RETAIL ENERGY CODE

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REC METERING EXPERT PANEL
MEETING MINUTES

MEETING	**RECMEP_25_0212**
DATE	**12 February 2025, 10:00**
LOCATION	**By teleconference**

Attendee	Representing	Initials	Role
Steve Brand	Code Manager	SB	Committee Chair
Richard Hill	Meter Equipment Managers	RH	Alternate Member
Paul Abreu	Network Operators	PA	Committee Member
Tracey Saunders	Network Operators	TS	Committee Member
Eric Fowler	MEMs	EF	Committee Member
Rebecca Griffiths	Retail Energy Code Company	RG	Subject Matter Expert
Glenn Sheern	Code Manager	GS	Subject Matter Expert
April Harbour	Code Manager	AH	Change Analyst
James Rees	Code Manager	JR	Secretariat
Brogan McNess	Code Manager	BMc	Secretariat
Caroline Freimuller	Code Manager	CF	Change Analyst
Shaun McRaith	Ofgem	SM	Observer
Warren Lacey	Network Operators	WL	Observer
Lydia Bentley	Code Manager	LB	Change Analyst
Holly Law	Code Manager	HL	Change and Release Manager

1. INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed attendees to the REC Metering Expert Panel (RECMEP) meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

RECMEP Members were invited to provide comments on the Draft Minutes of the meeting held on 13 November 2024, the Draft Minutes were approved by the Member without amendment.

3. REVIEW OF ACTION LOG

The Code Manager updated members that there were no outstanding actions at this time.

4. METER PRODUCT DATA CHANGES

RECMEP Members were provided with an overview of the Meter Product Data Changes. Members were informed that the submission had passed Code Manager validation.

AH explained that the changes and the hosting on the Meter Configuration Tables (MCT) under the REC will be implemented with a suite of other changes set to be approved and implemented for the Market Wide Half-Hourly Settlement (MHHS) go-live in September of this year. AH expressed that they are in communication with Elexon to build a joint communication to issue to Parties through the REC, Elexon bulletin, and MHHS update. The communication will confirm that the Functional System Environment (FSE) and Technical Product Report (TPR) data, currently managed under Market Domain Data (MDD), will be transitioned under the REC from September.

AH informed RECMEP members that a MDD change freeze will be in effect until 2027, on sites they are not appointed to, tying in with the MHHS milestone 15 at the end of the transition window. AH also mentioned that Parties need to be on the REC distribution list to receive updates regarding the MCTs, rather than the MDD distribution lists. AH advised if Parties need to make any changes to FSE or TPR data, they need to be implemented within MDD before the July deadline. In August, Elexon will freeze the data to prepare for the transition to MHHS go-live. The REC will take the latest data sets to generate the first MCTs, version one, which will be implemented as of September. AH informed the RECMEP members that there will be slides presented at the MHHS engagement day regarding the change in transfer of data items and that Parties with concerns or feedback are urged to discuss them or reach out as soon as possible.

AH confirmed that there will be leading updates running into September, and AH will return to RECMEP in March to share the communication plans, even if there is no Meter Product Data update. With any other communication to be issued around April.

RECMEP Members noted the request and:

- **AGREED** unanimously to approve the Meter Product Data Changes MPD 2025_023

5. METER CONFIGURATION TABLES

RECMEP members were provided with a verbal update regarding the Meter Configuration Tables.

RECMEP noted the update.

6. SAFE ISOLATION PROVIDER BACKGROUND

RECMEP members were provided with an overview of the Safe Isolation Provider (SIP) Background.

RG advised that the SIP role was introduced to the REC in June 2023 with the objective of de-energising and re-energising supply points. RG encouraged RECMEP members that the end goal of the role introduction is to allow REC-accredited members to perform tasks independently, allowing the support of carbon reduction. RG advised that the RECCo report focused on implementation, qualification, participation, data transport and governance, with the key recommendations of improving the REC change process, enhancing advice and guidance, and lastly engaging with Trade Bodies.

RG advised that there is awareness of the issue of unqualified SIPs working on meters, there is a need to determine the scale of the issue and gather accurate data. RG informed there is potential to reach out to Parties for help with data if costs are significant. RH raised the issue of sanctions for misuse and questioned about the reporting to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). RG confirmed that anyone reported to the Code Manager or the REC of doing anything unlawfully will be referred to the HSE. RG acknowledged that the situation is a concern, primarily from a safety perspective. RH questioned if DCUSA are aligned and working in partnership to promote SIP awareness, RG confirmed that it's not currently aligned with DCUSA but plans are in place to discuss this further.

