RETAIL ENERGY CODE

This document is classified as **WHITE**.
Information is for public, unrestricted dissemination and publication.

01	Initial Assessment Report
02	Preliminary Change Report
03	Final Change Report

INITIAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

R0040 - CSS SWITCH SYNCHRONISATION TO ERDA AT SECUREDACTIVE

DOCUMENT VERSION	1.0
DATE ISSUED	08/09/2022
DOCUMENT APPROVAL STATUS	APPROVED

RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE	CHANGE PANEL	CHANGE PATH	SELF-GOVERNANCE
PRIORITY STATUS	MEDIUM	URGENCY	STANDARD

DEADLINE FOR ALTERNATIVE CHANGE PROPOSALS	TBD

LEAD CHANGE ANALYST



Harriet Truss

Click to send an email

020 39348744

CHANGE OVERVIEW

This change seeks to remove the Metering Point Registration System (MPRS) from the Objection/Withdrawal Process to resolve sequence and timing issues in MPRS that are impacting the switching process. This will ensure Registration Status are accurately maintained in MPRS and agent appointment messages are only sent once a Switch has been secured by the Central Switching Service.

	High Impact: N/A
	Medium Impact: Energy Suppliers, ERDS Providers, CSS Provider, All REC Parties
	Low Impact: N/A

1 BACKGROUND

On 18 July 2022, the new switching arrangements for the retail energy market went live. The Proposer identified an issue during transition regarding out of sequence Central Switching Service (CSS) messages being received into MPRS from the CSS.

MPRS provides a master database of Metering Point and Registration Data for the electricity market. This is the software component for the Electricity Retail Data Service (ERDS), Metering Point Administration Service (MPAS) and Supplier Meter Registration Service (SMRS). Distribution Network Operators, in accordance with the requirements of Electricity Distribution Standard Licence Condition 18, are the ERDS Provider and are responsible for the maintenance and development of MPRS.

Currently MPRS is informed of an Initial Registration or Switch Request at the Registration Life Cycle Status of Pending. It can then continue to receive other messages relating to cancellations and reattempts of the Switch up to the point of the Switch being secured. This can result in sequence and timing issues in MPRS, due to the choreography of the different systems involved in switching. Consequently, the Switch status that is captured in MPRS may not reflect the actual Switch status held in CSS. This may mean that MPRS triggers agent appointment messages at the wrong time. The ERDS Provider is currently operating workarounds to help ensure that these appointment messages are only being sent at the appropriate time to avoid disruption to in-flight Switches.

The Proposer has put forward a solution which seeks to remove MPRS from the Objection/Withdrawal Process, so that agent appointment messages are only sent once a Switch has been confirmed via the Secured Active message from CSS. The Proposer's solution has been updated since initially raised, to reflect the confirmation of a dependency in the Market-Wide Half Hourly Settlement (MHHS) Programme on the Pending message. The Proposer's updated solution maintains the receipt of the initial Pending message, however it looks to remove MPRS as a recipient of any subsequent CSS messages. It also looks to remove the Secured Inactive message sent at gate closure. The Proposer considers that these messages are not required to fulfil MPRS processes. The solution has been designed to reflect the enduring MHHS Design, where Supplier Agents (which will be known as Services) will not be appointed until a Registration is secured. The latest version of the Proposer's solution can be found here on the Change Proposal Page.

This change has been considered in the context of other proposed CSS changes relating to message sequencing, handed over to the Code Manager from the Switching Programme. The Code Manager has determined that this change needs to progress independently of those changes and is now progressing the validation of the solution and developing the full REC requirements with key stakeholders.

2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

Due to the high volume and timing of Registration messages being sent by the CSS, some messages are at risk of being received by REC Parties and Service Providers out of sequence. When messages have been received out of sequence, there is a risk that the information maintained in MPRS, including Registration Status, will be incorrect and will not match that held

in the Registration Service. This in turn means MPRS updates to Parties could be triggered in error.

