power
Paul Abreu [PA]	Energy Network Association
Paul Smith [PS]	AMO
Rachael Mottram [RM]	Gemserv
William Colborn [WC]	Gemserv
Claire Hynes [CH] (Secretariat)	Electralink

<b>Apologies</b>	<b>Company</b>
Tony Savka	ENWL

## AGENDA ITEMS

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## 1 ADMINISTRATION

- 1.1 The minutes of the last meeting was approved without amendment.
- 1.2 The group reviewed the open actions. Updates on all actions are set out in Appendix A.
- 1.3 Under Action 066/02: CA contacted the chair (Paul Morris) of the Services Terminations Issues Group (STIG) on work undertaken on shared fuses. The Chair advised that the STIG view is that shared fuses are not an asset defect as the shared fuse arrangement was deliberately installed. This is a legacy issue for an arrangement that DNOs would not currently install under today's practice.
  - 1.3.1 This raises two issues for the Supplier's Meter Operator (MoP) when installing smart meters where there is a shared fuse arrangement:
    - the de-energisation of the affected properties and
    - understanding who the affected Supplier is in property B.
  - 1.3.2 Members noted that the view of the majority of STIG attendees was that the MoP should resolve the issue. However, the STIG considered that it was not a DNO's activity which was driving the requirement for Customer B to be de-energised. Members noted that four out of six DNOs did not consider shared fuse arrangements to be Category B and all six DNOs did not view this issue as a network issue. Some DNOs have suggested that they are willing to address the issue where a shared fused arrangement is identified whilst others do not want to deal with this issue during the smart meter roll out.
  - 1.3.3 One member noted that a new element had been brought in to the DIF 042 discussions of building networks as the DNO would have the connection to the building network and then the building network would provide the isolation for each of the premises. There are some scenarios where the issue can only be resolved if you contact the network operator.
  - 1.3.4 Members noted that both Category 17 and 18 were being removed from the codes and that these two categories will need to be addressed elsewhere. This allows for the 50 network action codes to be agreed. The MDB are looking to review the codes at their March meeting.

## 2 **DIF 046 'PROVISION OF SERVICE TERMINATION EQUIPMENT INFORMATION TO DISTRIBUTORS'**

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- 2.1 The proposer advised that DIF 046 was raised as Ofgem were encouraging network operators to recover more information about their meter assets cut-out to aid the installation of smart meters in the smart meter roll-out. This issue looks to introduce further obligations on the provision of information between Parties to DCUSA which will compliment the MRA Issues Resolution Expert Group (IREG) SPF0084 change which is being developed in parallel.
- 2.2 Members noted that DECC was reviewing the inspection of smart meters every two years by Suppliers and this review may impact upon the processes for collection and distribution of Service Termination Equipment Information to be introduced in to DCUSA. The collation of information by MoPs and Distributors about the meter cut-out will extend the inspection period and will demonstrate to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) that DNOs are pro-actively checking on the risk of service terminations being live.
- 2.3 It is proposed that Category C defects will no longer exist and they will be added as a proposed new service termination equipment information reporting item instead. The references to Category C defects will be amended in the DCUSA to reflect the work being undertaken in parallel under the MRA.

- 2.4 The proposer advised that they will be submitting a CP on this issue to the March DCUSA Panel with an implementation date of November 2015. It will include provision of information obligations under Clause 30 on the Suppliers appointed MoPs and Distributors to provide certain items through the D0170<sup>1</sup> and D0215<sup>2</sup> dataflows.
- 2.5 One member suggested that the proposed CP could also propose amendments to the transactional charges at DCUSA Clause 19.2.4. Members discussed the option to undertake a Request for Information (RFI) on this issue under the DCUSA SIG but it was noted that impacted Parties had already provided their opinions under the IREG.
- 2.6 The DCUSA SIG suggested to the proposer that a Change Proposal is drafted on this issue and circulated to DCUSA SIG members for comment prior to submission for initial assessment.

**ACTION 067/01: GS**

### **3 DIF 045 'REPLICATING TIME SWITCHING AND LOAD SWITCHING IN THE SMART ROLL-OUT'**

- 3.1 The DCUSA SIG reviewed the updated DIF 045 discussion paper which now references group code relationships in the teleswitch use agreement.
- 3.2 Members noted that the Radio Teleswitch (RTS) agreement covers radio teleswitching only which are one particular group of teleswitches, as there are other types in place such as mechanical timeswitches.
- 3.3 Members noted that where economy 7 smart meters are being installed, a clock is attached to the meter with a fixed timeswitch which stipulates the night time hours applicable in line with the area code (GMT 1:30 – 8:30am is the traditional Yorkshire Economy 7 night time which is replicated in non- RTS meters). To change the hours applicable to the night time tariff, the clock would need to be manually adjusted as no radio teleswitch is installed in smart meters.
- 3.4 Members noted that the smart meters being installed are pre-programmed with each areas switching times. One member considered that although you may have load control for Half Hourly meters installed, you would have no view of load for non-HH meters. Historically, this lack of visibility of load in non-HH meters removed the control from DNOs except for the standard settlement configuration (SSCs). This introduces an issue in regards to migrating smart meter installations to HH. A further issue occurs where a DNO says that an area is subject to a Load Managed Area (LMA) or Security Restriction Notice (SRN).
- 3.5 Members noted that dynamic switching goes when smart metering comes in as they will be unable to switch group codes. Members noted that the Smart programme talks about DFR and DFM thus assuming that customers can be changed to different tariffs for different hours. Individual customers can be changed but not groups of customers.
- 3.6 By 2020, a variant of smart meters would need to be installed to replicate what the RTS currently does and the Supplier would need to drive the changes in the timings. The replication of these timings has not been designed other than putting a clock on site.
- 3.7 Members discussed the removal of the RTS agreement as a legacy arrangement and instead supporting smart meter arrangements through a process for the raising of SSC's (five SSC's currently available) which are agreed with the LDSO and the mapping of SSC Time Pattern Regime (TPRs) on to smart.
- 3.8 It was noted that if five SSCs are not agreed they will be installed at random or risk the installation under only one SSC.

