RETAIL ENERGY CODE

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

RECDER_01 – PROVISION OF METER TECHNICAL DETAILS AND METER ASSET PROVIDER (MAP) IDS TO THE CDSP

DATE ISSUED	12:00 - 8 October 2021
RESPONSE DEADLINE	12:00 - 15 October 2021

LINKS

- Derogation register and application

This RFI has been issued to gather information related to the issues identified in the derogation application. This information will help inform the Performance Assurance Board (PAB) decision on the derogation application, and any conditions to be set, at its meeting on 26 October 2021.

This document provides a summary of the derogation and also sets out the questions being asked as part of this RFI. The response to this RFI should be completed through **Microsoft Forms** **here**. Section 3 of this document provides an outline of the questions that have been included in the RFI, but we would request that responses are provided to the Code Manager via the link provided above.

All responses will be treated as non-confidential unless indicated otherwise. Responses marked as confidential will be shared with RECCo, the Code Manager, PAB and the Authority (where relevant) but will not be published to REC Parties, Service Providers or wider stakeholders.

Anonymous responses will omit the detail of the submitting organisation but the content of the response will be published on the REC Portal and provided to the PAB as part of the derogation report.

QUESTIONS ON THIS RFI

If you have any questions on this RFI, please contact the Code Manager at: performanceassurance@recmanager.co.uk.

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1 BACKGROUND

Under the Supply Point Administration Agreement (SPAA), a Change Proposal was implemented to require Gas Metering Equipment Managers to send Meter Technical Details and Meter Asset Provider (MAP) IDs to the Central Data Services Provider (CDSP). These changes were approved under SCP 496 (MAM to CDSP Update of MAP ID and MTD) and SCP 514 (Amendment to SCP 496 Implementation Approach), which require Gas MEMs to send this information to the CDSP from 8 November 2021. This provision is currently reflected in a 'sunrise' clause in the REC Metering Operations Schedule, which will take effect from 8 November 2021.

The equivalent changes to the CDSP are being progressed through a Change Proposal in the Data Services Contract (DSC), under XRN4780C. Under this Change Proposals, Gas Meter Equipment Managers (MEMs) will be able to send this file to the CDSP using a new Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) service, to be hosted by Xoserve.

2 DEROGATION SUMMARY

MEMs have reported that the details required to connect to the new SFTP service have not been made available by Xoserve in time to allow them to test and connect to the facility to be able to send the required files from 8 November 2021. The first part of this derogation application **(Part A)** therefore requests a timebound derogation from sending the new files to the CDSP when the new obligation comes into effect on 8 November 2021. This is to allow Gas MEMs an appropriate amount of time to test and connect to the new SFTP service, once the details have been made available. Xoserve currently expect these details to be made available to industry on 8 October 2021.

The new obligation also requires MEMs to send the update by sending an 'ONJOB' file, which is an RGMA file that needs to be sent in the prescribed RGMA format. There are some Gas MEMs in the market that do not use RGMA and may not have the systems and/or processes in place to send files in RGMA format. Formerly, under MAMCoP, a Change Proposal was raised (MAM CP 20 022 - Meter Technical Details from MAM to CDSP (non-RGMA)) to allow Gas MEMs to send an alternative, non-RGMA file instead of an ONJOB file. Although we understand this Change Proposal has general support amongst the MAMCoP board, it was not formally accepted due to a lack of quoracy when it came to a vote, and therefore is not currently recognised by the REC as a valid mechanism for meeting this obligation.

However, the CDSP has already developed this file, and will be able to accept this format from Gas MEMs without any additional cost, other than those already incurred in the development to date. As sending either the RGMA file, or the alternative non-RGMA file, will allow a MEM to achieve the outcome expected in the Metering Operations Schedule; the second part of this derogation application (**Part B**) requests that MEMs who wish to use the non-RGMA file can do so for a timebound period. This should allow the PAB time to review if the alternative file format should be allowed to continue, and added to the Metering Operations Schedule, or if all Gas MEMs should be required to send the ONJOB file in RGMA format.

This derogation application therefore has two parts:

- **Part A –** Temporary derogation for MEMs from sending Meter Technical Details and MAP ID details to the CDSP as required in Clause 6.4.10 and 6.4.13 in the Metering Operations Schedule. This requests a derogation of up to 2 months for MEMs who are not able to send the file due to the delay in the SFTP details being made available to them, to setup and test the connection.

- **Part B –** derogation for Gas MEMs from the requirement to use an ONJOB file to meet the obligation in Clause 6.4.10 and 6.4.13 in the Metering Operations Schedule. This requests that those MEMs that do not use RGMA are able to send the non-RGMA format file developed by the CDSP instead of the ONJOB file to meet this obligation, for an initial period of up to 6 months.

3 RFI QUESTIONS

Respondents are asked to complete the following questions through the **Microsoft Forms** here. The questions have been included below for visibility.

RESPONDENT DETAILS

1. Name:
2. Organisation:
3. Organisation type:
4. Email address:
5. Confidentiality:

DEROGATION PART A

6. Are you impacted by the details of the new SFTP not being made available by Xoserve until 8 October? If yes, please state how you are impacted.

7. If you answered yes to question 6 above, please state how you are impacted.

8. Is a two-month derogation period sufficient to set up the SFTP connection?

9. If you answered no to question 8 above, please state why and suggest an alternative time period.

10. A proposed condition to this derogation is that Parties still generate files from 8 November 2021, and when the STSP connection is available, they contact Xoserve to agree a schedule to submit the files. Do you agree with this approach?

11. If you do not agree with the approach set out in question 10 above, please provide a rationale for your answer.

DEROGATION PART B

12. Do you plan to use the non-RGMA format file developed by the CDSP instead of the ONJOB file, to meet the Metering Operations Schedule obligation?

13. If you responded yes to question 12 (e.g. you plan to use the non-RGMA format file), is an initial six-month derogation period sufficient to gather evidence of its operation and determine whether or not this should be adopted as an enduring option?

14. If you responded no question 13 above, please state the reasons for your answer and where applicable, suggest an alternative time period.

15. If you responded yes to question 12 (e.g. you plan to use the non-RGMA format file) and the derogation period is not extended, please identify an appropriate lead time you would need to set up a RGMA format file.

16. Do you have any other comments on this proposed derogation?