RETAIL ENERGY CODE

This document is classified as **WHITE**.
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| | |
|---|---|
| 01 | Proposal Plan |
| 02 | Impact Assessment |
| 03 | Consultation |
| 04 | Final Recommendation |

# CHANGE REPORT

## I0216 - REC CHANGES TO TIE IN WITH DCP419

| | |
|---|---|
| DOCUMENT VERSION | V1.0 |
| PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE | TBD |
| IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH | TBD |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE | Metering Expert Panel | CHANGE PATH | Authority Determined |
| PRIORITY STATUS | Medium | URGENCY | Standard |
| IMPACTED STAKEHOLDERS | DNOs, MOAs, SIPs, EMOs, CMRMs, Revenue Protection Agents, Energy Suppliers | | |

| LEAD ANALYST (SOLUTION LEAD) | SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT |
|---|---|
| CAROLINE FREIMULLER | LORNA MALLON |
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## OVERVIEW

DCP419 is looking to place obligations on any Party or agent to update the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) before any planned de-energisation or communications interruptions on Sites with a Smart Meter. This is to allow DNOs to be able to manage any off supply notifications (via AD1 alerts).

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# BACKGROUND

## 1 SUMMARY

DNOs have an obligation to contact Consumers when they receive a Power Outage Event Alert (AD1) to ensure the Consumer is not experiencing a power outage. While this alert is generated whenever a Smart Meter experiences a power outage, it is also generated when a Smart Meter is de-energised for planned works or when the Communications Hub is disconnected in order to be replaced. This means that DNOs may be contacting Consumers unnecessarily, for work the Consumer and other industry Parties were aware of it in advance. This issue is expected to increase as the 2G to 4G Communications Hub replacement project commences in 2025, likely increasing the number of AD1s generated.

A change has been raised under the Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement (DCUSA) as DCP419 Pre-Notifications of Planned Supply De-Energisations, of which I0216 is a cross-code change to.

These changes propose that all Parties who attend Site to work on Smart Meters or their Communications Hubs must notify the DNO of this work in advance, and that DNOs do not have an obligation to contact these Consumers where such notification is received.

## 2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

DNOs may be unnecessarily contacting Consumers where an AD1 notification is generated but they are having planned works or Communications Hub replacements on a Smart Meter.

## 3 IMPACTS

| CONSUMERS |
|---|
| Consumers with Smart Meters |

| REC SERVICE PROVIDERS |
|---|
| TBD |

| RECCO / REC CODE MANAGER |
|---|
| TBD |

| REC PARTIES AND SERVICE USERS |
|---|
| DNOs |
| MOAs |
| EMOs |
| SIPs |
| CMRM |
| Revenue Protection Agents |
| Communications Hub replacement agents |

| REC DOCUMENTS / PRODUCTS |
|---|
| Schedule 14 – Metering Operations |

Communications Hub replacement agent is not a defined term under the REC. The Code Manager is using it in this instance to mean any agent that replacements only the Communications Hub on a Smart Meter, as there is no requirement for that agent to be a Consolidated Metering Code of Practice (CoMCoP) registered Party.

| MHHS DESIGN | MHHS DATA SPECIFICATION | MHHS CODE DRAFTING |
|---|---|---|
| No impact | No impact | Indirect impact |

There is indirect impact to the MHHS Code Drafting as this change expects to make changes to Schedule 14 – Metering Operations. The Code Manager will evaluate how this impacts the MHHS drafting.

## 4 CROSS-CODE IMPACTS

This is a cross-code change with DCUSA change DCP419 Pre-Notifications of Planned Supply De-Energisations.

## 5 PROPOSAL PLAN

| Milestone | Activity | From | To |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Definition** | | **05-Nov-24** | **30-Apr-25** |
| | Code Manager Assessment | November | November |
| | Solution Development | November | February |
| | Impact Assessment | February | March |
| | Solution Refinement | March | April |

The Code Manager is currently only submitting a plan going as far as Party impact assessment and the expected solution refinement required after the impact assessment is completed. As this is a cross-code change with DCUSA, further collaboration on timescales will occur after the joint impact assessment is completed.

## 6 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

DCP419 has been progressing under a DCUSA work group since 27 April 2023. There have been 15 work group meetings and consultations between that time and 03 February 2025.

I0216 was discussed at the REC Change Issues Group on 07 November 2024, with the minutes available on the REC Portal.

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# 7 PRIORITY STATUS AND URGENCY

## PRIORITISATION MATRIX

| Category | Significance / Resource impacts / Urgency | Further selection / breakdown | Score (0-3) | Weighting | Weighted Score |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Impacts** | Consumer Impact | Direct | 2 | 27 | 53 |
| | Retail Markets Impact | Innovation and Market Arrangements | 2 | 17 | 33 |
| | RECCo / REC Party / REC Service Provider Impact | Operational Effectiveness and Efficiencies | 3 | 7 | 20 |
| | | Legal and Regulatory Compliance | 1 | 14 | 14 |
| **Resource** | Complexity / Effort / Duration | | 1 | 9 | 9 |
| **Strategic Alignment** | Contribution to/ Alignment with the objectives of the REC | | 1 | 17 | 8 |
| | Contribution to/ Alignment with RECCo's Forward Work Plan | | 0 | | 0 |
| **Urgency** *(The need to progress a change to meet a targeted date)* | | Other Planned Activity | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| | | | | **Overall Priority Score (rounded)** | 138 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Priority Status** | MEDIUM |
| **Change Proposal Type** | STANDARD |

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## 8 APPENDIX

| CHANGE PROPOSAL | Link |
|---|---|

## 9 GLOSSARY

| TERM | DEFINITION |
|---|---|
| Communications Hub | means a physical device that includes a Communications Hub Function together with a Gas Proxy Function. As defined under the Smart Energy Code. |
| Crowded Meter Room MOA (CMRM) | means a Qualified MOA that has been contracted to perform that role by the Crowded Meter Room Coordinator. |
| Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement (DCUSA) | means the agreement of that name maintained pursuant to the Electricity Distribution Licences. |
| Distribution Network Operator (DNO) | means a person holding an Electricity Distribution Licence. |
| Electricity Metering Operative (EMO) | Means a Party which is approved (or which is seeking approval) as such under the Metering Accreditation Schedule, being an entity which undertakes the installation, replacement, repair and maintenance of electricity Metering Equipment. |
| Meter Operator Agent (MOA) | means a Party which has Qualified in that role under the Qualification and Maintenance Schedule. Where used in respect of a particular Metering Point, it means the MOA Appointed by an Electricity Supplier in accordance with the Metering Operations Schedule. The MOA is accountable for the installation, replacement, repair and maintenance of electricity Metering Equipment (either itself or by an EMO), and the MOA must also therefore be Accredited under the Metering Accreditation Schedule. |
| Power Outage Event Alert (AD1) | As defined under the Smart Energy Code. |
| Revenue Protection Agent (RPA) | means, for each Energy Supplier or Network Party, an internal or external provider of services related to Energy Theft. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Safe Isolation Provider (SIP) | means a Meter Operator Agent which has been (and remains) accepted as a Safe Isolation Provider in accordance with paragraph 9 of the Metering Accreditation Schedule. |
| Smart Meter | means a meter which conforms (or is intended to conform) with the SMETS. |