ELEXON

Issue 99 Workgroup 1 Summary

Summary

1 Meeting Objectives

The Chair welcomed attendees and presented the following meeting objectives to Work Group (WG) Members:

- Provide an overview on the Issue
- Discuss the potential solution options
- Discuss or suggest alternative solution options
- Confirm the next steps

2 Scope of Issue Group

2.1 Elexon opened the session by explaining the Balancing and Settlement Code (BSC) Issue process, which involves:

2.1.1 What an Issue is, as defined in the BSC;

2.1.2 Who can raise an Issue; and

2.1.3 How an Issue is progressed.

2.2 Elexon outlined the scope and focus areas of Issue 99[1], which were:

2.2.1 Understanding and discussing how the D0215[2] data flow is used in the Industry process;

2.2.2 Discussing the relationship between the D0383[3] and D0215 data flows;

2.2.3 Reviewing the Balancing and Settlement Code Procedure (BSCP) processes, which involves sending and receipt of the D0215 data flow; and

2.2.4 The impact of this Issue on the wider Industry.

2.3 The Issue Group noted the BSC Issue process and the scope of Issue 99.

3 Issue and background

3.1 The Proposer[4] explained the Issue and provided a background on how the D0215 is currently utilised in the Industry processes. The Proposer further highlighted the key issue relating to the use of the D0215 flow, which was:

3.1.1 The D0215 flow doesn't always contain the correct and complete information, given that it is issued prior to the commissioning of a Metering Equipment.

3.2 The Proposer added that the D0215 should be of quality when it is issued.

3.3 Elexon asked the Issue group to confirm if they agreed, based on the Proposer's explanation, if this was an Issue. Further, the Issue group should comment on the rationale for raising this Issue.

3.3.1 A member asked, to validate his understanding of the Issue, if the D0215 flow that is sent prior to the commissioning of the Metering System, won't contain the Current Transformer (CT)/ Voltage Transformer (VT) ratios, as they are normally populated in the D0383. The Proposer confirmed that was the case. The same member noted this, and asked the Meter Operator Agents (MOAs) in the meeting what the use of the D0215 flow is to them.

3.3.2 A MOA from Imserv answered, stating that they don't usually refer to the D0215 flow in the new connections process. The member further explained that they send the D0170[5] request flow (which triggers the receipt of the D0215 flow) as part of the new connections process because it is mandated in the BSCPs. Finally, the member noted that the D0215 flow is only useful when the data in it is accurate, and doesn't think the D0215 flow should be used in the new connections process.

[1] https://www.elexon.co.uk/smg-issue/issue-99/
[2] Provision of site technical details
[3] Notification of Commissioning Information
[4] Defined as the person, in relation to a particular Modification Proposal, the person who makes such Modification Proposal
[5] Request for Metering System Related Details

3.3.3 The Proposer asked how Imserv identify CT/VT ratio mismatches. The Imserv member replied, saying they have an internal validation process to identify CT/VT ratio mismatches. The Proposer wanted to know if MOAs are able to indicate "new connection" in the D0170 flow. The same member from Imserv noted that their preference wasn't to send the D0170 flow for new connections.

3.3.4 Another member from the MOAs commented in agreement with the first MOA member, saying that they have to use the D0170 flow to request the D0215 flow because it is mandatory in the BSCPs. They noted that their only use of the D0215 flow is being able to retrieve High Voltage (HV) and Low Voltage (LV) information.

3.3.5 SSE MOA asked other MOAs how they program the Metering Systems if they are not referring to the information in the D0215. The MOA from Imserv replied saying that on new connections, the best practice is to perform a site visit where the Metering System will be programmed. They usually don't wait on the D0383 flow to program the Metering System, stating that they retrieve the required information from the site or as a last resort, in the D0142[6] flow. The SSE MOA noted that there could be a risk associated with waiting on the D0383 flow to program the Metering System. The MOA from Imserv didn't think there was a risk, noting that the information in the D0215 flow won't be an accurate reference for programming the Metering System therefore, the onsite visit or information from the D0142 flow was much more effective and accurate.

