RETAIL ENERGY CODE

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01	Proposal Plan
02	Consultation
03	**Final Recommendation**

CHANGE REPORT

R0330 – USE OF REL DATA BY THE AUTHORITY

DOCUMENT VERSION	V1.0
PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE	31 July 2026
IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH	Big Bang

RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE	Change Panel	**CHANGE PATH**	Self-Governance
PRIORITY STATUS	High	**URGENCY**	Standard
IMPACTED STAKEHOLDERS	The Authority, RECCo		

LEAD ANALYST (SOLUTION LEAD)	TECHNICAL LEAD	ASSURANCE LEAD	SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT
BELA ASHWORTH	POPPY PARK	ANTON MODEN	LORNA MALLON
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OVERVIEW

Currently, the Code limits the use of REL Address data for the purpose of Switching. R0330 seeks to amend several areas of the REC to allow the Authority to use REL Address data beyond Switching purposes, whilst still retaining the current restriction limiting REL address use to Switching for other Parties. This change is needed to support the imminent implementation of the Bill Discount Scheme.

CODE MANAGER RECOMMENDATION

The Code Manager recommends that the REC Change Panel:

- **APPROVE** the proposed change solution;
- **APPROVE** the proposed implementation approach; and
- **APPROVE** the proposed implementation date of 31 July 2026.

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BACKGROUND

1 SUMMARY

Currently, the Code limits the use of Retail Energy Location (REL) Address data for the purpose of Switching. REL Addresses are made available to Enquiry Service Users so that Switching Parties (including Price Comparison Websites) can raise enquiries against them for the purpose of enabling Switching, including for the purpose of design, development, testing, integration and live operational use. This limitation currently extends to the Authority.

On 18 May 2026, Ofgem was appointed as the scheme administrator for DESNZ's Bill Discount Scheme ("Pounds for Pylons"). The Scheme is a part of a package of community benefit measures and will ensure that those living closest to new electricity network transmission infrastructure can directly benefit. Eligible households will receive up to £250 per year, for up to 10 years. Successful delivery of the Bill Discount Scheme also contributes to meeting Objective 6: Expand electricity networks of Ofgem's Strategic Direction Statement.

To prepare for the Scheme's go-live date of October 2026, Ofgem requires wider access to the REL Address data to enable searching by UPRN via the EES API, to allow matching with MPANs. The Code does not currently allow for Ofgem to have this access.

R0330 seeks to amend several areas of the REC to allow the Authority to use REL Address data beyond Switching purposes, whilst still retaining the current restriction limiting REL address use to Switching for other Parties. This change is needed to support the imminent implementation of the Bill Discount Scheme. R0330 is an electricity-only change and no amendments are proposed to the GES Definition document.

2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

The REC currently limits the use of REL data to Switching purposes only. This limits the Authority's ability to match a UPRN to an MPAN in support of the government's Bill Discount Scheme.

3 IMPACTS

REC PARTIES AND SERVICE USERS
The Authority

REC SERVICE PROVIDERS
EES Provider

REC DOCUMENTS / PRODUCTS
Schedule 29 – Address Management
CSS Definition
EES Definition
Electricity Data Access Matrix

MHHS
This Change Proposal has no impacts on MHHS.

4 CROSS-CODE IMPACTS

There are no cross-code impacts identified with this Change Proposal.

5 PROPOSAL PLAN

Milestone	Activity	From	To
Definition		**18 May-26**	**15 Jun-26**
	Solution Development	May	May
	Legal Review	May	May
	Code Manager Initial Assessment	June	June
Change Proposal		**16 Jun-26**	**20 Jul-26**
	Consultation	June	July
	Solution Refinement	July	July
	Final Determination	July	July
Voting		**21 Jul-26**	**21 Jul-26**
	Appeal Window	22 July	04 August

6 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Ahead of raising this Change Proposal, RECCo and the Code Manager engaged with Ordnance Survey (OS), Ofgem and the EES Provider. OS have confirmed that UPRN data may be shared with Parties holding an appropriate OS Address Licence (including Public Sector Geospatial Agreement (PSGA) members), without RECCo requiring its own licence. Ofgem have confirmed that it holds a PSGA licence from OS which allows Ofgem to use OS data free of charge for public sector purposes. As such, a Service Provider Impact Assessment will not be carried out as part of this Change.

On 30 June 2026, the Code Manager provided an update to the Performance Assurance Board to explain proposed changes to the Electricity Data Access Matrix (DAM).

7 PRIORITY STATUS AND URGENCY

7.1 PROPOSER REVIEW

The proposer of this Change Proposal has provided a review stating this Change Proposal:

- Meets the criteria for 'Urgency' and should be progressed under an urgent timetable due to Ofgem requiring access to the REL Address data by summer 2026, in support of their Bill Discount Scheme;
- Aligns to the Strategic Direction Statement (SDS) as it links to Objective 6.1 "Continue to drive accelerated onshore network investment" which specifically references the Bill Discount Scheme as a government initiative working towards this goal;
- Will deliver positive outcomes for the Consumer, specifically those who would benefit from the Bill Discount Scheme; and
- Is a low complexity change with minimal stakeholder engagement, minimal impact to central services and no cross-code dependencies.