RECMEP noted the update.

7. RECMEP TOR

RECMEP members were provided with an overview of the RECMEP Terms of Reference (ToR) to help address the difference in voting structure of MEP compared to the other Sub-Committees.

CF informs RECMEP members that the MEP ToR have a different voting structure than the other REC Sub-Committees. The legal team pointed out that Schedule 5, which lays out the voting arrangements, is a category 1 document. While the ToR are Category 3, meaning technically Schedule 5 should override the MEP ToR. CF informed that the proposed solution is to update the MEP ToR and to align with other Sub-committees and use a simple majority for voting.

CF clarified that updating the MEP ToR could affect the voting on the Service Termination Issue Reporting Guide (STIRG) document. The STIRG document requires agreement from both the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) and Meter Operator Agent (MOA) representatives for a change to be approved. With a simple majority, it's possible for the DNO and MOA to both vote against a change, while the rest of the Committee votes in favour, and the change would still be rejected.

RECMEP preferred approach is to update Schedule 5 to allow for flexibility in the terms of reference for Sub-Committees. This would allow the MEP to maintain its current voting structure for the STIRG document. However, concern that if Schedule 5 is updated, someone might later raise a change to the ToR to move it to Category 2, causing further problems.

RECMEP members noted the update and agreed that the current structure is fit for purpose and suggested a change of Code so that the MEP ToR could remain different to other Sub-Committees.

8. IMPLEMENTATION OF C-21 CODE IN THE STIRG

RECMEP members were provided with an overview of the Implementation of C-21 Code in the STIRG and the Cross Code Impact.

PA informs RECMEP members that a new code, C-21, is being proposed for inclusion in the STIRG. This code addresses a specific earthing arrangement scenario that was highlighted by a Meter Equipment Manager (MEM) company. The C-21 code provides guidance and covers a scenario that was not adequately addressed in existing guidance. PA explained that because of the creation of the C-21 Code, an existing guidance (B07) needs to be tweaked to reference the existence of C-21 Code. PA explained that Suppliers are actively rolling out Radio Teleswitching System (RTS) replacement. In some cases, they must abort the job due to the B07 issues, the C-21 Code would provide a workaround, allowing them to proceed with the meter installation.

PA informs RECMEP that Ofgem has contacted both PA and REC and asked for this implementation to be dealt with urgently, particularly for the benefits it can bring to RTS Consumers ahead of the shutdown in June.

RECMEP members noted the update, its urgency and importance.

9. ISSUES UPDATE

RECMEP members were provided a quarterly update on Change Issues

HL informs RECMEP members that there are currently 46 issues raised, since the improvements to the change process and the introduction of 'issues' (following the code manager review implemented in June). HL detailed the status breakdown, 15 issues are at the initial assessment stage. 22 going through solution development. 3 out for party impact assessment. 2 have progressed to change proposals (CPs). 1 has been approved for implementation in February (Issue R1681) and 4 have been withdrawn.

HL advised that the solution development includes gathering information through information requests and facilitating different work groups. The reason for the withdrawal is because a change to the REC isn't needed, or they are being progressed under the data access process.

RECMEP members noted the update.

10. INDUSTRY ISSUES AND CHANGE TRACKER

RECMEP members were provided an overview of any industry issues and an update on several items on the change tracker.

EF expressed disappointment that there weren't more responses to the CoMCoP consultation (R0152 Revision to CoMCoP), given its significance to the affected Parties. EF raised concerns that the implementation timescale and when Parties would need to be ready to be audited under the new version of the code. EF also questioned whether the audit teams would be better prepared for this implementation than they appeared to be last time. SB suggested including

specific questions in the consultation to seek feedback on the timing, potential problems, and the impact of MHHS. CF explained that there is an understanding that the issue is quite a large change, and that the deadline is too 'short' ahead of MHS go-live. CF explained that this is the earliest convenience for a June 2025 vote but is open waiting for feedback from the consultation response. EF emphasised the need for lead time between the new code being published and Parties being ready for audits, as MEMs members face challenges preparing for them. CF mentioned that Wilcock had been asked about a grace period and didn't feel it was appropriate but acknowledged that this could be a point of contention in the consultation.

RECMEP members noted both the overview and the update.

11. AOB

RG notified members that there will be a review of the metering hub on the REC portal and is seeking suggestions from the group on what changes or improvements RECMEP members would like to see. RG would like any thoughts and ideas to be shared via email and at the E-OMF meeting.

Next meeting date: 12 March 2025