

DCP 204 'Smart Metering Related Amendments to Schedule 8'

For the Attention of All Suppliers Engaged in the Smart Meter Rollout Out

This is the second consultation about DCP 204

DCP 204 seeks to update DCUSA Schedule 8 (Demand Control) to ensure that it remains relevant for smart metering technologies. The legal text for DCP 204 is provided as Attachment 1. The key principles of DCP 204 are as follows:

- To replicate existing functionality around tariff time switching and load switching for a smart regime. The DCP is not seeking to introduce a like for like replacement but rather to replicate the method through smart metering.
- To simplify the security restriction notice process, in a way that describes an escalating process supported by different types of notice.
- To mandate randomisation, for all meters that support randomisation, up to a period of 600 seconds.
- To introduce a standard template that all Distributors will use to notify Suppliers of demand controlled areas.

It should be noted that the functionality to support randomisation is already specified within SMETS2 and will be supported by the DCC services.

Additional details of the existing obligations and the new ones which will be introduced by DCP 204 can be found in Attachment 2.

Why are we consulting you again?

Ofgem has asked the DCP 204 Working Group to do more analysis for inclusion in the Change Report, including adding in an assessment of the costs and benefits of the proposal (the Ofgem letter sending the CP back to the Working Group is provided at Attachment 3). Ofgem has also expressed concerns that Suppliers may not have engaged sufficiently with DCP 204 through the previous DCUSA consultation and voting.

The DCP 204 Working Group has issued this second consultation to gather your feedback on the proposed change and its costs and benefits.

Your views are wanted

Please use the response form provided as Attachment 5 to provide your views on the following questions:

1. Do you have any comments on the DCP 204 legal text (Attachment 1)?

Demand Control

Demand Control measures are already initiated by Distributors to preserve security of supply and integrity of their networks and/or to avoid, minimise or defer network investment.

For example, Distributors can issue a Load Managed Area Notice for specific post codes. Under this notice Suppliers must ensure that when replacing metering equipment the replacement equipment replicates the load switching times of the equipment being removed. If this is not possible or if the Supplier wishes to change the times, then Distributor approval for the alternative arrangements must be sought

The following DNOs currently have Load Managed Area Notices in force:

- SSE Power Distribution
- Western Power Distribution
- SP Energy Networks

2. Do you have any comments on the new obligations that will be introduced by DCP 204, as detailed in Attachment 2?
3. Do you have any comments on the Ofgem send back letter (Attachment 3)?
4. Do you have any information that could aid the Working Group in documenting and valuing the costs and benefits of the proposal (Attachment 4 sets out the costs and benefits identified thus far)?
5. Do you have any further comments?

Consultation responses should be submitted to DCUSA@electralink.co.uk by no later than close of play on 8 October 2015.

Next Steps

There will be a teleconference meeting on **1 October 2015** where you can call in and ask any questions you may have about the Change Proposal. If you would like attend this session please email DCUSA@electraLink.co.uk to request the dial in details. You are asked to send your questions for this session in by 25 September to enable the Working Group to prepare.

Following the close of the consultation, based on the consultation responses received, the Working Group will update the DCP 204 Change Report. It will then be re-issued to DCUSA Parties for voting and then sent to Ofgem for decision.

Contact

If you would like to discuss this CP please call the DCUSA Helpdesk on 020 7432 2842 or email DCUSA@electralink.co.uk.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1 – DCP 204 Legal Text

Attachment 2 – Existing and proposed new obligations

Attachment 3 – Ofgem Send Back Letter

Attachment 4 - Costs and benefits identified to date

Attachment 5 – Response Form