RETAIL ENERGY CODE

This document is classified as **WHITE**.
Information is for public, unrestricted dissemination and publication.

REFERENCE	I0278_WG_0721_03
STATUS	FOR DISCUSSION

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

BY FRANCINE PEYROUX-SISSOKO, DAVE WRIGHT AND GLENN SHEERN
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. Parties 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 QUESTIONS FOR THE WG

In advance of the Working Group session on 21 July 2026, Working Group attendees are invited to think about the following questions:

1. What equipment do you consider the minimum requirement for a standalone SIP to operate?
2. What should be part of an approved equipment list?
3. What evidence should a SIP retain to demonstrate equipment suitability?
4. What testing activities should a SIP be expected to perform before, during, and after isolation?
5. What are the standardised test procedures a SIP should follow?
6. What evidence should be captured from each isolation visit?

7. How should the information about failed tests or unsafe conditions be recorded and reported? (Please note this does not refer to the method of transition)

8. Are there any other points that have not been mentioned about equipment and testing you would like to add?

9. If a DNO begins to utilise new versions of equipment, how should this be notified to relevant parties (SIPs / MEMs)?