

CP Consultation

CP1579 'Allowing HHDCs to undergo Protocol Approval before completing Qualification'

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About This Document



Not sure where to start? We suggest reading the following sections:

- Have 5 mins? Read section 1
- Have 15 mins? Read sections 1, 4, 5 and 6
- Have 30 mins? Read all sections
- Have longer? Read all sections and the annexes and attachments
- *You can find the definitions of the terms and acronyms used in this document in the [BSC Glossary](#)*

The purpose of this Change Proposal (CP) Consultation is to invite BSC Parties, Party Agents and other interested parties to provide their views on the impacts and the merits of CP1579. The ISG and SVG will then consider the consultation responses before making a decision on whether or not to approve CP1579.

There are four parts to this document:

- This is the main document. It provides details of the solution, impacts, costs, and proposed implementation approach. It also summarises the ISG and SVG's initial views on the proposed changes.
- Attachment A contains the CP proposal form.
- Attachment(s) B contain(s) the proposed redlined changes to deliver the CP1579 solution.
- Attachment C contains the specific questions on which we seek your views. Please use this form to provide your response to these questions, and to record any further views or comments you wish to be considered.



Committee

Imbalance Settlement Group (ISG) and Supplier Volume Allocation Group (SVG)



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1. Summary



What is Protocol Approval?

Protocol Approval is the process by which the Protocol implemented in a Qualified HHDC's data collection system is tested against a known version of the Protocol (e.g. the Meter, Asset Meter or Outstation manufacturer's software) to confirm it has been correctly implemented in order to collect metered data for Settlement purposes.

Why change?

The [BSCP601 'Metering Protocol Approval and Compliance Testing'](https://bscdocs.elexon.co.uk/bsc-procedures/bscp601-metering-protocol-approval-and-compliance-testing-bscp-601)¹ requires Asset Metering Virtual Lead Parties (AMVLPs), Half Hourly Data Collectors (HHDCs), Asset Metering Half Hourly Data Collectors (AMHHDCs) and other Asset Metering Equipment users to be Qualified before applying for Compliance Testing and Protocol Approval.

This results in a time gap between when the HHDCs and AMHHDCs are able to operate in the market and completing Protocol Approval.

This could also result in a risk that HHDCs accept appointments before completing Protocol Approval leading to them operating using a Protocol that they have not yet received Protocol Approval for.

Solution

Allow HHDCs and AMHHDCs to apply for Protocol Approval at the start of, or during, the Qualification process.

Impacts and costs

This CP will positively impact HHDCs and AMHHDCs.

This CP will require changes to the BSCP601. The central implementation cost will be less than £1k to implement the relevant document changes. No BSC central systems changes are anticipated.

Implementation

This CP is proposed for implementation on 2 November 2023 as part of the November 2023 Standard BSC Release.

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¹ <https://bscdocs.elexon.co.uk/bsc-procedures/bscp601-metering-protocol-approval-and-compliance-testing-bscp-601>

2. Why Change?

What is the issue?

The [Half Hourly Codes of Practice \(CoPs\)](#)², 1, 2, 3, 5, 10 and 11, require Outstation data to be to a format and protocol approved by the Panel in accordance with [BSCP601 'Metering Protocol Approval and Compliance Testing'](#)³. BSCP601 defines the processes for Meter Manufacturers, Meter Operator Agents (MOAs), Suppliers, AMVLPs, HHDCs, AMHHDCs and other Half Hourly Metering Equipment or Asset Metering Equipment users to apply for Compliance Testing and Protocol Approval.

HHDCs cannot start the Protocol Approval process until they have completed BSCP601 Qualification, this is because BSCP601 states 'Qualified' as a prerequisite. This results in a delay for the HHDC to be able to operate in the market, given that after Qualification, they then have to complete Protocol Approval for all Outstation Types that they wish to support. In the extreme, this can take another six months on top of the qualification period.

