RETAIL ENERGY CODE

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01	Proposal Plan
02	Impact Assessment
03	Consultation
04	Final Recommendation

CHANGE REPORT

R0169 – INTRODUCTION OF END OF GATE CLOSURE NOTIFICATIONS

DOCUMENT VERSION	V1.0
PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE	TBD
IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH	BIG BANG

RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE	TECHNICAL EXPERT PANEL	CHANGE PATH	SELF-GOVERNANCE
PRIORITY STATUS	MEDIUM	URGENCY	STANDARD
IMPACTED STAKEHOLDERS	DNOs, GTs, ENERGY SUPPLIERS		

LEAD ANALYST	TECHNICAL LEAD (SOLUTION LEAD)	SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT
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OVERVIEW

This Change Proposal seeks to introduce additional functionality within the Central Switching Service (CSS) to allow CSS users to be notified (by CSS) that the CSS has completed the processing of gate closure messages (i.e. sending of securedActive and securedInactive messages). CSS Users in receipt of this End-of-Gate-Closure (EoGC) notification are then able to commence any applicable downstream processing.

It is recognised that an EoGC notification is of value to specific Parties who have post-gate closure obligations, however the availability of an EoGC notification is to be made available to all CSS users.

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BACKGROUND

1 SUMMARY

Change of Supplier (Switch) and new (initial) registration events managed by the Central Switching Service (CSS) are established through the completion of a gate closure event. During this event, which is initiated at 5pm, the CSS sends registration updates to CSS Users in the form of securedActive and securedInactive messages. The time taken to complete a gate closure is managed via a Service Level Agreement (SLA) and is closely monitored and reported on to the REC Performance Assurance Board (PAB).

Following the completion of a gate closure, several CSS Users (e.g. the Electricity Retail Data Agent (ERDA) and Gas Retail Data Agent (GRDA)) must complete their own onward processing of RMP & registrations information, which equally is bound by tight time constraints to meet market needs and obligations. Downstream processing needs are increased in order to support the MHHS programme and need to complete agent appointments in the Smart Meter Data Retrieval Service.

2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

The completion of a gate closure event is not reported to CSS Users (at the time), and CSS Users who require to complete downstream processing must assume when the gate closure event has completed in order to initiate any downstream processing they require to complete.

3 IMPACTS

REC PARTIES AND SERVICE USERS
Distribution Network Operators (DNOs)
Gas Transporters (GTs)
Energy Suppliers

REC SERVICE PROVIDERS
Central Switching Service (CSS)
Switching Operator
Gas Retail Data Service (GRDS)
Electricity Retail Data Service (ERDS)

REC DOCUMENTS / PRODUCTS
REC Main Body
Data Item Catalogue
Market Message Catalogue
Standards definition

CONSUMERS
All Consumers

MHHS DESIGN
No impact

MHHS DATA SPECIFICATION
No impact

MHHS CODE DRAFTING
No impact

4 CROSS-CODE IMPACTS

No cross-code impacts have been identified for this Change Proposal.

5 PROPOSAL PLAN

Milestone	Activity	From	To
Definition		**14-May-24**	**31-Oct-25**
	Solution Analysis	Completed	Completed
	Solution Development	May-24	Sept-25
	Service Provider Impact Assessment	Completed	Completed
	Design and Detailed Impact Assessment	Mar-25	Sept-25
	Solution Refinement	Sept-25	Sept-25
	Party Impact Assessment	Oct-25	Oct-25

R0169 was raised following the RECCo led Major Switching Incident review in 2023. On 14 May 2024, the Technical Design Authority (TDA) and CSS Provider baselined the requirements for R0169 during a Technical Change Workshop.

The solution progressed to a 5 Working Day Initial Impact Assessment on 20 May 2024 and then to a Preliminary Impact Assessment (PIA) on 10 June 2024. Following the PIA, it was recognised that this Change Proposal was a candidate for design up front, and the Code Manager engaged with the CSS Provider to further explore and plan for this option.

Following the CSS Forward Workplan drafting, this Change Proposal is targeted for design to mobilise through the Detail Impact Assessment (DIA) on 03 March 2025. The Code Manager engaged with the Technical Expert Panel (TEP) to gain support for the design to be mobilised through the DIA on 29 January 2025.

Once the design and DIA have been completed, the Code Manager will refine the solution, if and where required, before issuing a Party Impact Assessment.

