RETAIL ENERGY CODE

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BETTER CROSS CODE INTEGRATION

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FOR DECISION 	The Code Manager seeks PAB approval for the scope of a deep dive into 'Better Cross-Code Integration' across REC, BSC, SEC, and UNC. The objective is to establish more effective collaboration mechanisms for managing underperforming Parties and enhancing overall performance assurance. Recent experiences highlight an urgent need for improved, integrated cross-code action, as current processes are often disjointed. This initiative will define agreed procedures for: identifying interdependencies, principles-led data sharing, structured escalation of major service incidents, coordinated sanctions, and aligning initiatives with Parties' peak periods. The scope is limited to performance assurance activities. Integrated workshops with all four codes are planned for December 2025 and January 2026, with interim recommendations presented to the PAB in January 2026. The PAB is asked to approve this scope and plan to significantly enhance market performance assurance.

1 PURPOSE

In this paper, the Code Manager presents for PAB approval the scope and plan the deep dive on Better Cross-Code Integration across REC, Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC), Smart Energy Code (SEC) and Uniform Network Code (UNC). The objective is to establish more effective mechanisms for collaboration across energy codes, particularly in the context of managing underperforming Parties and enhancing overall performance assurance.

2 INTENDED OUTCOME

Recent experiences, particularly with managing a specific Party's performance earlier in 2025, highlighted an urgent need for improved cross-code collaboration and integrated Code Manager action. We currently lack robust, high-quality information regarding the effectiveness of existing cross-code processes. This deep dive aims to identify and resolve these critical issues, leading to more coordinated, efficient, and impactful performance assurance outcomes across the energy market.

3 ROLE OF THE PAB

As the committee responsible for Performance Assurance under the REC, PAB members are asked to review, challenge and approve the scope and delivery plan for this activity.

4 PROPOSED SCOPE

The work undertaken as part of this deep dive will define an approach and agreed process for the following key areas:

4.1 PROCESS FOR IDENTIFYING INTERDEPENDENCIES

Defining a robust process for identifying interdependencies between code requirements and performance assurance activities. The focus will be on setting up a clear structure and mobilisation mechanism to proactively address known and emerging risk areas.

4.2 DATA SHARING

Developing a principles-led, single document outlining an approach for data sharing that can be approved by the respective committees and implemented consistently across all participating codes. This will enable transparency, consistency, and efficiency in information exchange.

4.3 ESCALATION OF MAJOR SERVICE INCIDENTS

Creating a structured approach for the escalation and identification of major service issues that impact multiple Codes. The Major Switching Incident, which affected both UNC and BSC, underscored the absence of an agreed approach for mobilisation in such scenarios.

4.4 COORDINATED EFFORTS FOR SANCTIONS

Developing a clear process for coordinating serious sanctions with a unified approach across Codes. This aims to prevent disjointed actions, such as those observed with a Supplier subject to sanctions by multiple Codes earlier in the year, by establishing a simple mechanism for senior leadership across the relevant Codes to agree on a joint plan.

4.5 COORDINATING INITIATIVES WHILST CONSIDERING PEAK PERIODS FOR PARTIES

Establishing an integrated view of key timelines, peak periods, and Performance Assurance Operating Plans (PAOPs) across codes. This will enable us to understand, consider, and where possible, plan around peak demand on Parties, reducing operational burden and improving compliance.

5 SCOPE BOUNDARY

For this work, the scope is strictly limited to **performance assurance activity only**. Broader market design and Code Change processes are explicitly out of scope. However, where opportunities are

identified, either through this work or operation of mechanisms implemented as a result of this deep dive, those will be handed over to the relevant functions of the respective Codes.

This initiative will actively engage representatives from the REC, BSC, SEC, and UNC. We have consulted with Distribution Connection and Use of System Agreement (DCUSA), and they have confirmed that they do not operate a performance assurance function akin to the other Codes and are therefore unable to engage directly with this specific initiative.

5.1 DEPENDENCIES

We note Code legal text is currently under review to establish mechanisms to share performance data to improve cross-Code outcomes.

6 PROPOSED PLAN AND TIMELINE

To progress this critical work, we propose the following plan:

Activity	Timeline
Integrated Workshops We will convene a series of five integrated workshops involving representatives from REC, BSC, SEC, and UNC during December 2025 and January 2026. At each session, we will discuss and develop the approach and process for one of the five scope areas identified in Section 4 above.	1 session per week between 01 December 2025 and 16 January 2026
Interim Recommendations for PAB Approval The aim is to synthesise the outcomes of these workshops and present interim recommendations to the PAB.	Paper day: 20 January 2026 Meeting: 27 January 2026
Final Report to Industry For transparency, we will publish the output from this work in a report to the industry.	28 February 2026

PAB DECISION

We believe this focused deep dive, with the PAB's endorsement, will significantly enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of performance assurance across the energy market. Therefore, the Code Manager recommends PAB to:

- **APPROVE** the proposed scope and plan for the deep dive on Better Cross Code Integration.