Their review can also be found in the Submission Form here.

7.2 CODE MANAGER REVIEW

The Code Manager proposes that this Change Proposal is given an Urgency of Standard and a Priority Status of High.

- The Code Manager believes that this Change Proposal does not meet the criteria[1] for 'Urgency'.
- The Code Manager believes that this Change Proposal has a strong alignment with the SDS as it strongly supports an SDS priority, specifically Objective 6.1 "Continue to drive accelerated onshore network investment".
- The Code Manager believes that this Change Proposal has high importance as it is an enabler change to deliver noticeably greater Consumer benefit by supporting the implementation of the Bill Discount Scheme.
- The Code Manager believes that that this Change Proposal has low complexity, however high time sensitivity due to the timelines of the Bill Discount Scheme. Ofgem requires access to the REL Addresses for their work plan in August 2026.

[1] Code Modification Urgency Criteria

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SOLUTION

8 SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS UNDERTAKEN

The scope of this Change Proposal was initially considered under the scope of REC Issue I0324 - Use of REL Data to Support Key Regulations. Following discussions with the Authority, REC legal advisers, RECCo and the Central Switching Service (CSS) Provider, it was evident that Ofgem would require access to REL data on an expedited timeline. As such, the decision was made to de-scope the Authority from Issue I0324 and to progress the Authority's access to REL data as a separate REC Change. This is necessary to support the imminent implementation of the government's Bill Discount Scheme.

9 PROPOSED SOLUTION

The proposed solution is to amend the legal texts of Schedule 29, the CSS Definition, the EES Definition, and the Electricity DAM.

REC Schedule 29 – Address Management will be amended to refer directly to the DAM, which determines whether an Enquiry Service is entitled to access REL Addresses.

The CSS Definition will be amended to remove repetition of Schedule 29 as the CSS Definition document does not need to describe the Enquiry Service. An erroneous footnote 1 will also be removed as no longer required.

The EES Definition will be amended to allow the Authority to access and use REL Addresses for other purposes consistent with its licence from OS. Clause 3.12 (b) will also be amended to remove "(REL Address data can only be accessed for the purpose of Switching)" as this is no longer relevant and the proposed changes to the Definition document and other REC products will clarify when and by whom REL Address data can be accessed.

The Electricity DAM will also be amended to change the Authority's permission to access REL Address data from 'No' to 'Yes'.

10 DRAFT LEGAL TEXT

The legal text changes to deliver the proposed solution to R0330 can be found here.

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PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT

11 RISKS, ASSUMPTIONS, ISSUES AND DEPENDENCIES

There are no risks, assumptions, issues or dependencies identified for this Change Proposal.

12 BUSINESS CASE ASSESSMENT

12.1 COSTS

There are no central system costs associated with this Change Proposal.

12.2 BENEFITS

INTANGIBLE BENEFITS	BENEFITS DESCRIPTION
SUPPORTS THE DELIVERY OF THE BILL DISCOUNT SCHEME, FUTURE GOVERNMENT PROJECTS AND KEY REGULATIONS	The implementation of this Change Proposal is necessary to support the imminent implementation of the Bill Discount Scheme, which will deliver monetary benefit for those living closest to new electricity transmission infrastructure across Great Britain. The scheme is central to government priorities to build support for new developments. Further delays will ultimately negatively impact end Consumers and is a detriment to enabling infrastructure and markets required for the net zero transition. R0330 will not limit the Authority's access to REL solely to the Bill Discount Scheme as wider access to REL addresses can also be used to support similar future government projects as well as key regulations.
IMPROVES CLARITY OF THE REC ON USE OF REL DATA	The implementation of this Change Proposal will provide clarity to industry on the use of REL data. The proposed changes will clarify whether an Enquiry Service User is entitled to access REL Addresses via the Enquiry Services is determined in accordance with the DAM, which may also impose requirements in relation to the purposes for which REL Addresses may be accessed and used. The Change Proposal specifically broadens access to and use of REL data to the Authority for other purposes consistent with its licence from OS.

12.3 COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS

There are no central systems costs, no expected costs to Parties and two intangible benefits associated with this Change Proposal. As such, the Code Manager believes that there is a positive case for change.

13 CASE FOR CHANGE

SELF GOVERNANCE

The Code Manager considers there is a positive case for change for implementing this Change Proposal on the basis that the proposed solution:

- Is both viable and implementable, and effectively resolves the problem statement;
- Has no associated central system costs and no associated Party costs;
- Has proportionate effort required for implementation;
- Will support in the implementation of the government's Bill Discount Scheme, thus delivering positive outcomes for Consumers and efficiencies in the operation of the retail energy market;
- Will support the Authority in using the data for ongoing/future projects, and key regulations;
- Will provide improved clarity in the legal drafting of the REC regarding use of the REL Addresses, in accordance with Parties' OS licence.