6 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The Code Manager previously presented R0169 to the REC Issues Group on 14 June 2024. The aim of this discussion was to understand if there was a desire from Market Participants to subscribe to the broadcast message from CSS Users and what the value for would be for REC Parties. The minutes from this presentation can be found, here.

The Code Manager will provide an opportunity for further Stakeholder Engagement through a standard 15 Working Day Party impact assessment, and a standard 15 Working Day industry consultation as part of the Change Process for R0169.

7 PRIORITY STATUS AND URGENCY

PRIORITISATION MATRIX

Category	Significance / Resource impacts / Urgency	Further selection / breakdown	Score (0-3)	Weighting	Weighted Score
Impacts	Consumer Impact	Indirect	1	27	27
	Retail Markets Impact	Innovation and Market Arrangements	2	17	33
	RECCo / REC Party / REC Service Provider Impact	Operational Effectiveness and Efficiencies	2	7	13
		Legal and Regulatory Compliance	0	14	0
Resource	Complexity / Effort / Duration		3	9	28
Strategic Alignment	Contribution to/ Alignment with the objectives of the REC		0	17	0
	Contribution to/ Alignment with RECCo's Forward Work Plan		0		0
Urgency *(The need to progress a change to meet a targeted date)*		Other Planned Activity	0	10	0
				Overall Priority Score (rounded)	101

Priority Status	MEDIUM
Change Proposal Type	STANDARD

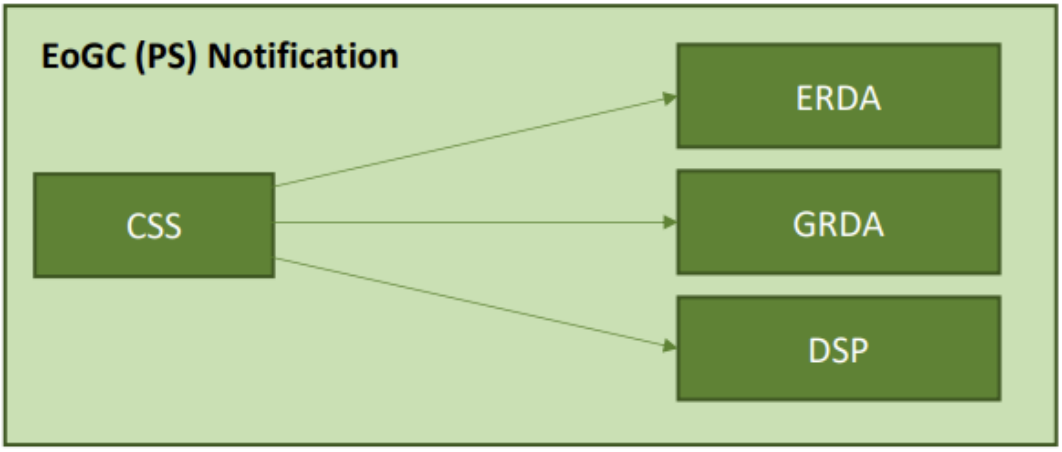
This standard Change Proposal has been given a priority status of medium based upon a weighted prioritisation score of 101.

SOLUTION

8 PROPOSED SOLUTION

Whilst, the full solution will be dependent upon the design included in the DIA, R0169 proposes the creation of a dedicated End-of-Gate-Close (EoGC) message for two use cases as follows:

1) A Party Specific Notification



The EoGC (PS) message to each party will include a count of the total number of unique securedActive and securedInactive messages (e.g., per registrationID) sent during the gate closure for that party:

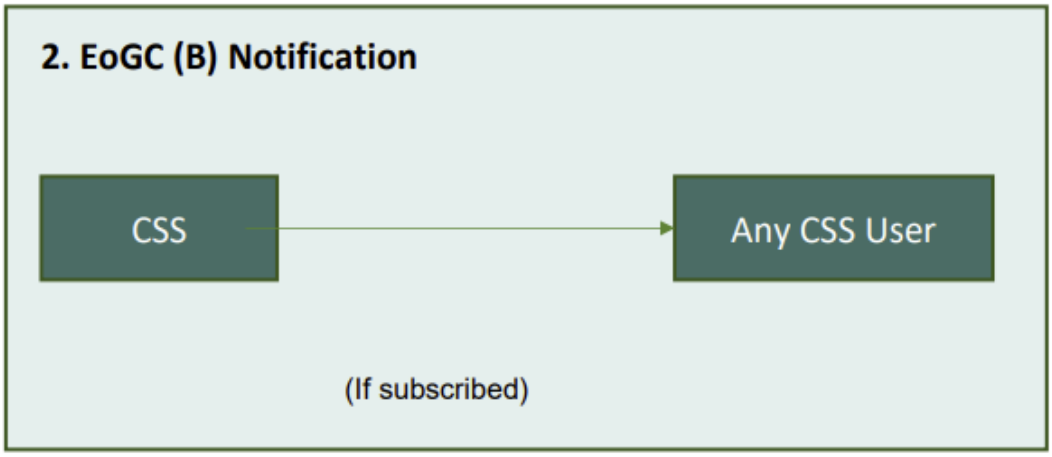
- This count will only include the first delivery attempt of each securedActive and securedInactive message
- Message retries are not included in the count
- The count will exclude the EoGC (PS) message itself

