RETAIL ENERGY CODE

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STATUS	FOR DISCUSSION

I0198 - METERING ASSET MANAGER (MAM) COMMUNICATION METHOD REGISTER

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1 PURPOSE

This paper seeks to get feedback on the proposed solution for I0198. Following discussion at the December meeting of the Change Issues Group (CHIG), the Code Manager has refined our solution options down to one. The Code Manager is looking for engagement from CHIG on the proposed solution prior to Impact Assessment.

2 BACKGROUND AND SOLUTION

2.1 BACKGROUND

Metering Asset Managers (MAMs) are permitted within the REC to communicate Market Messages via up to three methods: the Data Transfer Network (DTN), the Information Exchange (IX), or via email. Whilst some Market Messages and scenarios mandate one method only, many scenarios (especially those found in Schedule 14 – Metering Operations) allow for a MAM to communicate via any of the three aforementioned methods. Whilst this provides flexibility for MAMs to adapt to differing requirements across diverse business scenarios, it also presents challenges in assuring the quality of gas market data.

Following investigative work conducted by the REC Performance Assurance (RPA) team, it has been determined to be likely that having a spread of viable communication options may result mismatches where Data Items are held differently by different REC Users. For example, if a MAM sends a Market Message to another MAM using a method that the receiving MAM does not use, it is likely that the message will be missed, and they will record the same Data Item for a given Metering Asset differently. Additionally, it was also determined that having a spread of viable methods makes RPA led data gathering exercises relating to MAM actions harder to achieve.

Fue to the size, impact and complexity of such a change, the scope of this Issue is limited only to exploring an interim solutions that might facilitate an eventual move to a single method. This interim solution will take the form of a communications register, where MAMs may record which of the three methods they use to communicate with other Parties. This will aid in missed Market Message resolution and support self-service Data Item mismatch resolution.

2.2 SOLUTION

Solution to be published prior to, and presented during, the February CHIG meeting.

3 QUESTIONS FOR THE CHANGE ISSUES GROUP

- What are your views on the proposed solution?
- Do you believe that the communications register as presented will help reduce the incidence of gas Metering Asset Data Item mismatches by supporting MAM-MAM communication and missed Market Message resolution?
- Do you have any thoughts on the Code Manager's minded-to position to require completion of the communications register?
- Do you have any other comments?