RETAIL ENERGY CODE

REC TARIFF INTEROPERABILITY SOLUTION WORKING GROUP (TISWG)

4 JUNE 2025

AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
Welcome and Introduction	Chair
Confirmation of Agenda	Chair
Assumptions	Sarah Jones
Survey for upcoming TISWG	Kevin Redmond
Q&A	Chair
AOB	

TARIFF INTEROPERABILITY RECAP

- High-level business process developed for the four use cases showing the two routes for accessing data.
    - Route 1 - Public route for sharing generic tariff pricing data in a standardised format;
    - Route 2 - Private route for sharing customer specific tariff pricing data and information regarding the Supplier registration.
- Questions raised at initial meeting regarding scope of access via Route 2 still being discussed. Therefore, this meeting focuses on design assumptions relating to the Route 1.
- Additional feedback on assumptions requested from TISWG by Friday 13 June 2025. Feedback can be provided by email to committees@recmanager.co.uk.

ASSUMPTIONS: CUSTOMER / OPTIMISER INTERACTIONS

Interactions between the customer and Optimiser are outside the scope of the REC

Considerations
• Interactions between the customer and the Optimiser are commercial considerations and should not be constrained by code governance. • The REC will define the Tariff Data Specification which will include the mechanism for Optimisers to access tariff pricing data via the Tariff Data API. • Whilst the Tariff Interoperability solution will not define the customer interactions, it should be informed by the intended use by Optimisers, to ensure a smooth customer journey • References to users throughout the document do not include customers.

Assumption Reference: A_00[x]

ASSUMPTIONS: CUSTOMER / OPTIMISER INTERACTIONS

Any organisation can access Tariff Pricing Data via Route One (Public Access)

Considerations

- As defined at the previous TISWG meeting, access to publicly available tariff pricing data, in a standardised format, should not be constrained. **This does not include non-domestic bespoke contract information.**
- Users will not require accreditation and will be able to initiate requests at any point following the agreed implementation date.
- There will be a defined set of rules where Suppliers are not required to fulfil requests, linked to security, volumetrics etc. These will be defined at a later date.
- Whilst the solution is being developed to support optimisation of energy usage, it is recognised that other types of organisation may benefit from the availability of standardised tariff pricing data via the public route e.g. to support price comparison activities.

Assumption Reference: A_00[x]

ASSUMPTIONS: TECHNICAL SOLUTION

Suppliers will not be required to provide details of bespoke pricing data via Route One (public access)

Considerations
• DESNZ policy position that Suppliers will not be required to provide bespoke pricing data applying in relation to certain Designated Premises, but this data can be made available should the Supplier choose to. • Bespoke pricing data should not be publicly available via the API (Route 1) and should only be available when authentication has been provided by the consumer (Route 2). • Further work underway to clearly define the exclusions.

Assumption Reference: A_00[x]

ASSUMPTIONS: TECHNICAL SOLUTION

Route One (Public access) tariff pricing data to be made available via using the REST (Representational state transfer) API style

Considerations
• Use of a RESTful API would align to the industry standard approach set out within the Central Digital and Data Office's API guidance which can be found here - API technical and data standards - GOV.UK • Recognised approach to support ease of development and implementation for Suppliers and ease of access for users. • Further consideration required regarding additional API protections will be discussed at future TISWGs.

Assumption Reference: A_00[x]

ASSUMPTIONS: SUPPLIER IDENTIFICATION

Suppliers will be required to make Endpoint information available for Optimiser usage

Considerations
• Under the public route, users will require Endpoint information from each Supplier in order to route their tariff data request message to the correct location. • The REC will therefore include an obligation on Suppliers to make Endpoint data available and ensure this is maintained on an ongoing basis. Further information on exclusions in later slides.

Assumption Reference: A_00[x]

ASSUMPTIONS: SUPPLIER IDENTIFICATION

Suppliers shall provide Endpoint details for each MPID (subject to derogations)

Considerations

- Some Suppliers will define tariffs at a company level rather than MPID level. Other Suppliers will have separations e.g. for their domestic versus non-domestic portfolios.
- Identifying the Endpoint applicable to each MPID will ensure the user is routed to the correct Supplier and therefore gets accurate tariff information.
- Suppliers can choose to utilise a single Endpoint for multiple MPIDs which will allow individual Suppliers to build the API functionality in the most effective way to align to their operating model.
- Suppliers must provide clear labelling of each Endpoint to enable the user to engage with the customer and for the customer to be able to easily identify their registered Supplier.

Assumption Reference: A_00[x]

ASSUMPTIONS: SUPPLIER IDENTIFICATION

RECCo will maintain a register of Supplier Endpoints and make this available to users. Alternatively, an obligation will be placed on Suppliers to publish and maintain Endpoints in a location which is easily accessible to Users.