3.4 Elexon summarised the key points highlighted and asked the Issue group if the requirement (specified in the footnote) in BSCP515, which allows the MOAs to request the D0215 at any time should be reviewed? Also, should a statement be placed in the BSCP, which will prevent the D0170 flow from being sent on every Change of Agent (COA) instance?

3.4.1 The Proposer agreed, noting that they currently receive many D0170 request, which are mostly unnecessary.

3.4.2 A member from the Licensed Distribution System Operators (LDSOs) agreed, noting that they receive about **10,000** D0170 requests on a monthly basis. Another member from the LDSOs agreed with Elexon's suggestion in 3.4.

3.4.3 One member from the Retail Energy Code (REC) noted that it is important for the Issue group to reach out to more MOAs and Suppliers to confirm if they get any value from receiving the D0215 data flow. Elexon took an action to coordinate this task with REC.

3.5 Elexon noted the views and comments.

4 Proposed solutions

4.1 **Elexon presented and explained the three available options, which were:**

4.1.1 Option 1: Removing the need for the D0215 flow, due to it being a provisional information and most of that information can be found in the D0383 flow. The potential benefit of this option is that it reduces the risk of having an incorrectly programmed meter;

4.1.2 Option 2: Review all of the processes associated with the request of the D0215 flow. The benefit of this option is that it will limit the number of irrelevant D0170 request, ensuring the D0215 flow is only requested where there is value in having it; and

4.1.3 **Option 3:** Retain only the mandatory fields in the D0215 flow. The benefits of this option is that it will ensure the relevant data is available to the MOAs and Suppliers. Furthermore, it would encourage BSC Parties and Party Agents to utilise the D0215 data flow efficiently.

4.2 A member from REC commented on option 1, highlighting that the D0383 flow doesn't apply to Non Half Hourly (NHH) processes, in comparison with the D0215 flow that applies to both Half Hourly (HH) and NHH. Elexon agreed with this view, and recommended that the D0383 flow could be extended to cater for NHH information, ensuring the D0383 covers everything related to Metering.

4.3 A member from the MOA disagreed with option 1 noting that it may lead to a significant system change, which the Industry may not be ready for.

4.4 The Proposer disagreed with option 1, based on the feedback from the MOAs, noting that the chosen option should create the lowest cost for BSC Parties, which option 1 won't do.

[6] Request for Installation or Change to a Metering System Functionality or the Removal of all Meters

4.5 A member from the LDSO preferred option 2, but saw an opportunity to combine option 2 and 3. The same member noted that the Issue group must consider how the Industry will audit the proposed change (option).

4.6 In response to option 3, a member from the MOAs asked if there were any specific fields in the D0215 that need to be changed. There was no response from the Issue group. Another member representing the Association of Meter Operators (AMOs) preferred option 2.

4.7 Another member from the LDSOs agreed with option 1, stating that they didn't see the value of the keeping the D0215 flow. Additionally, email communication can be utilised to cater to the investigation process, where the D0215 flow is requested.

4.8 In summary, the Issue group concluded that option 1 may create the most cost for BSC Parties. Options 2 and 3 could be combined to address the issue in a cost effective manner. Furthermore options 2 and 3 will focus on the following areas:

4.8.1 Reviewing the processes related to the D0215 flow;

4.8.2 Understanding and determining the value of the optional fields in the D0215 flow;

4.8.3 Clarifying when the D0170 request flow can be used, as opposed to being used on every COA; and

4.8.4 Clarifying and potentially adding to the request reason codes in the D0170 flow.

5 Actions

- Elexon to work with REC and issue a RFI to Suppliers and MOAs to understand the value of the D0215 flow to them; and
- Elexon to produce redlining to the effect of the agreed outcomes for options 2 and 3; and
- Elexon to arrange the second Issue group meeting, where the solution for Issue 99 will be finalised.