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PAB SANDBOX AND DEROGATION COVER REPORT

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FOR INFORMATION 	This paper provides a high-level overview of the Sandbox and Derogation Applications to be discussed at this month's PAB. This includes both new Applications to be presented and approved or rejected, and updates on pre-existing Applications, including those which have reached expiration, require an extension request, or regarding associated actions. The PAB are asked to **consider** this paper and take the following actions: • **NOTE** the update provided for new Sandbox Applications; and • **NOTE** the updates provided for existing RECSANDBOX_01, RECDER_10 and RECDER_13.

1 BACKGROUND

The role of the Performance Assurance Board (PAB) is to consider and approve Sandbox and Derogation Applications, including agreeing any conditions.

This paper presents an update on upcoming new applications and existing RECSandbox_01, RECDER_10 and RECDER_13.

2 NEW SANDBOX AND DEROGATION APPLICATIONS

2.1.1 SUMMARY

One new Sandbox Application has been submitted this month and is being developed by the Code Manager and the Party. The Application pertains to removing the prohibition of the use of robotics in modules such as the Secure Data Exchange Portal (SDEP) and Crossed Meters to support bulk-resolution processes. The intention is for this Application to be presented to the PAB in July 2024.

3 SANDBOX AND DEROGATION UPDATES

3.1.1 RECSANDBOX_01 – CROWDED METER ROOMS – ALT HAN CO

In 2022, the Alternative Home Area Network Company (Alt HAN Co) submitted a Sandbox Application to commence a pilot linked to REC Change Proposal (CP) R0043 – Commissioning of Works by the Crowded Meter Room Coordinator (CMRC) to Resolve Issues in Crowded Meter Rooms. This was approved by the PAB in November 2022 with conditions.

In July 2023, Alt HAN Co provided an update on the trial and requested an extension to the Sandbox to cover any period between the end of July 2023 and the implementation of R0043.

R0043 will be implemented on 28 June 2024, at which point the Sandbox will expire.

3.1.2 RECDER_10 – DNO SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

St Clements submitted a Derogation Application in June 2022 on behalf of Distribution Network Operators (DNOs). Specifically, to exempt them from their Service Level Agreements (SLAs) for Service Now (SNOW) tickets they receive for messages that the Central Switching Service (CSS) has asynchronously rejected, which do not contain the relevant information for DNOs to triage and action.

The Derogation was approved on the basis that it would only apply in the instance of the proposed workaround ceasing to operate. The PAB approved an extension to DER_10 in July 2023 until the implementation of the related CP R0063 – Addition of Key Information to all Service Now Tickets.

In March 2024, the PAB approved a further extension to DER_10 with four associated conditions. The Derogation period was approved to remain in effect until the full implementation of R0063, with an additional four-week grace period. The legal text for R0063 was implemented on 12 April 2024 and the technical solution will be implemented on 28 June 2024. Thus, the Derogation will expire on 26 July.

3.1.3 RECDER_13 – MEM OPERATING MODEL – NPOWER COMMERCIAL GAS LIMITED

Npower Commercial Gas Limited (NCGL) submitted a Derogation Application in March 2023 to allow them to continue operation under their current business model by exempting them from the 'field force' elements of the Meter Operation Code of Practice (MOCoP) (now the Consolidated Metering Code of Practice (CoMCoP)) accreditation scheme (with this activity being wholly outsourced) to enable NGCL to continue to be recognised as an accredited MEM under the REC.

The PAB approved the Derogation (with conditions) to be in place until the outcome of R0064 – Creating a Meter Operator Agent and MOCOp Installer had been determined.

The PAB discussed the Derogation in September 2023 and agreed for this to be extended to include Fulmar Services, E.ON Energy Services and Dynamic Energy Metering Limited. The PAB also approved delegation to the Code Manager to grant any further Derogations requested by other Parties following the same business model as NCGL.

On 6 February 2024, the REC Change Panel approved R0064 for implementation on 28 June 2024. In accordance with this approval, DER_13 will expire on 28 June 2024.