3 USER STORIES

REF.	USER STORIES
CONSUMER USER STORIES	
C1	As a Consumer I want the Switch process to work effectively so that I can switch Electricity Supplier without delay or issues
C2	As a Consumer I want the Switch process to work effectively so that if my Switch needs to be cancelled it is done so without delay or issues
MARKET PARTICIPANT USER STORIES	
M1	As an Energy Supplier I want the Switch systems and process to operate effectively so that appointment Market Messages will be sent to my agents at the appropriate time so that there is no disruption to the Consumer switching experience
M2	As the ERDS Provider I only want to receive the first Pending message and then the Secured Active confirmation message, in order that there is no risk of processing CSS messages out of sequence which could impact a timely Switch for electricity Consumers
M3	As the CSS Provider I want the messages I send to MPRS to be processed effectively so that there is no disruption to the Switch process and Consumers' Switches can be confirmed or cancelled as required

4 IMPACTS

CONSUMERS
Electricity

REC SERVICE PROVIDERS
ERDS Provider
CSS Provider
EES Provider

RECCO / REC CODE MANAGER
REC Code Manager – Performance Assurance

REC PARTIES AND SERVICE USERS
All REC Parties
Energy Suppliers
CSS Users

REC DOCUMENTS / PRODUCTS
Schedule 23 - Registration Services
Schedule 25 – Central Switching Service
Data Specification:

EES Users	D0217 (MM00120) Confirmation of the Registration of a Metering Point D0209 (MM00109) Instruction(s) to NHH/HHDA
	CSS Messages: registrationPendingSynchronisation registrationSecuredActiveSynchronisation registrationCancelledSynchronisation registrationSecuredInactiveSynchronisation

Energy Suppliers, and their appointed agents, are expected to be impacted by this change as recipients of the Market Messages they receive from MPRS following a Switch being initiated. Due to the central role of both MPRS and CSS, the Code Manager has identified that all REC Parties, the REC Enquiry Service Users and other CSS Users, need to be considered during progression of this change.

Amendments are expected to be required to the process and interface tables specified within Schedule 23 - Registration Services. Schedule 25 - Central Switching Service is also expected be impacted.

Although this change is primarily focussed on MPRS, the changes required to CSS could also have an impact on the Gas Retail Data Service (GRDS). This will be considered as the solution is developed.

Initial assessment of this change has identified that there may be impacts to the Performance Assurance Framework (PAF) and other related processes depending on the solution developed. Objections are currently monitored therefore any changes to the process may impact the PAF. There may also be impacts on the Performance Assurance Report Catalogue (PARC) if the developed solution requires any changes to the data that is monitored and assessed.

The Data Specification may require amendments to adjust the Scenario Variants for the Market Messages impacted by this change. No amendments are expected to the structure or validation rules for them.

The original solution put forward by the Proposer sought to remove the Pending message for MPRS. This could have had impacts on the Electricity Enquiry Service (EES). The complete removal of the Pending message is no longer part of the solution, however solution analysis and development and impact assessments will need to consider whether EES reporting is impacted by the removal of the subsequent CSS messages after the first Pending message.

5 CROSS CODE IMPACTS

When first raised, the proposed solution directly conflicted with the proposed MHHS Design, which has a dependency on the availability of Pending status in MPRS. The Proposer revised their solution following discussions between the Proposer, RECCo and the MHHS Programme.

Engagement with the MHHS Programme will be ongoing during the development of the solution and the Code Manager aims to progress the Change Proposal so that, where possible, it can inform the MHHS Design baseline at the end of October 2022.

6 CHANGE PATH AND RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE

CHANGE PATH	SELF-GOVERNANCE	RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE	CHANGE PANEL

This Change Proposal impacts multiple REC documents so we propose that the Responsible Committee for this Change Proposal should be the RECCP.

7 PRIORITY STATUS AND URGENCY

Significance	Score	Weighting
Legal/Regulatory Compliance	1	30
Strategic Direction	2	20
Cost Benefits / Value	0	10
Consumer Impacts	1	30
Operational Efficiency	2	10
Weighted Significance Score		1.2

Weighted Significance Score	1
Urgency	2
Overall Priority Score	12

Effort	1 - Moderate

Urgency

3	N/A	13	23	33
2	02	12	22	32
1	01	11	21	31
0	00	10	20	N/A
	0	1	2	3

Significance

Priority Score	Priority Status
23 - 33	Critical
13 or 22	High
11-12 20-21	Medium
00 - 10	Low

PRIORITY STATUS	URGENT/ STANDARD
MEDIUM	STANDARD

The Priority Status for this Change Proposal is 'Medium' based on a 'Significance' score of 1 and an 'Urgency' score of 2. This is broken down as below:

Significance:

- Legal/Regulatory Compliance – score of 1 to reflect a minor impact to REC's ability to provide the Switching Service
- Strategic Direction – score of 2 to reflect a moderate impact on the success of the new Switching arrangements.
- Consumer Impacts – score of 1 to reflect the minor impact on Consumers by removing the risk of a delay or disruption to their Switch in the scenario where out of sequence messaging results in manual workarounds needing to be applied in ERDS.
- Operational Efficiency – score of 2 to reflect a moderate improvement to the efficiency of the MPRS by removing the instances of CSS messages being processed out of sync and then requiring manual workarounds by the ERDS Provider.

