RETAIL ENERGY CODE

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REC TECHNICAL EXPERT PANEL (TEP)
MEETING MINUTES

MEETING	**RECTEP_24_0731**
DATE	**31 July 2024, 14:00**
LOCATION	**Microsoft Teams**

Attendees	Representing	Initials	Role
Mark Agnew	Domestic Suppliers	MA	Committee Member
Jonathan Matthews	Non-Domestic Suppliers	JM	Committee Member
Tom Stuart	Gas Networks	TS	Committee Member
Neil Brinkley	Code Manager	NB	Committee Chairperson
Jack Taylor	Code Manager	JT	Committee Secretariat
Lydia Bentley	Code Manager	LB	Code Manager (RPS)
Elise Handy	Code Manager	EH	Code Manager (RPS)
Caroline Milner	Code Manager	CM	Code Manager (RTS)

1 ADMINISTRATION

The Chair welcomed attendees to the July 2024 Retail Energy Code (REC) Technical Expert Panel (TEP). Apologies were received from the Electricity Networks representative.

Review of Minutes

Members were asked if the minutes taken in the June TEP were an accurate representation of the discussion held at the June TEP. No comments and questions were raised. The minutes from the June meeting were therefore approved as final.

There were no further comments from committee members.

Review of Actions

RECTEP_24_0228_01 - Chair to follow up with Xoserve to see how they are progressing with UK Link data load into the Data Specification.

- Xoserve are waiting for resourcing requirements to be fulfilled. An update will be provided at the August Technical Expert Panel.

RECTEP_24_0626_01 – TEP to receive an update on R0096[1] – CSS Message Regeneration Functionality

- The CM gave the TEP an update on R0096 and the new technical change process at the July TEP. Action closed.

For further information on the actions raised at TEP meetings, please refer to the Actions Log.

There were no further comments from committee members.

2 FUTURE CHANGES FOR TEP REVIEW

The Code Manager (CM) provided an overview of the Change Proposal (CP) Register to the group and noted minor updates on the following changes.

- **R0060[2]– Uplift to CSS Maximum Demand Volumes During MHHS Migration Period:** The CM provided an update as per agenda item 5.
- **R0120[3] - Search GES API using Meter Serial Number:** The TEP were advised that R0120 was currently being consulted on with the Final Change Report (FCR) being brought to TEP in August.
- **R0096 – CSS Message Regeneration Functionality:** The CM provided a detailed update as per agenda item 2A.

There were no further changes to be discussed from the CM, and no further questions from the TEP.

2A UPDATE ON R0096 – CSS MESSAGE REGENERATION FUNCTIONALITY

PAPER REFERENCE: RECTEP_24_0731_02A

The CM provided an overview of R0096. Starting with the background of the change, including key lessons learnt from R0067[4] – Introduction of CSS refresh functionality. Specifically highlighting a need for earlier engagement with Service Providers (SPs) in solution design. It was mentioned that there have been challenges in pricing complex technical changes where solution design was not comprehensively understood at the Impact Assessment stage. Particularly noting contingency price built in for commercial coverage and timescale considerations as revisions were not possible following CP approval.

In response to lessons learnt from R0067, the CM advised that an alternate approach has been developed where solution design is incorporated as part of the Detailed Impact Assessment (DIA). The purpose being that costs are more accurate, removing the need for excessive contingency and resolving inaccurate development timelines. Further to this, Proof of Concept (POC) designs can be developed earlier, reducing potential for overengineering, and providing another medium for stakeholder engagement for more complicated changes. TEP were advised that R0080 had already been developed following this new approach.

When asked if there were any comments, TEP committee members agreed that the new approach was a sensible way forward for the reasons outlined by the CM. A question was raised by a member relating to whether stakeholders that would be engaged included Service Providers. The CM signposted that SPs would be part of the engagement, and that there are ongoing collaborative sessions held at the Technical Change Workshops where most of the SPs have representation already.

There were no further comments and questions from TEP members and the CM relating to this change.

3 FOR DECISION – R0080: IMPROVEMENTS TO 'FAILED TO DELIVER' CSS MESSAGES

PAPER REFERENCE: RECTEP_24_0731_03

The CM provided an overview of the FCR for R0080[5]– Improvements to 'Failed to Deliver' CSS messages. The main purpose of the change being to support automatic resending of messages functionality that isn't included in the baseline system. It was highlighted that the change would result in substantial reduction in the loss of messages, thus preventing delays in consumer switching. The TEP were informed that the solution for the change was developed through collaborative technical design workshops with the solution being available to all Central Switching Service (CSS) parties. The process for re-sending messages was ran through with members, to which no questions were raised. When it went out for consultation, the change received responses from five Suppliers and one Distribution Network Operator (DNO).

There were no further comments and questions from TEP members and the CM relating to this change.

