

DCP 419 Working Group - Meeting 13

25 September 2024 at 10:00 - Web-Conference

Attendee	Company
David Jones [DJ]	Alt Han Co
Jordan Hills [JH]	SSEN
Kevin Woollard [KW]	Centrica
Paul Abreu [PA]	ENA
Peter Skirvin [PS]	ENWL
Warren Lacey [WL]	NPg
Amy Cox [AC]	EDF
Lorna Mallon [LM]	REC
Richard Brady [RB]	National Grid
Victoria Burkett [VB]	SSE
David Brown [DB]	Power Data Associates
Code Administrator	
Richard Colwill [RC] (Chair)	ElectraLink
Alysson Peña [AP] (TechSec)	ElectraLink
Apologies	
N/a	

1. Administration

- 1.1 All Working Group members agreed to be bound by the Competition Law Guidance for the duration of the meeting.
- 1.2 The Chair noted that there were no apologies for this meeting.

- 1.3 The Working Group reviewed the previous meeting minutes and agreed them to be an accurate reflection of the discussions held.
- 1.4 The action log has been updated **Appendix A**.

2. Purpose of the Meeting

- 2.1 The Chair explained that the purpose of this meeting was to review the outstanding actions and further review the DCC's proposed solution, discuss progress on the market message, and determine next steps.

3. Update on potential DCC solution

- 3.1 PA provided an update on the feasibility of using service requests 8.12.1 and 8.11 for notifying DNOs. Initial discussions with DCC suggested that although the idea was plausible, delays could arise depending on the operational processes at play, such as installers not sending the alerts early enough for DNOs to ignore a POA.
- 3.2 PA noted that they explored whether DNOs could directly receive these alerts, but it was found that DNOs do not have the appropriate security credentials for these SRVs due to the encryption used in the smart meter program. This means DCC would need to generate new alerts for DNOs.
- 3.3 It was noted that even if DCC created these alerts, there would still be delays, potentially up to an hour. The DNOs would have already received the AD1 alert by the time the DCC-generated alert reached them, which would make the system ineffective for quick responses, especially for vulnerable customers.
- 3.4 It was agreed that DCC should provide further analysis on the time taken for these alerts to travel through the system. This analysis will be shared in the next meeting. It was noted that the outcome of this analysis would be critical in determining whether the DCC solution could be pursued which would eliminate the need for Suppliers to send a new Market Message over the DTN. A member of the group suggested that having dual solutions (one based on DCC and one on a market message) might allow for greater flexibility depending on DCC's results.
- 3.5 Another member raised concerns about how the DCC solution might impact suppliers, particularly in terms of the delays caused by comms hub swap-outs. Millions of customers would be affected by comms hub replacements, and any significant delay in notifications could impact customer experience. Suppliers are concerned that adding additional notification steps could complicate the comms hub swap-out process, leading to further delays and potential disruptions.

Action 13/01: DCC to provide a detailed analysis on the time taken for alerts to travel through the system, this information shall be shared in the next meeting.

4. New Market Message

- 4.1 The Working Group discussed the ongoing development of a market message to notify DNOs of planned supply de-energisations. This message is seen as critical, particularly if the DCC solution is not feasible.

- 4.2 One member noted a concern regarding how this CP may affect the comms hub programme if approved, as Suppliers are still considering their strategies for who to deal with the mass replacements. For example, they may utilise third parties. There was a discussion about the need for the message to be adaptable to third-party contractors, to future proof the solution if third parties were to be utilised.
- 4.3 The Working Group discussed whether Revenue Protection Agents should be in scope of this CP and noted the fact that they may on occasions need to de-energise smart meters. It was noted that due to the nature of their work, they may not know if they need to de-energise or not until they arrive on site to review the scenario, however for Priority 2 or 3 jobs pre-notification may be feasible. LM suggested exploring options to include the UKRPA (United Kingdom Revenue Protection Association) to understand how much pre-notification could be achieved.

Action 13/02: LM to reach out to UKRPA in relation to feasibility of sending pre-notification of Priority 2 and 3 jobs

- 4.4 The Working Group recognized the interactions with the Retail Energy Code (REC) and agreed to formally engage REC stakeholders once more details on the proposed solution is available
- 4.5 It was also noted that an unintended benefit of this CP being approved would be that it could act as a deterrent for unauthorised pulling of the Distributor fuse. For example, if a Distributor believed a POAs received was a genuine outage and contacted the customer and the customer informed them there is electrical work taken place, this may be an indication of unauthorised pulling of the fuse. The Chair took an action to reach out to Ofgem to discuss possibilities utilising these POA to establish unauthorised activities

Action 13/03: The Chair to reach out to Ofgem to discuss possibilities of utilising these POA to establish unauthorised activities

5. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- 5.1 The Working Group discussed the next steps, and the following item was captured:

- Review of DCC Analysis
- Review Draft Market Message

6. Any Other Business

- 6.1 The Chair asked the group whether there were any other items of business to discuss.
- 6.2 There were no other items raised.