- The EoGC (PS) message will be sent to each party as soon as possible following the last message securedActive or securedInactive message to that party.
- EoGC (PS) messages are sent (1st attempt) prior to sending of an EoGC(B) broadcast message.

2) A Generic Broadcast Notification

The generic broadcast EoGC(B) message will be optional, where all CSS users will be able to register a webhook for the receipt of this message.

- The EoGC(B) message will be sent to all subscribers, notifying that all securedActive and SecuredInactive messages have been sent for the current Gate Closure.
- An EoGC(B) subscribed CSS User will be able to subscribe / un-subscribe from this service at any time.
- The message will not contain any volumetric or party-specific information (e.g., message counts).



Both the EoGC (PS) and EoGC (B) messages will enter the start retry protocol if delivery fails, with a shorty retry and, if still unsuccessful, a long retry. Please note, as part of this solution, the EOGC messages do not redefine Gate Closure as per current REC drafting which states Gate Closure means, 17:00 hours on the day before the Supply Effective from Date of a Switch or Initial Registration.

9 SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS UNDERTAKEN

The TDA and the CSS Provider baselined the requirements for R0169 via the Technical Change Workshop (TCW), with the TCW continuing to be engaged with the solution analysis and development throughout the progression of R0169.

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9.1 REQUIREMENTS AND SUCCESS CRITERIA

The following requirements and success criteria have been provided as part of Change Proposal and existing work through the Technical Change Workshop.

ID1	Area	Requirement	Success Criteria	Category
001	CSS	As CSS I want to the capability to notify CSS users of the end of gate closures.	The EoGC notification is to support 2 use cases; • A party specific notification, applicable to only ERDA, GRDA and DSP only. EoGC(PS) • A generic (broadcast) notification, available to all CSS users. EoGC(B)	Functional Requirement
002	CSS	As CSS I want to be able to notify specific parties (ERDA, GRDA & DSP) that I have finished sending Gate Closure (securedActive & securedInactive) messages to them. Notifications are sent to each party (ERDA, GRDA, DSP) individually.	1) The EoGC(PS) message to each party will include a count of the total number of unique securedActive and securedInactive messages (e.g. per registrationID) sent during the gate closure for that party. a. This count will only include the first delivery attempt of each securedActive and securedInactive message b. Message retries are not included in the count. c. The count will exclude the EoGC(PS) message itself. 2) EoGC(PS) message is sent to each specific party (applicable to ERDA, GRDA & DSP only), and will be sent to each party as soon as possible following the last message securedActive or securedInactive message to that party. 3) The Sending of EoGC(PS) messages to targeted recipients (see requirement 003) is mandatory. These specific parties cannot elect to opt out of these EoGC(PS) messages.	Functional Requirement

ID1	Area	Requirement	Success Criteria	Category
003	CSS	As a general CSS User I want to be able to subscribe to an End of Gate Closure broadcast message, EoGC(B).	1) All CSS users will be able to register a webhook for the receipt of an EoGC(B) broadcast message. 2) An EoGC(B)-subscribed CSS User will be able to un-subscribe from the EoGC(B) broadcast messages at any time. Once un-subscribed, the User will not receive further EoGC(B) broadcast messages.	Functional Requirement
004	CSS	As CSS I want to broadcast a general message to all EoGC(B)-subscribed CSS Users to notify them that all gate closure messages have been sent (1st attempt) and gate closure is complete.	1) A generic EoGC(B) broadcast message is sent to all subscribed notifying that all securedActive and SecuredInactive messages have been sent for the current Gate Closure. 2) The broadcast message will NOT contain any volumetric information (e.g. message counts).	Functional Requirement
005	CSS	As CSS I want to ensure that all EoGC messages are unambiguous in their applicability.	1) All EoGC messages, (PS) and (B), will contain the date of the applicable Gate Close to which it refers. 2) All EoGC, (PS) and (B), messages will contain the time that the applicable gate closure period ended.	Functional Requirement
006	CSS	As CSS I will ensure that EoGC(PS) messages to specific are sent (first attempt only), before sending a generic EoGC(B) broadcast.	1) EoGC(PS) messages are sent (1st attempt) prior to sending of an EoGC(B) broadcast message.	Functional Requirement
007	CSS	As the CSS I want to be able to retry the delivery of EoGC messages, (PS) and (B), where prior delivery attempts have failed. I will try a limited (but configurable) number of times.	1) As per assumption (A-3); Retries of EoGC messages, (PS) and (B), will follow short retry cycle only. 2) The retry cycle must be configurable.	Functional Requirement