As Protocol Approval is not part of the Qualification, it also results in a risk that HHDCs accept appointments (due to commercial arrangements) before completing Protocol Approval leading to them operating using a Protocol that they have not yet received Protocol Approval for.

Background

BSCP601 covers the application process, submission of Metering Equipment and Asset Metering Equipment, communications with the Compliance and Protocol Testing Agents, the issue and removal of certificates.

This process is defined to ensure that Metering Equipment and Asset Metering Equipment is designed and manufactured to the requirements of the relevant Code/s of Practice. Each Compliance Approval is specific to that Metering Equipment or Asset Metering Equipment tested including type reference and any firmware and software versions.

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² <https://bscdocs.elexon.co.uk/codes-of-practice>

³ <https://bscdocs.elexon.co.uk/bsc-procedures/bscp601-metering-protocol-approval-and-compliance-testing-bscp-601>

3. Solution

Proposed solution

Although BSCP601 refers to Qualified HHDCs and Qualified AMHHDCs, this CP will allow HHDCs and AMHHDCs to apply for Protocol Approval at the start of, or during the Qualification process. Certificates of Protocol Approval will only be granted following successful Protocol testing and Qualification.

Proposer's rationale

By allowing HHDCs and AMHHDCs to be immediately active in the market following qualification, we would prevent a time lapse between qualification and the first Protocol Approval. Apart from being more efficient, this would mitigate the risk that HHDCs accept appointments for Meters they have not achieved Protocol Approval yet, following qualification.

CP Consultation Question

Do you agree with the CP1579 proposed solution?

Please provide your rationale.

We invite you to give your views using the response form in Attachment C

Proposed redlining

The CP proposes to update BSCP601. The redlining to support this change can be found in Attachment B.

CP Consultation Question

Do you agree that the draft redlining delivers the CP1579 proposed solution?

If 'No', please provide your rationale.

We invite you to give your views using the response form in Attachment C

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4. Impacts and Costs

BSC Party & Party Agent impacts and costs

Participant impacts

This CP is expected to have a positive impact on HHDCs and AMHHDCs.

BSC Party & Party Agent Impacts	
BSC Party/Party Agent	Impact
HHDCs and AMHHDCs	To allow them to apply for Protocol Approval at the start of, or during the Qualification process.

Central impacts and costs

Central impacts

The solution in this CP only affects BSC documentation, specifically BSCP601. No BSC Central Systems or Agents will be impacted.

Central Impacts	
Document Impacts	System Impacts
<ul style="list-style-type: none">BSCP601 'Metering Protocol Approval and Compliance Testing'Insert Document Here	<ul style="list-style-type: none">None

Impact on BSC Settlement Risks

Impact on BSC Settlement Risks
None

Central costs

The central implementation costs for CP1579 will be approximately £1k.

CP Consultation Questions
<p>Will CP1579 impact your organisation?</p> <p><i>If 'Yes', please provide a description of the impact(s) on your organisation and any activities which you will need to undertake between the approval of CP1579 and the CP1579 Implementation Date (including any</i></p>

necessary changes to your systems, documents and processes). Where applicable, please state which of the roles that you operate as will be impacted and any differences in the impacts between each role.

Will your organisation incur any costs in implementing CP1579?

If 'Yes', please provide details of these costs, how they arise and whether they are one-off or on-going costs.

We invite you to give your views using the response form in Attachment C

5. Implementation Approach

Recommended Implementation Date

This CP is recommended for implementation on 2 November 2023 as part of the standard November 2023 BSC Release.

CP Consultation Question
<p>Do you agree with the proposed implementation approach for CP1579?</p> <p><i>Please provide your rationale.</i></p>
<p>We invite you to give your views using the response form in Attachment C</p>

6. Initial Committee Views

ISG's initial views

The CP1579 Progression Paper ([ISG265/03](#)) was presented to the ISG at its meeting on 02 May 2023.

The ISG had no comments.

SVG's initial views

The CP1579 Progression Paper ([SVG267/02](#)) was presented to the SVG at its meeting on 02 May 2023.

The SVG had no comments.