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STATUS	FOR DISCUSSION

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

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FOR DISCUSSION

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 to help frame the solution development of this Issue and help define the scope of SIPs as a new standalone Party in the REC.

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. This follows the realisation that since the introduction of the SIP role into the REC in June 2023, the structure as it currently stands, has proven insufficient to meet market demand, to ensure consistent safety standards, and has been a deterrent for organisations to apply to become one given the current dual governance with the Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement (DCUSA) and the added layer onto existing Metering Equipment Manager's (MEM) Accreditations.

Engagement with trade associations and stakeholders before holding this working group showed that Parties are supportive of this Issue and are determined to ensure that high safety standards through a robust training, vigorous qualifications and a strong audit process are implemented within this new framework.

3 PROPOSED WORKING GROUP ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

To gather further input from the industry, agree on the type of efficient and safe practices the REC should allow standalone SIPs to conduct, and develop a streamline process for Consumers, ensuring a clear separation in Party's responsibility, the Code Manager set up working group sessions. Following the first two working group sessions that took place in May

and June 2026, and to best help with the progression of this Issue, the Code Manager is proposing to have dedicated working group sessions focusing on the following items:

1.	Introduction and Framework	*Took place 11/05*
2.	Scope	*Took place 29/06*
3.	Equipment and testing	*To take place 21/07*
4.	Safety, interference, tampers, damage & sealing	To take place week c/o 17/08
5.	Reporting and documentation	To take place week c/o 05/09
6.	Auditing and training	To take place week c/o 5/10
7.	Accession	To take place week c/o 9/11

By the end of these working group sessions, the Code Manager would have sufficient solution requirements to develop a direct accession pathway, a streamlined accreditation and a clear governance and oversight for standalone SIPs.