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R0300 & CP1622 DISPLAYED REGISTER DIGITS INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP
MEETING MINUTES

MEETING	**R0300_26_0205**
DATE	**05 February 2026, 14:00**
LOCATION	**By teleconference**

Presenter	Representing	Initials	Role
Harriet Truss	REC Code Manager	HT	Chair/Lead Analyst (R0300)
Christopher Day	Balancing and Settlement Code	CD	Market Design Lead (CP1622)
Jonny Moore	REC Code Manager	JM	Market Design Lead
Harry Firth	REC Code Manager	HF	Secretariat

Full attendee list available upon request.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting.

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The Chair invited any additional items of business for consideration during the meeting. No items were raised by attendees.

3. RECAP OF CP1622 AND CURRENT STATUS

CD recapped the origin and pause of CP1622. During MHHS data cleanse, approximately 250000 meters appeared to fail validation because the Supply & Meter Registration Service (SMRS) enforces 5 digits (single-phase) and 6 digits (poly-phase) for the Number of Displayed Registered Digits. The initial CP1622 proposal—relaxing SMRS validation to 1–9 digits—drew support for reducing Meter Technical Details (MTD) rejections, but consultation highlighted three material issues:

(i) Cross-flow consistency: displayed register digits are referenced across D0312, and IF-005 (and other DIP messages carrying DI-091). Widening validation without a coherent cross-code approach risked inconsistency and new errors.

(ii) Customer billing integrity: Allowing 1–9 digits could permit values that do not reflect the physical display or rollover behaviour, increasing the risk of billing exceptions and manual interventions.

(iii) Compliance intent: The proposed relaxation might effectively permit non-SMETS-compliant values, shifting validation burden from SMRS to parties and potentially crystallising new data quality issues in MHHS. Consequently, the CP was paused for deeper cross-code analysis.

An attendee asked if the 250k figure is for all non-compliant meters or is some of it due to mis-interpreting internal vs. displayed registers. CD responded that it is likely a mix—acknowledging there are some genuine legacy cases, and a substantial share driven by truncation misunderstandings and process errors.

4. RISK TO MIGRATION

CD advised that from a BSC perspective they don't believe there is any technical blocker to migrating Meter Point Administration Numbers (MPANs) affected by the displayed register digits issue; migration does not intrinsically depend on finalising CP1622. The risk lies in incorrect displayed register digit values persisting into MHHS, where SMRS becomes the sole master for this attribute (as D0150 disappears post-migration). Incorrect values can affect billing rollovers, create exception cascades in Supplier and Data Service systems, and reduce the ability to self-correct via historic D0150 references. By migrating meters with incorrect values, there is a risk of existing data errors being taken into MHHS.

An attendee asked if there is a risk of creating a worse situation in MHHS if migration continues with displayed register digits mismatches, given D0150 won't exist. JM responded that the issue becomes problematic only if a D0150 is correct and SMRS is wrong. They added that D0150 may be less accurate as some operators populate D0150 using electronic digits rather than displayed digits, meaning SMRS (after validation via D0312 logic) may be more reliable. Another attendee noted that in some systems, D0150 and D0312 are independent fields and can differ, billing systems already apply truncation rules to manage differences.

5. RECAP ON J2313 NUMBER OF DISPLAYED REGISTER DIGITS AND DATA SPECIFICATION CORRECTION

HT clarified how the J2313 data item and DI-091 are intended to operate within the MHHS data architecture and highlighted a specification error that now requires correction. J2313 was introduced in 2023 to support MHHS changes and was designed so that its validation rules apply specifically within the D312 message. The IF-005 message, with the DIP Data Item DI-091 for displayed register digits, was then built to mirror the D0312 behaviour, with validation occurring only when data enters SMRS via IF-005—not across other DIP interfaces where the DI-091 also appears.

During initial assessment of R0300, an incorrect linking of the data items in the Energy Market Data Specification (EMDS) was identified: DI-091 has been incorrectly associated with J0478

(number of register digits) in EMDS, rather than with J2313 (number of displayed register digits) as intended. This inconsistency means the published IF-005 specification does not currently reflect the D0312-based design logic and may create confusion for participants analysing the issue.

To resolve this, a separate Change Proposal will be raised to correct the DI-091 linkage and ensure all affected DIP interfaces align with the intended design. This correction is necessary regardless of any future decisions on validation rules or CP1622.

