RETAIL ENERGY CODE

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

FINAL CHANGE REPORT

R1064 – REMOVING THE ENUMERATIONS FROM COMMUNICATIONS METHOD DATA ITEM (J0386) TO ALIGN WITH BSC CP 1594

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

DEADLINE FOR ALTERNATIVE CHANGE PROPOSALS	23/05/2024

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CHANGE OVERVIEW

This Change has been raised to accommodate a Balancing & Settlement Code (BSC) led change. The BSC change proposes to create a central register of permissible enumerations for the Communication Method Data Item ((DI50178) (J0386)), and this Change therefore seeks to update that Data Item appropriately to reflect the BSC modification.

	High Impact: N/A
	Medium Impact: N/A
	Low Impact: Suppliers Distribution Network Operators Metering Equipment Managers NHH and HH Data Collectors

RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE DECISION

On 02 July 2024, the Change Panel voted to **APPROVE** R0164 for implementation on 23 August 2024.

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BACKGROUND

1 BACKGROUND

This change has been raised to align with BSC change proposal (CP) CP1594. The DI50178 (J0386) Data Item, Communication Method, captures the means by which remote communication with an Outstation may be achieved. The DI50178 (J0386) enumeration list shows all permissible communication methods, where the addition or removal of a communication method would require a change to the Data Specification to modify the enumeration list. The DI50178 (J0386) Data Item is currently found in the following Market Messages: MM00042 (D0142), MM00051 (D0150), MM00156 (D0268), and MM00260 (D0313).

The enumerations of the DI50178 (J0386) Data Item feature communication methods are increasingly out-of-date within the industry, such as the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN – DI50178 (J0386) Enumeration “PS”) and Circuit Switched Data (CSD - DI50178 (J0386) Enumeration “CS”). The BSC are proposing the creation of an approvals process for permissible communication methods, in order to ensure:

- Outdated communication methods can be captured and removed;
- Centralised management of communication methods by one industry party, i.e. the BSC;
- Expansion of the list to incorporate new communication methods including 4G and 5G mobile communications; and
- Transparency for industry participants on the current communication methods.

The BSC will require a change within the REC to ensure that the relevant Data Item within the Code is updated to reflect the changes within the BSC. This change therefore seeks to ensure that there is parity between the REC and the BSC, and to update the Data Specification appropriately. The BSC CP proposes that the DI50178 (J0386) enumeration list is removed, and replaced with a reference to the new, dynamically maintained BSC list.

2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

The BSC are making changes to how permissible Outstation communication methods are captured and recorded within the industry. In order to align with these BSC led changes, the REC Data Specification must be reviewed in order to update the affected Data Item – DI50178 (J0386).

3 USER STORIES

REF.	USER STORIES
CONSUMER USER STORIES	
C1	N/A – Consumer Impact Negligible

REF.	USER STORIES
MARKET PARTICIPANT USER STORIES	
M1	As a Supplier/DNO/MEM, I want to ensure that Market Messages I send or receive to contain up-to-date, accurate data, so that I am able to effectively engage with the wider industry.
M2	As a non-REC Party Service User I want to ensure that Market Messages I send or receive contain up-to-date, accurate data, so that I am able to effectively engage with the wider industry.

PROPOSAL

4 SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS UNDERTAKEN

This Change proposal was raised with a fully formed solution. As this is a cross-code Change, the solution has been designed in such a way as to align the REC with BSC as a result of modifications found within the BSC CP1594 solution.

5 PROPOSED SOLUTION

The proposed solution for this change aligns the Data Specification with the changes being implemented in the BSC.

The Data Item DI50178 provides information to users about with information on the means by which remote communication can be used to communicate with Outstations. The Data item is a simple reference table containing two fields, Enumeration Value and Enumeration description.

Value	Description
3G	3rd Generation Mobile Telephony Standard
CD	Caller Display or Caller Line Identifier modem on PSTN
CS	Circuit Switched Data (CSD)
GF	GSM Fax
GP	General Packet Radio Service (GPRS)
GS	Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM)
GV	GSM Voice comms
HP	Permanent Hand Held Reads
HT	Temporary Hand Held Reads

Value	Description
HY	Hybrid
IP	Internet Protocol
IS	ISDN Link
MS	Mains Signaling
PK	Paknet
PN	Private Networks
PS	PSTN
SM	SMS (Short Message Service, e.g. text message)

The proposed solution will remove all enumerations for DI50178 and replace them with an additional note, within the Data Item Notes, stating 'Permissible Communication Methods are defined during the Compliance and Protocol Approval process operated by BSCCo which outlines the valid set of data items available.

For the avoidance of doubt, DI50178 will still be an enumerated Data Item, however, the enumerations will be held under the BSC, rather than within the REC Data Specification.

6 DRAFT LEGAL TEXT

The legal text changes to deliver the proposed solution to R0164 can be found here.

7 SUMMARY OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT ACTIVITY

7.1 SERVICE PROVIDER IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

The Code Manager did not conduct a Service Provider Impact Assessment as there is no identifiable impact to any REC Service Providers.

7.2 REC PARTY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

The Code Manager conducted a REC Party Impact Assessment between 25 April 2024 and 17 May 2024. In total, the Code Manage received three responses: two from Metering Equipment Managers, and one from a Data Collector (DC). The responses are summarised below.

Metering Equipment Manager	• Both MEM respondents raised questions surrounding how the valid data set will be managed under the BSC. As management of the data set is proposed to fall under the scope of BSC activities, rather than the REC, these questions are outside the scope of R0164. The Code Manager is facilitating conversations between the respondents and the BSC; these conversations are ongoing at the time of publication.