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14 SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES

A consultation was circulated on 11 June 2026 to obtain views on the Change Report (For Consultation). In total, five responses were received from two Energy Suppliers, two Distribution Network Operators, and the DCC. The key themes from these responses have been summarised and set out below. The non-confidential responses have been published here.

14.1 SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

Four of the five respondents were supportive of the Change Proposal and proposed solution and believed it should be implemented.

One respondent was supportive of the Change Proposal and generally supportive of the proposed solution, but proposed further amendments to Schedule 29 – Address Management.

14.2 COMMENTS ON THE SOLUTION AND PROPOSED LEGAL TEXT

Four of the five respondents were supportive of the proposed legal text, recognising that the current restrictions on the use of REL Address data limit the Authority's ability to deliver key policy initiatives. One respondent noted that the proposed amendments to allow the Authority wider access to REL data are a pragmatic and proportionate approach to enabling this scheme while maintaining existing restrictions for other Parties.

One respondent was generally supportive of the proposed legal text, with the caveat that they believed the proposed amendments to Schedule 29, clause 1.4 was too broad compared to the proposed amendments to the EES Service Definition. The Code Manager reviewed the proposed amendments and, following further engagement with REC legal advisers, the Code Manager is of the view that the consulted amendments to Schedule 29, when read in conjunction with the Data Access Matrix to which it refers, is sufficient to confirm that the Authority has access to REL Address data for purposes beyond Switching. As such, further amendments to Schedule 29, clause 1.4 to restrict the use of REL Address data is not necessary.

14.3 BENEFITS RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATIONAL COSTS

All respondents agreed with the Code Manager's assessment of costs and benefits relative to the implementation of R0330. One respondent agreed that there are no central system costs and no expected costs for Parties, while the benefits are primarily strategic and Consumer-focused. The respondent recognised that the Change Proposal supports the delivery of the Bill Discount Scheme, which will provide direct financial support to eligible households, and enables wider government and regulatory initiatives through improved access to REL data. One of the DNO respondents also noted that the Change Proposal gives further clarity regarding REL data access and use.

14.4 CASE FOR CHANGE AND CODE MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

All respondents were supportive of the case for change and agreed with the Code Manager's recommendation to approve R0330 for implementation. Respondents recognised the need to align timelines with the delivery requirements of the Bill Discount Scheme and is necessary to facilitate the Authority's access to REL Address data before the go-live date. Respondents agreed that there was a positive case for change, especially considering the Consumer benefits to be delivered by the Bill Discount Scheme.

14.5 IMPLEMENTATION DATE AND APPROACH

All respondents were supportive of the proposed implementation date of 31 July 2026 and the implementation approach of big bang. One respondent noted that given the low complexity of the change, the absence of central system impacts or costs, and the time sensitivity associated with delivery of the Bill Discount Scheme, this approach appears appropriate and proportionate.

15 SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS MADE FOLLOWING CONSULTATION

DOCUMENT	SECTION	AMENDMENT	REASON
R0330 – Draft Schedule 29 Address Management	Clause 1.4	1.4. REL Addresses are synchronised to the Electricity Enquiry Service (EES) and Gas Enquiry Service (GES) and are made available to Enquiry Service Users as part of the Enquiry Services, ~~including~~ so that Switching Parties (including Price Comparison Websites) can raise enquiries against them for the purpose of enabling Switching, including for the purpose of design, development, testing, integration and live operational use.	Removal of 'including' as it was added in error.

16 APPENDIX

CHANGE PROPOSAL	Link
LEGAL DRAFTING FOR FINAL RECOMMENDATION	Link
CONSOLIDATED CONSULTATION RESPONSES	Link
RELATED CHANGE(S)	I0324 – Use of REL Data to Support Key Regulations I0218 – Proposal to Enable Broader Use of Retail Energy Location (REL) Data for Non-Switching Applications
ANY OTHER DOCUMENTS	Ofgem to administer government's Bill Discount Scheme Electricity Bill Discount Scheme for transmission network infrastructure

17 GLOSSARY

TERM	DEFINITION
Electricity Enquiry Service (EES)	means the service described as such in the EES Service Definition.
Electricity Enquiry Service Users (EES User)	means a Party or Non-Party REC Service User which is entitled to use the EES under the Data Access Schedule.
Registrable Measurement Point (RMP)	means a Supply Meter Point or Metering Point identified in the Central Switching Service.
Retail Energy Location (REL)	means a Location to which Energy is delivered via an RMP, and/or from which electricity is exported via an RMP.
Retail Energy Location Address (REL Address)	means the address (or other spatial reference) of each Retail Energy Location, as created and maintained by the CSS Provider. For RMPs in Wales, references to the Retail Energy Location Address include the REL (W) Address, unless the context requires otherwise.
Retail Energy Location Data (REL Data)	means the dataset relating to Premises address data to be developed by the CSS Provider using the Address Management Service.
Switching	means a change to the Registered Supplier for an RMP.

Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN)	means the number by which a property is identified in the GB Standardised Address List.