

DCUSA SIG Meeting 155 Minutes

26 April 2024 at 10:00am: Web Conference

Attendee	Company
Working Group Members	
Kevin Woollard [KW]	British Gas
Lauire Harman(LH)	British Gas
Peter Waymont (PW)	UKPN
Simon Vicary (SV)	EDF
Rebecca Nock (RB)	NGED
Richard Ellis (RE)	NGED
Mark Bellman (MB)	ENWL
Niall Simmons (NS)	Smartest Energy
Karl Mayon(KM)	Drax
Ian Chadwick (IC)	Murphy Group LTD
Ladie Adekanle (LA)	Scottish Power
Code Administrator	
Andy Green (AG) (Technical Secretariat)	ElectraLink

1. Administration

- 1.1 SIG members reviewed the “Competition Law Guidance”. All members agreed to be bound by the Competition Law Guidance for the duration of the meeting.
- 1.2 The Chair advised the meeting would be recorded and asked the Working Group if there were any objections to this. It was explained that the recording would be deleted 15 working days after the Working Group meeting. There were no objections.
- 1.3 The Chair provided an update on the outstanding issues raised and these updates can be found within Attachment 1 SIG_Issues Log.

2. DIF 74 ‘Super Customer Invoicing Issues’

- 2.1 LH provided an overview of the issue raised within Attachment 2 DIF 74 Super Customer Invoicing Issues.
- 2.2 Accompanying

- 2.3 LH explained that there are two points to the issue the first being relating to sequential billing. It was stated that a DNO didn't bill them for them for a settlement day and the invoices that were then received showed a gap in the settlement dates as there was a missing day.
- 2.4 This meant when the supplier ran their validation scripts, it highlighted that there was a missing day. It was asked if it would be possible when a settlement day is missing, could there be notification to highlight to suppliers that there are missing settlement periods.
- 2.5 LH then went on to explain the second point raised in DIF 75 which was in relation to if DNOs were able to align their invoice dates and billing periods to across all networks as feedback from their finance team was that it would speed up the accruals process if the invoicing and billing dates were aligned.
- 2.6 The SIG discussed the first issue raised which was in relation to missing settlement data.
- 2.7 It was noted that the issue causes a lot of manual intervention to correct the missing days. It then, in the future, can cause further manual intervention if the missing days of settlement are received at a later date as these missing periods have to be back dated.
- 2.8 LH highlighted that the issue is rare and in the case they'd seen, it was caused by the DNO missing a D0030.
- 2.9 It was explained that if the issue was due to a missing flow, there are several reasons that could drive this. It was explained that in the case being discussed, the supplier had received the D0030, so it was unclear why the DNO had not received the D0030 as well.
- 2.10 A SIG member queried that if there had only been one example of this issue, and if it was believed that it may be due to missing flows, would it be beneficial to create a change to amend invoices or emails to explain that there are missing settlement dates for an issue that seems to be very rare, and may have been driven by a number of different reasons.
- 2.11 It was noted that a Working Group would be required and changes to billing and auto email systems would need to be made which, considering the frequency the issue has been experienced, felt like the costs of remedying the issue outweighed the benefit of not having to resolve to low numbers manually.
- 2.12 The SIG agreed that it was still unclear as to why the DNO hadn't received the D0030 flow in this one example, so it was agreed by the party who raised the issue to carry out further investigation as to why the D0030 flow hadn't been received with the DNO.
- 2.13 The Chair advised that if the investigation highlighted that there was a genuine issue for the DCUSA to resolve, a separate SIG would be raised but for now this element of DIF 75 would be closed.
- 2.14 The SIG then moved on to discussing the potential aligning of invoice dates and billing periods across all networks.
- 2.15 The various DNOs in the meeting updated the SIG on the processes they follow for invoicing and the billing periods they use.
- 2.16 It was noted that due to the settlement timetables and different DNOs processes, it would be difficult to have a standardised approach. It was also noted that there were no IDNOs on the call but for any standardisation to be effective, the IDNOs would also need to align.

- 2.17 It was noted that this process had been utilised for several years and the organisations involved would have to go through a number of different processes if the billing periods were to be amended to ensure that all the revenue impacts were be considered.
- 2.18 It was agreed that due to the challenges standardising billing periods would create, this issue would not be pursued further at this moment in time.

3. Any Other Business

- 3.1 MB informed the SIG that he was considering raising a change in the future to change some of the references in the DCUSA from RPI to CPIH to align to ED02.

4. Date of Next Meeting:

The next SIG meeting will take place on 31 May 2024 at 10:00am, via Microsoft Teams.