	• The Code Manager addressed concerns about the immediate impact of the REC Change and confirmed that there are no plans to change the valid data set as part of the release of either the REC or BSC Change. Additionally, no end dates are planned for current valid communication methods until 2025.
Data Collector	• As above – The questions raised by the DC respondent were similar to the MEM questions and can therefore be answered with the above statements.

8 DELIVERY AGAINST CHANGE PROPOSAL PLAN

Delivery of this Change has so far been done in line with the Change Proposal Plan.

The Change Proposal Plan can be found here.

9 KEY RISKS, ASSUMPTIONS, ISSUES AND DEPENDENCIES

No.	DEPENDENCY	NOTES	STATUS
R0164.CPP.D001	This is a cross-code Change, and therefore implementation of this Change is contingent on the approval of the corresponding BSC Modification.	The Code Manager will reflect BSC developments as they occur in future Change Reports and using its communication channels, as appropriate.	Resoled – BSC CP 1594 was approved on 07 May 2024.

10 PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE AND APPROACH

PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION DATE	23/08/2024	**PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH**	BIG BANG

The Code Manager is proposing that this Change is released during the extraordinary August 2024 release. The BSC Change was approved in May and is Scheduled for a June 2024 release. As such, the Code Manager is keen that the REC Change is released as soon as possible following the BSC Change in order to ensure that there is parity on this process across industry codes.

11 SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES

A consultation was circulated on 23 May 2024 to obtain views on the Preliminary Change Report (found here). In total 1 response was received from an Energy Supplier. The response has been consolidated and comments provided by the Code Manager. This can be found here.

The key themes from the response have been summarised and set out below.

11.1 SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

11.1.1 COMMENTS ON THE SOLUTION AND LEGAL TEXT

The respondent agreed that the proposed solution would resolve the problem statement.

11.1.2 BENEFITS RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATIONAL COSTS

The respondent reported that the proposed solution will prevent confusion as it aligns REC processes with the BSC following the approval of BSC CP 1594.

11.1.3 CASE FOR CHANGE AND CODE MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

The respondent agreed that the proposed solution constitutes a positive case for change.

11.1.4 IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH AND DATE

The respondent agreed with the Code Manager's implementation approach and date.

12 SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS MADE FOLLOWING CONSULTATION

No changes were made to the proposed solution following Consultation.

13 BUSINESS CASE ASSESSMENT

13.1 COSTS

No central system costs have been identified as being required for the implementation of the proposed solution. Some REC Parties who responded to the Impact Assessment reported that they would not expect significant costs to be associated with the release of this Change Proposal. One respondent identified that they would expect costs to be associated with the end dating of some communication methods, but this falls outside the scope of this Change.

13.2 BENEFITS

INTANGIBLE BENEFITS	BENEFITS DESCRIPTION
Legal & Regulatory Compliance	The proposed solution will ensure that regulatory processes are aligned with, both cross-code, and across the wider market.
Alignment with REC Objectives	This change represents greater efficiency for REC central systems and communications structures by removing outdated communication types from REC market messages.

13.3 COST BENEFIT ANALYIS SUMMARY

As this Change has a clear intangible benefits case, and there are no costs associated with implementation, the Code Manager feels that this Change meets the cost-benefit test.

14 CASE FOR CHANGE

14.1 SELF GOVERNANCE

The Code Manager considers that there is a case for change to implement this solution, on the basis that it:

- Is both viable and implementable, and it appropriately resolves the problem statement; and
- Is cost effective and proportionate to the anticipated benefit.

15 RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE DECISION

This report was discussed at the REC Change Panel meeting on 02 July 2024.

The REC Change Panel voted to:

- **APPROVE** the proposed change solution;
- **APPROVE** the proposed implementation approach; and
- **APPROVE** the proposed implementation date of 23 August 2024.

16 APPENDIX

CHANGE PROPOSAL	Link
LEGAL DRAFTING	Link
CONSOLIDATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT RESPONSES	Link
CONSOLIDATED CONSULTATION RESPONSES	Link
RELATED CHANGE(S)	Link

17 GLOSSARY

TERM	DEFINITION
Balancing & Settlement Code (BSC)	Means the Balancing and Settlement Code, as defined in the Electricity Supply Licences.
Data Collector	means the person Appointed by an Electricity Supplier to collect and process meter readings for an RMP as further described in the Balancing and Settlement Code.
Data Item	Means the most granular level of data Defining a specific attribute in respect of A data type, the permissible values for which Are defined and controlled in the data item Catalogue.
Data Item Enumerations	Means permitted values associated with Specific data items.
Data Specification	Means the document of that name forming part of the Technical Specification.
Distribution Network Operator	Means a person holding an Electricity Distribution licence.
Electricity Supplier	Means a person holding an Electricity Supply Licence.
Metering Equipment Manager	Means, as applicable, either: (a) for Electricity, the 'Meter Operator Agent' (as Defined in the BSC) appointed by an Electricity Supplier; or (b) for gas, the 'Meter Asset Manager' (as defined in the UNC) Appointed by the Gas Supplier.
Outstation	Defined in the BSC as “means equipment which receives and stores data from a meter(s) for the purpose, inter alia, of transfer of that metering data to the CDCA or a data collector, as the case may be, and which may perform some processing before such transfer and may be one or more separate units or may be integral with the meter.
Virtual Lead Party	Has meaning given to it under the BSC.