

Question 4: Do you support the proposed implementation date of 06 November 2008? (please state alternative if applicable and give reasons)	
British Gas	We support the implementation date of 6 th November for DCP 008B
CE ELECTRIC UK	Significant changes would need to be made before CE could be in a position to provide UMetS in line with these proposals. We do not believe that a four-month window from Ofgem decision (scheduled for 4th July) to implementation would be sufficient to enable all the required changes to be implemented, particularly for parties who do not currently provide UMetS services and who would be required to start a new metering business. We suggest that the implementation date is moved to at least 1 April 2009, if not beyond, to ensure all parties can fully comply with the proposal if implemented by Ofgem.
Central Networks	Central Networks believes that if it is required to provide a UMetS service, it would take a minimum of 12 months to recruit, train and equip staff to resource this service as necessary.
E.ON UK	We would prefer a later implementation date.
EDF Energy Customers plc	We agree that the date of the November 2008 DCUSA release is the appropriate date for implementation. We note that some Distributors are already providing UMetS services. However, we recognise that some Distributors and IDNOs may need to put in place revised procedures and training. Consequently, it would not be unreasonable for the DCUSA Panel to authorise short term derogations if requested while this is carried out.
EDF Energy Networks	Yes
Electricity North West Limited	Yes. However this depends on the amount of time available from the Authority's determination to this implementation date due to changes needed to our IT systems (4-6 months).
energywatch	Anything that potentially reduces consumer detriment must be implemented at the earliest possible date.
ESP Electricity Ltd	No
IPNL	No. The recruitment of competent individuals. or provision of training required to provide such individuals is not possible in the very restricted timescales suggested.
Npower Group	We do not support the implementation date of 6 th November 2008 for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed implementation date is less than 7 months away, which we do not believe provides sufficient time to undertake the required Agent Contract Reviews and any re-negotiations that may be required following this review, especially when one bears in mind that these can not commence until there is a clear steer on the preferred solution and its final drafting.

	Given the potential need for contract re-negotiation that is inherent in this CP, and given that it is a Part 1 Matter, we propose that the Implementation Date should be 12 months after the receipt of Authority Consent.
Scottish Power Energy Retail Limited	Yes
SP Distribution / SP Manweb	Yes
SSE Energy Supply Limited	In principle yes, but this would need to be dependent on any DTN changes being agreed within these timescales.
SSEPD	We have reservations with proposed implementation date as the requirement for DTN amendments and their delivery may determine a later date.
The Electricity Network Company Ltd	No. We do not support this change. However, we are willing to support DCP008B as put forward by CE-Electric UK as this provides a choice as to whether to offer the service along with a common set of terms for those that do offer the service.
Western Power Distribution (South West) plc and Western Power Distribution (South West) plc	No – if this proposal were accepted all of our staff who attend single no supply faults would need to be appropriately trained and accredited to carry out this work. This is a significant workload that would not be achievable within the proposed timescale. We would propose an implementation date of April 2009.