RETAIL ENERGY CODE

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REC METERING EXPERT PANEL
MEETING MINUTES

MEETING	**RECMEP_26_1111**
DATE	**11 November 2026, 10:00**
LOCATION	**By teleconference**

Attendee	Representing	Initials	Role
Steve Brand	Code Manager	SB	Committee Chair
Edma Hyskaj	Code Manager	EH	Secretariat
Glenn Sheern	Code Manager	GS	Head of Regulatory Specialists
Caroline Freimuller	Code Manager	CF	REC Change Subject Matter Expert
Lydia Bentley	Code Manager	LB	Senior Change Analyst
Rebecca Griffiths	RECCo	RG	Metering Services Delivery Manager
Martin Brailsford	Meter Operator Agent	MB	Committee Member
Dean Berry	Meter Asset Manager	DB	Committee Member
Richard Hill	Supplier Representative	RH	Committee Member
Warren Lacey	Distribution Network Operator	WL	Committee Member
Tom Stuart	Gas Transporter	TS	Alternate Committee Member
Maitri Perera	REC Technical Services	MP	Senior Consultant
Scott McPhillimy	Ofgem	SMc	Observer

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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 14 October 2026. Members were informed of the two comments received after the meeting regarding Section 5 in the minutes. The Code Manager Draft Minutes were amended and reuploaded as V1.1. No comments were received following amendments, and the Draft Minutes were approved as final by the Members.

3. REVIEW OF ACTION LOG

There were no outstanding actions ahead of the meeting.

4. R0306 – REC CHANGE TO ALIGN WITH DCP467 ASSET CONDITION REPORTING

RECMEP Members were updated on 'R0306 – REC Change to Align with DCP467 Asset Condition Reporting'.

CF reminded the Panel that DCUSA change DCP467 - Online reporting tools for Category A and B defects proposes that Category A and B defects should be reported through an online reporting tool where the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) has one. These defects are currently reported by phone or by Market Message. The change has consequential impacts to the REC, because the Service Termination Issue Reporting (STIR) and the notes in both affected Market Messages would need updating, and these are owned by REC rather than DCUSA.

CF explained that in July 2026 an update to plan had moved the REC final vote from July 2026 to November 2026, because the DCUSA working group was still developing the solution. That work is not yet finished, and the working group last met the previous week. DCUSA is now completing the draft legal text, which will then require legal review by Gowlings. DCUSA hopes to take their change to the December 2026 DCUSA Panel to open the voting window. However, if Gowlings suggests major changes, the working group will need to meet again, so December 2026 is not a fixed date. Rather than bringing repeated updates to plan with estimated dates, the Code Manager proposed putting R0306 on hold until the DCUSA solution is final. The change would then come off hold, the REC solution would be checked against the final DCUSA solution, and the change would go through the rest of the REC change process.

It was confirmed that work on the change would continue during the hold, including attending the DCUSA working groups and identifying all REC impacts. CF stated the change could come off hold as early as January 2027, but this is not confirmed because it depends on DCUSA's progress.

RH supported putting the change on hold. RH noted that the STIR still contains more "DB" references that need changing to "DNO" and offered to share what was found. CF confirmed

that the STIR is a Category 3 document, so it can be corrected quickly outside this change. When R0306 comes off hold, its changes will be made to the latest approved baseline version of the STIR.

RECMEP **NOTED** the update and in line with the recommendation from the Code Manager unanimously:

- **APPROVED** the Update to Plan, placing the Change Proposal on hold.

5. R0339 – REC CHANGE TO ALIGN WITH BSC CP1646 – CLARIFY SUPPLIER OBLIGATIONS FOR IF-002 MESSAGES WHERE A SWITCH IS CANCELLED

RECMEP Members were provided an update on 'R0339 – REC Change to align with BSC CP1646 – Clarify Supplier obligations for IF-002 Messages where a Switch is cancelled'.