The Chair asked members if they had enough information to proceed. All TEP members confirmed that they did.

Voting Member	Representing	Role	Vote
Tom Stuart	Gas Networks	Committee Member	ACCEPT
Jonathan Matthews	Non-Domestic Suppliers	Committee Member	ACCEPT
Mark Agnew	Domestic Suppliers	Committee Member	ACCEPT

OUTCOME: R0080 APPROVED and will proceed to BIG BANG implementation on 27 June 2025.

There were no questions or comments raised by committee members.

4 FOR DECISION – R0113: DATA SPECIFICATION UPDATES AND CLARIFICATIONS

PAPER REFERENCE: RECTEP_24_0731_04

The CM ran through the FCR for R0113[6]– Data Specification Updates and Clarification. Highlighting that the primary purpose of the change was to correct errors that had been passed into the REC since the go-live transition. It was mentioned that a webinar had been held on 13th June to which parties confirmed that they did not anticipate a long lead time would be required. The impacts of the change were also said to have been checked to ensure alignment with the Marketwide Half Hourly Settlement (MHHS) programme.

Because of the complexity of the change, it was advised to the TEP that a consultation period of six weeks was provided. To which responses were received from two DNOs, one Meter Equipment Manager (MEM), and one supplier. No changes to the scope were made as a result of the consultation. There were also no significant costs identified. It was highlighted however that a responding party did mention that a six-month lead time would be required, but their response didn't include a substantial basis for this, therefore, the CM did not take the suggestion forward.

There were no further comments and questions from TEP members and the CM relating to this change.

The Chair asked members if they had enough information to proceed. All TEP members confirmed that they did.

Voting Member	Representing	Role	Vote
Tom Stuart	Gas Networks	Committee Member	ACCEPT
Jonathan Matthews	Non-Domestic Suppliers	Committee Member	ACCEPT
Mark Agnew	Domestic Suppliers	Committee Member	ACCEPT

OUTCOME: R0113 APPROVED and will proceed to BIG BANG implementation on 8 November 2024.

There were no questions or comments raised by committee members.

5 R0060 – ERDS SERVICE DEFINITION TIMEZONE CORRECTION

The CM brought R0060 – ERDS Service Definition Timezone Correction before the TEP for information purposes. It was discussed that currently there is no specified timezone in the ERDS service definition. The REC however, under Schedule 1 – Interpretations and Definitions, General Interpretation paragraph 1.1(j), that 'a time is a reference to that time in the UK'. This change therefore would mean that the specified timezone would be amended to reflect 'Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)' in the service definitions.

When consulted on, there was agreement across all respondents that the CP would be beneficial to industry. The change is timetabled to come to the August TEP for decision and is targeted for implementation on 27 June 2025 to align with post-MHHS go-live. Members were invited to comment on the content presented by the CM. There was agreement from members that the clarity given to the service definition would be a welcome change.

There were no questions or comments raised by committee members.

6 MHHS CODE DRAFTING UPDATE

PAPER REFERENCE: RECTEP_24_0731_06

The CM provided an update on the status of MHHS drafting at the July TEP, explaining that work has been undertaken to align and augment the Data Specification to key programme design artifacts including the DES-138, ERI011B, up to and including versions published for IR8.1. Additionally, the structure of MHHS data items, messages and their associated attributes were explained at a high level.

Key points that were mentioned include the linkage of new MHHS data items to existing 'Legacy DTC' J items where the definition of the new and legacy items are identical. Such work has sought to reduce duplication. Where definitions vary between new MHHS Data Items and Legacy DTC J items, the items have been tied together with an attribute called an 'Alias'. Common cases for this were pointed to including Effective From Date Times (EFDTs) and Effective To Date Times (ETDTs).

It was finally mentioned that the Standards Definition Document (SDD) had been updated to set out the required format and definition of each data item that has been updated as a result of MHHS drafting. Highlighting particularly that where minor housekeeping changes have been identified, these have been notified to the REC CM and will be progressed separately. Members were then invited to ask questions on the material presented by the CM.

One member enquired where the structure of the new Market Messages and Data Items in their REC Format were stored. The CM highlighted that the full MHHS-Ready REC Data Specification had not been published because of adherence to MHHS programme timelines which stipulate publication at the M8 milestone, however, draft design artifacts can be found on the MHHS website. Particular reference was made to the requirement for the SCR drafting to be finalised before publication.

Further information on the contents of the MHHS design artifacts, please follow this link.

There were no questions or comments raised by committee members.

7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no items of AOB raised at the July TEP.

8 CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chair thanked attendees for their contributions and brought the meeting to a close.

NEXT MEETING	28 Aug 2024

[1] R0096
[2] R0060
[3] R0120
[4] R0067
[5] R0080
[6] R0113