Considerations

- The first option for a central register of Supplier Endpoints will be more efficient for users than sourcing information from each individual Supplier.
- As the Tariff Data API will be governed under the REC, responsibility for hosting the register of Supplier Endpoints should sit with RECCo.
- If this route is chosen, the technical solution for maintaining the register and user access will be defined and shared at a subsequent meeting.
- The alternative option would be for Suppliers to provide a list of Endpoints on their own websites, accessible to the Users. We are interested to understand the TISWG's view on this matter.

Assumption Reference: A_00[x]

ASSUMPTIONS: SUPPLIER IDENTIFICATION

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There will be a mechanism for Suppliers to apply to Ofgem for a derogation against the requirements to provide tariff pricing data.

Considerations
• The DESNZ consultation included reference to a mechanism enabling Ofgem to provide derogations, suggesting this could be available for small non-domestic Suppliers. • Derogations will be available to Suppliers who only supply to a small number of non-domestic consumers as it would be disproportionate for them to bear the costs of developing the API. • RECCo will ensure that any derogations granted by Ofgem will be easily identifiable for Optimisers (and customers). • Further information on the derogation criteria will be communicated at a future meeting.

Assumption Reference: A_00[x]

ASSUMPTIONS: SUPPLIER IDENTIFICATION

Endpoints will be provided from each REC Qualified Supplier, excluding those subject to an Ofgem derogation.

Considerations
• Ofgem Derogation – Non-Domestic Suppliers who don't need to build the API will not need to provide Endpoints. • Suppliers who do not have a derogation, but do not fall within the scope of the MVP (Domestic and Designated Premises) may be excluded from the requirement to provide an Endpoint. • A clear definition of designated premises (that works post MHHS) would be required and a means to assess this, i.e. to monitor whether a supplier is registered to any Domestic and/or Designated Premises.

Assumption Reference: A_00[x]