Urgency:

- This Change Proposal has been given an urgency score of 2 to reflect the requirement for this change to be progressed as soon as possible so that the solution and impacts

can inform the MHHS Programme design ahead of baselining at the end of October 2022.

8 SUMMARY OF CHANGE PROPOSAL PLAN

The Change Proposal Plan developed at the time of this Initial Assessment Report details the plan for analysis and development of the solution requirements.

In order to develop this Change Proposal Plan further it is necessary to consult with Service Providers during solution development to understand the required timescales to progress impact assessments.

	FROM	TO
SOLUTION ANALYSIS AND DEVELOPMENT	01/09/2022	31/10/2022
CHANGE PROPOSAL PLAN PRESENTED TO CHANGE PANEL FOR RE-BASELINING	01/11/2022	01/11/2022

9 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.
Consumer	means any person supplied (or seeking a supply) of Energy at an RMP (whether or not that person also exports or is seeking to export electricity at an RMP).
CSS Provider	means the DCC when performing functions under or in relation to this Code (but always excluding its functions under the Smart Energy Code and its roles as CSS Systems Integrator, SI Provider and Switching Operator), including in respect of the Central Switching Service and including in effecting the design, build and testing of any System that will allow it to perform functions under this Code after the CSS Go-Live Date. This role is the CSS Procurer and Manager function as described in the E2E Data Migration Plan, E2E Integration Plan, E2E Post Implementation Plan, E2E Testing Plan, E2E Transition Plan: Implementation Approach and E2E Transition Plan: In-Flight Switches Approach.
Distribution Network Operator (DNO)	means a person holding an Electricity Distribution Licence.
Electricity Enquiry Service (EES)	means the service described as such in the EES Service Definition.
EES Provider	means the provider of the Electricity Enquiry Service.

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 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.
Market-wide Half Hourly Settlement (MHHS)	MHHS term: Market-wide Half Hourly Settlement will utilise the ability of smart meters to record a customer's usage during each half hour period to move domestic and small non-domestic customers to half-hourly settlement. Medium and larger non-domestic consumers have been settled half-hourly since BSC modification P272.
Metering Point	has the meaning given to it in the Electricity Distribution Licence, which for the time being means: "the point, determined according to the principles and guidance given in the MRA Transition Schedule to the Retail Energy Code, at which a supply of electricity taken into or conveyed from the licensee's Distribution System: (a) is or is intended to be measured; or (b) where Metering Equipment has been removed, was or was intended to be measured; or (c) in the case of an Unmetered Supply, is treated as measured."
Metering Point Administration Service (MPAS)	means the service of that name which each DNO is required to provide under its Electricity Distribution Licence.
Metering Point Registration System (MPRS)	means the System used or procured by each DNO in order to provide the Electricity Retail Data Service in accordance with the REC and / or the Supplier Meter Registration Service in accordance with the BSC.
Pending	means the Registration Status as described in Paragraph 1.4 of the Registration Services Schedule.
Performance Assurance Framework (PAF)	means the Performance Assurance Schedule and the documents, processes and arrangements established pursuant to the Performance Assurance Schedule, for the purposes of (or in relation to) the monitoring and assurance of roles and obligations undertaken by REC Service Users and REC Service Providers pursuant to this Code.
Registration	means the record in the Central Switching Service for each RMP identifying each Energy Supplier which is registered in respect of that RMP, and the Registration Status of each such registration.
Registration Service	means the component of the Central Switching Service which records Switching Operation Data and manages Switches, as further described in the Switching Data Management Schedule and the Registration Services Schedule.
Registration Status	means the status which identifies the relationship between an RMP and an Energy Supplier at, or in respect of, a particular period of time, being one of:

	Pending, Confirmed, Cancelled, Secured Active, Active, Secured Inactive or Inactive.
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
Switch Request	means a request from a Gaining Supplier to initiate a Switch.
Switching Programme	means the programme established by the Authority to implement new switching arrangements in retail energy markets.