LB explained that this is a consequential REC Change to BSC CP1646 Clarifying Supplier actions following receipt of IF/PUB-002 messages for cancelled registration switch requests. The changes have been raised due to unclear wording in BSCP709 – Supplier Requirements for MHHS Metering Systems, and REC Schedule 14 – Metering Operations, has led Energy Suppliers to interpret this obligation incorrectly, resulting in the generation of tens to hundreds of unnecessary error Messages each day. The proposed solution amends Schedule 14, sections 22.6.1 and 22.9.1, to make clear that no action is needed when an IF-002 'Notification to New Supplier of Site Information' Message is received for a cancelled Switch. This would therefore align the REC with the BSC.

It was noted that CP1646 was implemented on 05 November 2026. The REC Change could not meet the November 2026 release because its consultation closed on 07 October 2026. Since the Change adds no new validation, processing or market interactions, an extraordinary release was not considered proportionate, and, subject to approval by the RECMEP, proposed an implementation date of 26 February 2027.

LB explained that there are no central system or REC Party costs associated with R0339. LB explained that the Code Manager has determined that the benefits are clearer guidance for Energy Suppliers and consistent obligations across both codes for Energy Suppliers handling an IF-002 Message where there has been a Switch Request that has been Cancelled. A consultation was issued on 16 September 2026 until 07 October 2026. Two consultation responses were received, from one Energy Supplier and one Distribution Network Operator. Both respondents supported the solution, the implementation approach of big bang and the proposed implementation date of 26 February 2027. Both respondents agreed with the Code Manager's assessment of the costs and benefits of the proposed solution, with one respondent further noting that the proposed solution should prevent the generation of large amounts of unnecessary exception messages where no corrective action is required. The respondent estimated that the implementation of R0339 would prevent the receipt of 100 to 200 unnecessary exception Messages a day.

RECMEP **NOTED** the update and in line with the recommendation from the Code Manager unanimously:

- **APPROVED** the proposed solution;
- **APPROVED** the proposed implementation date of 26 February 2027; and
- **APPROVED** the proposed implementation approach of big bang.

6. R0252 – INCREASING FREQUENCY OF ANNUAL PORTFOLIO RECONCILIATION EXERCISE TO SUPPORT DATA CLEANSE

RECMEP Members were provided with an update on the 'R0252 – Increasing frequency of Annual portfolio reconciliation exercise to support Data Cleanse'.

LB presented R0252, a self-governance Change raised through the REC Issues Group by REC Performance Assurance. At present, Meter Asset Managers (MAMs) send a snapshot of their gas metering asset data to the Central Data Service Provider (CDSP) once a year, in April. CDSP then identifies mismatches for the MAMs and the REC Performance Assurance Board (PAB) to resolve, which takes 75 working days. Because of this long turnaround, the data can change between submission and reconciliation. The proposed solution increases the frequency of the exercise to twice a year (October in addition to April), cuts the turnaround to 40 working days and introduces a new performance assurance approach. LB told members that CDSP had explained in their Impact Assessment the main barrier to a faster turnaround is chasing incomplete data submissions, not processing capacity. The new Performance Assurance approach adds no new code obligations: MAMs keep their 15 working days to submit, but the REC Code Manager and REC Performance Assurance will engage more closely to address non-compliance. The legal text amends Schedule 14 (removing the "annual" reference and adding both dates), the CDSP Further Services Service Definition (reducing the turnaround to 40 working days and adding the October date) and, as a consequential change, the Performance Assurance Report Catalogue.

LB gave an overview of engagement with industry to date. A presentation at the Association of Meter Operators received little feedback. In respect of the Party Impact Assessment, there were two responses; both Suppliers. Both Suppliers who responded to the impact assessment supported the solution, but no MAMs responded. LB also gave an overview of Impact Assessments conducted with the CDSP and with Code Manager to establish the costs associated with delivering the Reconciliation and the Performance Assurance solution respectively. These costs come from the CDSP running the exercise twice and from the new performance assurance activity, with an upfront cost. The Code Manager identified intangible benefits: fewer gas data mismatches, fewer resulting switching and billing issues for consumers, and greater confidence in data accuracy. For this reason, the Code Manager proposed a retrospective review in 2028 to check whether the benefits justify the cost. This review will also be subject to consultation. A 10-working day consultation closes on 25 November 2026, a late paper follows on 26 November 2026, and the REC Change Panel decision is due on 01 December 2026. This timing allows the change to apply to the April 2027 reconciliation.