7. Date of Next Meeting

- 7.1 The next meeting is to be determined.

8. Attachments

N/A

APPENDIX A

New and Open Actions

Action Ref.	Action	Owner	Update
11/02	The Chair to create draft Change Report and issue to Working Group for review at the next meeting.	Chair	Ongoing
12/01	PA to provide the Working Group with an update on any further discussions in relation to the alternative DCC solution.	PA	New Action
12/02	RC to reach out to REC technical team to explore amending the structure of the Market Message.	RC	New Action
13/01	DCC to provide a detailed analysis on the time taken for alerts to travel through the system, this information shall be shared in the next meeting.	PA	New Action
13/02	LM to reach out to UKPRA in relation to feasibility of sending pre-notification of Priority 2 and 3 jobs	LM	New Action
13/03	The Chair to reach out to Ofgem to discuss possibilities of utilising these POA to establish unauthorised activities	RC	New Action

Closed Actions

Action Ref.			Update
07/01	The Secretariat to update the incorrect spelling within the previous meeting minutes (WG 07).	Secretariat	Closed.
07/07	The Secretariat to issue a Doodle Poll to the Working Group to determine the next meeting date (WG 08).	Secretariat	Closed.
08/01	The Secretariat to invite a member of the DCC to the next Working Group meeting.	Secretariat	Closed.
08/02	The Secretariat to invite a member of the DCC to the next Working Group meeting.	Secretariat	Closed.
08/03	The Secretariat to seek availability from the DCC and the SEC and then issue a Doodle Poll to the Working Group to determine the next meeting date (WG 09).	Secretariat	Closed.
04/05	The Secretariat to re-look at the DCP 394 legal text and compare what potential amendments may be needed.	Secretariat	<p>Closed.</p> <p><i>15/11/2023 - Additional changes may be needed to the DCP 394 legal text, if a new flow is developed and it is utilised for SIPs to fulfil their pre-notification requirements</i></p>
05/02	The Secretariat to speak with Ofgem to explain the current discussions being held in relation to the alternate solution (i.e., power restoration alert) and also ask for their view on the 2G/3G comms hub swap-outs in the next few years.	Secretariat	<p>Closed.</p> <p><i>15/11/2023 - It was noted that there is currently no update as of</i></p>

yet, however, the RFI responses may provide more information.

Closed.

07/02	The Secretariat to check the Ofgem regulation for the process of contacting a Customer and share what this looks like with the Working Group.	Secretariat	Closed.
07/03	The Secretariat to contact the Suppliers that provided large numbers to Q7 of the RFI to seek an understanding of the types of jobs that have been included.	Secretariat	Closed. <i>11/01/2024 – Secretariat to follow-up.</i>
07/04	AC to speak internally to seek further information around whether using N1 alerts would be a potential option moving forward (Q9 of RFI).	AC	Closed. <i>11/01/2024 – AC to follow-Up.</i>
07/05	The Secretariat to speak with the DCC to seek further information around whether using N1 alerts would be a potential option moving forward (Q9 of RFI).	Secretariat	Closed. <i>11/01/2024 – Secretariat to follow-up.</i>
07/06	The Secretariat to check the DCP 400 draft legal text to see if it states that the Crowded Meter Room [CMR] have an obligation to notify the DNO.	Secretariat	Closed.
10/01	CS to share slide and commentary of the potential way forward via DCC infrastructure route during the meeting with The Secretariat	CS	Closed.
10/03	The Chair to reach out to Ofgem in relation to whether approval of this CP could result in the REC needing an update.	The Chair	Closed.

11/01	The Chair to reach out to REC to start the process of formally agreeing to the creation of this new flow if this CP is approved.	Chair	Completed
11/03	The Chair to reach out to Ofgem to discuss possibilities of utilising these POA to establish unauthorised activities.	Chair	Completed
10/02	CS to raise awareness at the TCSO (Trust Centre Swap Out) working group and expected impact of POA (Power Outage Alerts) on DNOs (raised by DJ) Members noted further discussions will be held during the next meeting.	CS	Closed