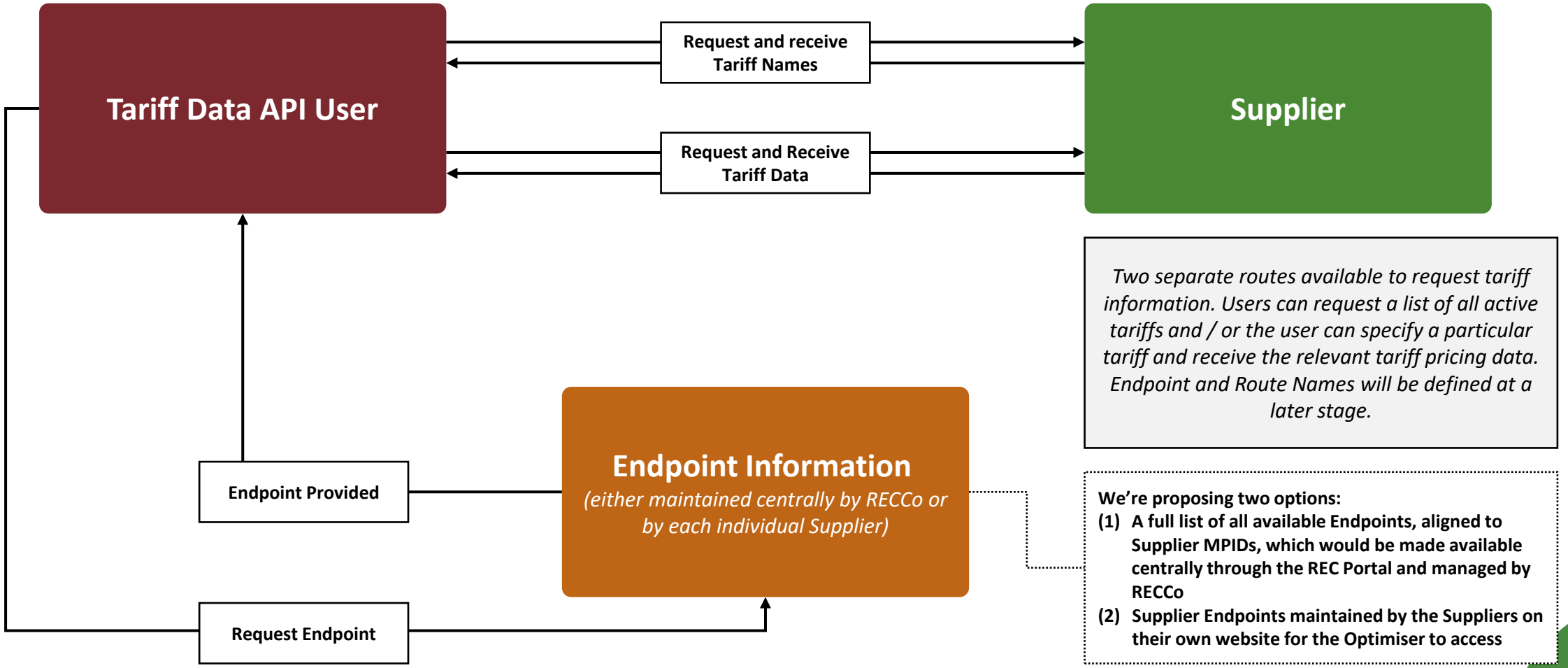
ASSUMPTIONS: SUPPLIER VALIDATION

Standard error codes will be defined that all Suppliers will be required to apply. These will be documented in the API Technical Specification.

Considerations
• Standard HTTP Error Codes will be used for initial synchronous validation and defined within the TDS. • A single clear and transparent set of business rules and associated error codes will ensure consistency across Suppliers. This will simplify delivery of the solution of Optimisers and minimise exceptions. • Business rules will include validation against the tariff name included within the data request and whether there are any relevant exclusions in place. • Under Route 2 this may include validation that the customer is registered to the specific Supplier and is captured within the scope of the solution e.g. a domestic or designated premises. This will be discussed at a later meeting.

Assumption Reference: A_00[x]

ROUTE 1 STRAWMAN FOR DISCUSSION



Two separate routes available to request tariff information. Users can request a list of all active tariffs and / or the user can specify a particular tariff and receive the relevant tariff pricing data. Endpoint and Route Names will be defined at a later stage.

We're proposing two options:

(1) A full list of all available Endpoints, aligned to Supplier MPIDs, which would be made available centrally through the REC Portal and managed by RECCo

(2) Supplier Endpoints maintained by the Suppliers on their own website for the Optimiser to access

ROUTE 1 STRAWMAN FOR DISCUSSION

- Strawman created to balance the complexity for Suppliers to develop and operate the solution and the user journey for API users.
- Proposed model includes two separate messages:
    1. For users to request the names of all active tariffs.
    2. Requires the user to specify a tariff to receive the detailed pricing data.
- This approach minimises the volume of information transferred via the API with users making specific requests rather than requesting pricing data for all Supplier tariffs.
- Providing the ability for tariff names to be specified by the Supplier mitigates the risk of customers entering erroneous tariff names.
- Further filtering could be included to enable users to only request tariffs in a certain DNO region or postcode area.
- Feedback from industry required on expected usage.

ROUTE 1 STRAWMAN ALTERNATIVES

There are several alternatives to the proposed Strawman

1. Each Supplier provides an API for each live tariff.

    This can be discounted due to the large number of tariffs available and the high volume of tariff updates/new APIs which would need to be created.

2a. Supplier provides a single API and Optimiser would be required to add the name of the tariff.

    Key risk here is that due to the large number of tariffs, any issues with correctly obtaining the name from the customer or transcribing this information would lead to an error response or incorrect tariff price data being returned

2b. As with Option 2a but with the Supplier being required to publish a list of all live public tariff that could be used by Optimisers and customers to select the correct tariff name.

    Has similar benefits to the strawman but will require Optimiser to download and ingest a large volume of information to support customer selecting their correct tariff name.

SURVEY FOR UPCOMING TISWG

- We need your input to help us to develop further assumptions.
- We will issue a survey to all TISWG members directly after this meeting. The link can be found here. Please provide responses by Wednesday 18 June.
- We've detailed the questions below for both Suppliers and Optimisers.

For Suppliers

1. What metrics do you expect to be measured against when providing tariff data via the Route 1 API (e.g. data freshness, availability, accuracy, response times)?
2. Which KPIs or Service Level Obligations (SLOs) do you expect to be held to? (e.g. % uptime, response rate, error rate)
3. What support or guidance do you need from the central body (e.g. RECCo) to implement the API as a Supplier?
4. What concerns do you have about data quality or audit requirements when publishing tariff data to third parties?
5. What technical documentation and onboarding support (e.g. examples, sandbox access) would be essential to support integration with your systems?

For Optimisers

1. What are your primary anticipated use cases for accessing tariff data via the Route 1 API (e.g. tariff comparison, optimisation, service switching, analytics)?
2. Do you foresee a need to access both generic tariff names and detailed pricing data and if so, how frequently would you expect to make these calls?
3. What filtering capabilities (e.g. by DNO region, postcode, or tariff type) would be essential for your use of the API?
4. What metrics do you consider critical to monitor for your API integration (e.g. volume of tariffs returned, request success rate, fallback behaviour)?
5. Which KPIs or SLOs should the Suppliers be held to (e.g. uptime %, response latency, data freshness, error rate)?