TS asked what would oblige MAMs to submit data in October. Concerns were also raised that an inefficient process could leave CDSP almost constantly reconciling data. LB explained that the Schedule 14 obligation will now cover both April and October. The new performance assurance approach should make the process more efficient, and the planned review would show whether it is working. MB asked about operational costs. It was confirmed that CDSP

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expects no extra cost from the faster turnaround. The additional cost of around £15,000 to £17,000 a year will roughly double because the exercise will run twice.

LB also encouraged attendees to promote the consultation to MAMs. MB agreed to send a message to Metering UK members, and DB also offered to share it.

RECMEP **NOTED** the proposed solution and implementation date of February 2027 and big-bang approach and in line with the recommendation from the Code Manager unanimously:

- **APPROVED** the Change to proceed to Consultation.

7. MPD2026_28 – ADD 1 METER PRODUCT

RECMEP Members were presented with a change request for 'MPD2026_28 – Add 1 Meter Product'.

MP asked the Panel to approve one meter product change for the November 2026 release. The person who raised the change found that an existing meter product is recorded with meter type "S". That was the only option available when the meter was first introduced, but the classification was now causing problems for a new customer. The change adds the same meter with the correct meter type, "M".

The Code Manager validated all the relevant fields and had no comments. The change was expected to be implemented by 25 November 2026.

RECMEP **APPROVED** the change.

8. METERING EXPERT PANEL CLOSURE REPORT

RECMEP Members were informed on the key statistics/highlights of the Metering Expert Panel. GS presented the closure report for the MEP, as this was the final meeting. It was explained that the report had not yet been issued because it would be updated after the meeting. Once signed off, it was due to be published with the papers in five days' time. The report reflected on the MEP's work since it was set up at the start of the REC in 2021. Over that time, the MEP had been responsible for change proposals, Category 3 product reviews and the meter product tables. GS reported that the MEP had progressed 25 change proposals and change reports and six Category 3 changes and had held 59 meetings. On behalf of the Code Manager, GS thanked all MEP members and alternates, both Chairs, the Secretariat, party representatives and subject matter experts.

RECMEP **NOTED** the update.

9. METERING HUB UPDATE

RECMEP Members were asked for updates on the Metering Hub.

Metering UK reported that a Current Transformer (CT) switch safety bulletin had been drafted and was waiting for internal approval. The alleged issue bulletin was still at an early stage.

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Because of a freeze, nothing could be uploaded to the Metering Hub until go-live, after which the CT switch bulletin would be uploaded as normal.

RG provided insights into recent engagement with the Metering Hub. The Consolidated Metering Code of Practice (CoMCoP) Mark materials had been downloaded 95 times by the end of October 2026, and the CoMCoP Mark page was the second most visited, behind only the DNO information downloads. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) use had also been high. The DSP had gone live successfully, and the Smart Metering Implementation Programme (SMIP) product issue and incident resolution guidance from DESNZ was ready for go-live. Self-upload with internal moderation was being considered as a future option.

The Chair reminded the Panel that the annual review of the bulletins on the Metering Hub was approaching. Metering UK would be asked to confirm the three bulletins currently published.

RECMEP **NOTED** the update.

10. AOB

Forthcoming Operational Metering Forum

RECMEP Members were informed of the upcoming Electricity Operational Metering Forum on 11 November 2026. Although the MEP had now closed, the Gas Operational Metering Forum would still meet in December 2026, and the new forum format would begin in 2027.

The Chair thanked everyone involved in the MEP, including the Secretariat and the Code Manager teams. The Chair also stressed that continued industry input would remain essential under the new arrangements.

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