ID1	Area	Requirement	Success Criteria	Category
008	CSS	As the CSSP (i.e. DCC) I want visibility of when the EoGC messages, (PS) and (B), were sent to each party.	1) A new tile on the existing dashboard is made available showing; the initial delivery of each EoGC message, party response times for acknowledgement and number of retry attempts. Applicable to both (PS) and (B). 2) CSSP will have visibility of the CSS Users subscribed for the EoGC(B) broadcast messages.	Functional Requirement
009	CSS	As the CSSP (i.e. DCC) I would to retain an auditable record of the sending and deliver success of each of the EoGC messages, (PS) and (B), sent, including retries.	1) The initial delivery of each EoGC message, party response times for acknowledgement and number of retry attempts data will be retained for configurable period of time. Applicable to both (PS) and (B). 2) Initial retention period is to be set to 1 year. Applicable to both (PS) and (B).	Functional Requirement

9.2 DESIGN AND DETAILED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The Code Manager has also engaged with the TDA and the Technical Expert Panel (TEP) during the solution analysis to determine if the design for the solution should be completed within the DIA.

The TDA has recommended that design to be completed within the DIA and this will provide the following benefits to REC Parties:

- **Enable a proof of concept:** For a high complexity change such as R0169, Landmark will look to produce a proof of concept to ensure that the design is robust and meets the requirements.
- **Accurate Party impact assessments:** GRDA, ERDA, and DSP will be able to assess the impact of this change having received clear design, all CSS Users will receive clear specifications of the new messages before this change goes live.
- **Detailed design feedback:** As well as the subsequent Party Impact Assessments, completing detailed design up front allows this to be shared with industry at the point of consultation, enabling feedback into the design before the build stage, providing greater transparency for end users.
- **Accurate costs with low built in contingency:** CSS Service Providers build contingency into their pricing where they do not have clarity on the design. Completing design before we commit to costs means that costs will be more accurate and need to include less contingency, ultimately saving industry money.

10 APPENDIX

CHANGE PROPOSAL	Link
MEETING MINUTES AND PAPERS	REC Issues Group – 14 June 2024 Technical Expert Panel – 29 January 2025

11 GLOSSARY

TERM	DEFINITION
Central Switching Service (CSS)	means the Systems and processes provided or procured by the CSS Provider for the purpose of providing the Address Management Service and the Registration Service.
Data Item Catalogue	means the catalogue described as such in the Data Specification.
Distribution Network Operator (DNO)	means a person holding an Electricity Distribution Licence.
Electricity Retail Data Agent (ERDA)	means a provider of a DNO's Electricity Retail Data Service.
Electricity Retail Data Service (ERDS)	means the electricity registration services provided under this Code to support the provision of electricity retail data to the CSS and other services.
Energy Supplier	means a person which is either or both an Electricity Supplier and/or a Gas Supplier.
Gas Retail Data Agent (GRDA)	means the provider of a Gas Transporter's Gas Retail Data Service.
Gas Retail Data Service (GRDS)	means the gas registration services provided under this Code to support the provision of gas retail data to the CSS and other services.
Gas Transporter (GT)	means a person holding a Gas Transporter Licence which requires that person to become a Party to this Code.
Market Message Catalogue	means the catalogue described as such in the Data Specification.
Secured Active	means the Registration Status as described in Paragraph 1.4 of the Registration Services Schedule.
Secured Inactive	means the Registration Status as described in Paragraph 1.4 of the Registration Services Schedule.

TERM	DEFINITION
Switch	means a change to the Registered Supplier for an RMP.
Switching Operator	means the DCC in performing the role of managing the co-ordination of the CSS Provider and the other Switching Data Service Providers, including the mechanisms for Users to report incidents and access service management support, from the CSS Go-Live Date.