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<sup>1</sup> D0170 Request For Metering System Related Details

<sup>2</sup> D0215 Provision of Site Technical Details

- 3.9 Members considered that the group code aspect had value as it provided a stagger through the RTS for load on the network. The group codes could be replicated by staggering the group codes load through the fixed time on the smart meters clock installed such as Midnight, 1am, 2am so that the benefit of spreading the load across the network is not lost. A methodology would need to stipulate how to ensure randomisation of the installation of smart meters. Members considered that the DNO would no longer have any ability to recognise a particular type of arrangement.
- 3.10 Members considered that SSC and TPRs are Market Domain Data (MDD) and that a discussion on how these arrangements get replicated in a non-SSC metering world be best discussed at Elexon.
- 3.11 The DCUSA SIG chair agreed to approach Elexon on how to set up an issues group for this topic under the BSC.

#### **ACTION 067/02: RV**

- 3.12 Members noted that the solution to this issue developed under Elexon will also have an impact on the DCUSA and the two codes will need to work together to introduce the changes in parallel. One of the DCUSA changes highlighted was the need to amend DCUSA Schedule 8 as the ability to control the change for a suite of meters such as load restriction meters will no longer be available.

## **4 ISSUES LOG**

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- 4.1 The DCUSA SIG reviewed the DCUSA Issues log and noted that:

### DIF 044 'Timescales For Responding To Requests To Increase Cover'

- The proposer of DIF 044 agreed to close the change as following discussions with a DNO member of the DCUSA SIG the lions share of the issue was resolved and any improvement in communications proposed by this change between DNOs and Suppliers may be resolved without the raising of a formal change.

## **5 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

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- 5.1 There were no items of any other business.

## **6 NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS**

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- 6.1 The DCUSA SIG agreed to consider the following agenda items at its next meeting on the 27 March 2015.
- DIF 045: The Governance Arrangements

## **7 NEXT MEETING – 27 MARCH 2015**

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- 7.1 The next DCUSA SIG meeting will take place at 10:00 on 27 March 2015.

## APPENDIX A: SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

### NEW AND OPEN ACTIONS

Action Ref.	Action	Owner	Update
052/06	Draft an e-mail on the incomplete rota disconnection data and circulate to DCUSA SIG members and the DCUSA Contract Managers	Julia Haughey	<a href="#">On-going</a> . Julia Haughey has advised that she will be following up on the incomplete rota disconnection data issue. The SIG agreed to issue an e-mail requesting a rough timescale on the expected progression of this issue.
061/03	LF agreed to discuss the issue highlighted by Housekeeping Amendment no. 65 internally at Ofgem in order to provide suggestions on the best way forward for the issue at this stage.	Lesley Ferrando	<a href="#">On-going</a> . LF advised that Ofgem had been internally debating the issue of the Green Deal licence drafting and the definition error identified by a DCUSA SIG member. LF suggested that Ofgem will need to interact with DECC in order to see if the definition can be changed. <a href="#">LF advised that she had located the correct contact for this issue in DECC who have acknowledged that the drafting of the definition identified is an error. She is expecting progression on the correction of the Green Deal licence drafting in the next two weeks.</a>
062/01	MHS agreed to draft a housekeeping CP based on DIF 043 to clarify what is covered by the Distributor and the requirements of licence condition 12.9 (a).	Matthew Hays Stimson	<a href="#">On-going</a> . This change will be raised once the licence has changed.
062/02	The proposer agreed to draft a CP based on DIF 041 and the preferred Option 1 identified in the responses to the RFI.	Matthew Hays Stimson	<a href="#">On-going</a> .
067/01	Draft a CP on DIF 046 and circulate to DCUSA SIG members for review prior to submitting it to the March DCUSA Panel for initial assessment.	Graham Smith	
067/02	Approach Elexon in regards to setting up an issues	Richard Vernon	

	group on DIF45 under the BSC.		
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**ACTIONS AGREED CLOSED AT THE MEETING**

Action Ref.	Action	Owner	Update
061/01	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.	Martyn Allen	Closed. The chair contacted Martyn to request an update. Martyn advised that he was pursuing the issue and would contact the DCUSA SIG once meeting arrangements had been made.
066/01	Discuss with Matthew Hays Stimson a request for independent legal advice from a customer service/ smooth rollout perspective.	Richard Vernon	Completed.
066/02	Contact the Chair of the Smart Working Issues Group (SWIG) to find out what work has done in the area of shared fuses.	Chris Allanson	Completed
066/03	Amend the 'DIF 45 Draft Discussion Paper v0.1' to include the group code relationship.	Chris Allanson	Completed. This paper was discussed at the 27 February 2015 meeting.
066/04	Raise the change at the DCUSA Panel or at the February SIG meeting.	Richard Ellis	Completed. This issue was discussed at the 27 February 2015 meeting.