6. GUIDANCE ON METER READ TRUNCATION

CD provided an overview of BSC obligations which mandate that meter readings must be truncated according to the number of displayed digits on the physical register, not the internal electronic register length or manufacturer defaults.. This applies across BSCPs 504, 701 and SDS obligations, though is currently not included in BSCP 709, which holds Supplier obligations, which may lead to inconsistent interpretation across parties.

The discussion acknowledged that many issues reported via the Data Cleanse activity may stem from misunderstanding, or inconsistent application, of this truncation guidance, rather than genuine non-compliance with SMETS specifications. However, stakeholders also raised the existence of legitimately installed meters—particularly older SMETS2 v2 devices—that may not conform to the 5/6-digit requirement. These raise questions about whether such devices are formally non-compliant under later versions of SMETS, whether compliance rules apply retrospectively, and whether meter operators can meaningfully maintain them under current business rules.

There was broad recognition that answering these compliance questions is essential, as it directly affects whether the current validation rules remain valid, whether affected meters can be maintained post-migration, and whether the guidance or validation rules must be amended. The group agreed that adding the truncation guidance to BSCP 709 would be beneficial to ensure consistent obligations across suppliers, data services and meter operators.

7. SOLUTION REVIEW DISCUSSION

The group discussed the required solution in further details, answering questions on certain solution requirements.

One key point of agreement was displayed digits must reflect the physical meter. Billing and validation must be based on the physical displayed digits, not the internal electronic register. The BSC already mandates truncation to 5 or 6 digits for SMETS2 v3.1+ devices.

HT asked about reported seven-digit meters. Multiple suppliers confirmed 7-digit displays on certain SMETS2 meters, particularly older SMETS2 v2 deployments. These appear to cluster by manufacturer, not by meter type/version.

Errors involving 2–4 digits or 8–9 digits exist but are understood to be erroneous data, not real meter characteristics. The group concluded that seven digits must be supported; other values

must be treated as erroneous unless evidence suggests otherwise. Some attendees also warned of instances where a meter expected to be 5 digits is physically showing 6, and vice versa, and that these errors must also be catered for in the revised solution.

The group discussed widening validation rules in further detail. A poll asking attendees if they support widening the validation in contrast with SMETS specification returned 31 votes, with 83% (26) in support of the proposal. There was a limited consensus that validation should be widened to 5–7 digits, not beyond. Allowing 8 or 9 digits could introduce rollover and billing risks without evidence they exist on SMETS2. The group also agreed that future-proofing for 8 or 9 digits is unnecessary and may create new risks.

The group discussed further on whether widening the validation band would conflict with SMETS. It was noted that if early SMETS2 v2 meters do legitimately show 7 digits, SMETS compliance rules are not retrospective, meaning meters valid at the point of install remain valid today and SMETS2 v2 has no maintenance end date yet. Therefore, these devices remain compliant, suggesting that the proposed solution may not be in conflict with SMETS.

It was discussed whether validation could be based on meter install date or SMETS issue number. However, this was dismissed as SMRS often does not hold reliable meter issue number data and linking validation logic to install dates adds complexity

The group also noted that once migrated, the D0150 disappears, and SMRS becomes the authoritative source. Industry will need updated guidance on:

- How to update displayed register digit values under MHHS,
- How suppliers and data services manage mismatches,
- How MOAs continue to maintain correct values.

It was noted that further cross-code clarification is potentially needed on:

- When firmware updates are expected,
- Whether older meters must eventually be brought up to 5/6-digit standards.

Some attendees raised additional observations that incorrect updates from Suppliers (e.g., incorrect D0367 updates) have contributed to data issues. It was agreed that this is a pre-existing REC issue, not solely a MHHS migration problem. Some industry participants propose using meter-type mapping (manufacturer, variant, issue number) to infer likely displayed digits.

HT thanked attendees for their participation and valuable feedback. They gave a brief overview of the next steps for the related Change Proposals:

- REC and BSC will collaborate to define a revised solution for CP1622 and R0300, bringing in the SEC to ensure alignment with SMETS compliance
- A new CP will be raised to fix the data specification linkage

- CP1622 will be reworked to include updated validation ranges, clarified flow notes and reinforced truncation guidance
- Discussion with MHHS Programme on whether migration exclusion should be removed
- Explore Supplier guidance on post-MHHS processes for updating display digits following D0150 removal.

8. AOB

The Chair invited attendees to provide AOB. None was provided and the Chair closed the meeting.