RETAIL ENERGY CODE

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STATUS	FOR DISCUSSION

I0278 – ESTABLISHING THE SAFE ISOLATION PROVIDER (SIP) AS A STANDALONE REC PARTY

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1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this paper is to provide industry Parties with a short background on REC Issue I0278 – Establishing the Safe Isolation Provider (SIP) as a Standalone REC Party and questions which will be discussed during the Working Group (WG) to help frame its solution development, i.e. the way SIPs should report and document their work, agree on safe practices, sealing methodology and approach with regards to interference, damage and tampers, and agree on training and audit requirements.

2 BACKGROUND

REC Issue I0278 – Establishing the Safe Isolation Provider (SIP) as a Standalone REC Party has been raised to formally recognise the SIP as a standalone REC Party to align with Ofgem's Strategic Direction Statement, enabling easier access to certified SIPs, meeting market demand and ensuring safety standards. High safety standards through a robust training, vigorous qualifications and a strong audit process will be implemented within this new framework.

3 QUESTIONS FOR THE WG

In advance of the Working Group session on 06 October 2026, Working Group attendees are invited to think about the following questions and **provide answers by email to change.management@recmanager.co.uk by 30 September 2026**:

3.1 REPORTING & DOCUMENTATION

Currently, for any Safe Isolation Work, the following information is being transmitted:

- D0002 – Fault resolution Report or Request for Decision on Further Action
- D0135 – Asset Condition Report
- D0136 – Report to Supplier of Possible Irregularity
- D0139 – Confirmation or Rejection of Energisation Status Change

- D0396 – SIP Event Complete
- D0126 – Asset Condition Report Response / Clearance

3.1.1 REPORTING AND MARKET MESSAGES

1. What business purpose does each existing SIP Market Message support?
2. Who uses the information today and what action do they take as a result?
3. Which existing Market Messages remain essential in a standalone SIP framework?
4. Are any existing Market Messages duplicated by other communications, processes or systems?
5. Is there information that needs to be retained but not necessarily transmitted?

3.1.2 RECORD KEEPING & ASSURANCE

6. What records should a standalone SIP be required to keep?
7. What evidence would be needed to support investigations, audits or dispute resolution?
8. What information needs to be available to demonstrate compliance with the framework?

3.1.3 OPERATIONAL REPORTING

9. For agreed scenarios such as aborted visits, de-energised supplies found on arrival, or identified tampering, what information should be recorded?
10. Who needs to be informed and within what timescales?
11. What information is required to support future investigation or assurance activity?

3.2 SAFETY, INTERFERENCE, TAMPERS & DAMAGE

1. Taking into consideration the points below do you agree with our assumptions on responsibility and with reference to communication what would be the preferred method of contact:
    a) If a tamper is identified on either Supplier or DNO equipment, how should SIPs report it and to who?
    b) If damage has been found on the Consumer equipment, we believe there should be a contractual discussion between the Consumer and the relevant Party. Do you agree? How should they report it to the Consumer?
2. Are there any other points, or any other types of damage that need clarification on?
3. Should standalone SIPs be shown specific types of tampers for identification and their personal safety?
4. What should a standalone SIP do to remain safe on site when they identify a tamper?

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3.3 SEALING

1. What risks do you foresee with security depending on the form of the sealing methodology chosen?

a) With the existing sealing system methodology

b) With the separate sealing system methodology for standalone SIPs

3.4 TRAINING

1. Do you agree that training should be of an agreed standard, either EUSR or equivalent?
2. Do you agree that training must as a minimum include:

- Proving not live
- Polarity
- Supply, phase rotation
- Voltage indication
- Marking of conductors
- Diverted neutrals testing and identification
- Safety equipment and its use
- Reporting/DNO
- Smart meter communication
- Interpretations of test results
- Tampering

3. Do you believe there is anything missing?

3.5 AUDIT

1. Do you agree that audit must as a minimum include:

- Adequately trained
- Supervised
- Certificate of competence
- Health and safety policy if required
- Written procedures to be audited against
- Safety equipment
- Certificates of conformity for equipment use
- DNO authorisation if required
- Maintenance log/calibration certificates

- Testing
- Training log
- Internal audit if required
- Record keeping
- Evidence of communications with DNOs (dependent on the reporting and documentation discussion)
- Insurance? Public indemnity and public liability

2. Do you believe there is anything missing?