Issue Form - BSCP40/04

Issue Number - 99

(mandatory by BSCCo)

Issue Title (Mandatory by originator)

Review the use of the D0215 'Provision of Site Technical Details' and associated processes

Issue Description (Mandatory by originator)

The D0215¹ data flow currently records some of the same information contained in the D0383² data flow such as current and voltage transformer (CT/VTs ratios) (J0454 and J0455) respectively, therefore duplicating information across both data flows.

The D0383 is populated following the Commissioning of Metering Equipment meaning the information in the D0383 has been validated as correct. However, the information in the D0215 is often unreliable, given it is requested prior to Commissioning. The Data Items within the D0215 that are not duplicated (Supply Capacity, Supply Voltage) may still have use and so the D0215 could be retained but edited to remove the duplication.

The information recorded in the D0215 flow needs to be about quality and not quantity.

Justification for Examining Issue (Mandatory by originator)

Technical Assurance of Metering Expert Group (TAMEG) members have provided evidence to suggest that Meter Operator Agents (MOAs) do not currently use the information within the D0215 data flow, even though a high volume of the D0215 flows is currently requested by MOAs. Given the D0383 data flow information is accepted as being accurate, it should be used as the single version of the truth. As a result, the D0215 data flow could be removed/amended for efficiency as it's not clear that the data within it is being used.

Furthermore, when the D0142³ data flow is received, an automated D0170⁴ data flow is sent, this response generates a D0215 response dataflow which is not always required in every instance of the D0142 being sent. The D0142 should only be used by the Supplier to confirm the installation of, or change to, a Metering System Functionality, or the removal of all Meters. Therefore, the D0170 request for a D0215 on receipt of a D0142, is creating a high volume of D0170s and D0215s which are known to be unreliable and requires time to investigate and process.

The MOA receives the D0142 data flow very early on in the Commissioning process, especially for new connections (i.e., a D0170 data flow has to be sent once a D0142 data flow is received, regardless of appointment). BSCP515⁵ mandates that Licensed Distribution System Operators (LDSOs) send a D0215 data flow on receipt of a D0170 from the MOA. However, this is too early in the process as: Customers may change their needs; Customers may not have signed contracts; and the LDSO and Customer may not have agreed capacities (kVA). This introduces a risk where the information within the D0215 data flow is incorrect when the Meter is energised.

Hence, the D0383 data flow is seen as the final confirmed data, making the D0215 data flow not fit for purpose in the scenario mentioned above.

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¹ 'Provision of Site Technical Details'

² 'Notification of Commissioning Information'

³ Request for Installation or Change to a Metering System Functionality or the Removal of All Meters'

⁴ 'Request for Metering System Related Details'

Potential Solution(s) (Optional by originator)

Option 1 (**Proposer preferred option**):

Remove the need for the D0215 due to it being provisional information and the customer may change their mind. This reduces the risk of having an incorrectly programmed meter before the customer has signed the contract and P283 'Reinforcing the Commissioning of Metering Equipment Processes' commissioning has been carried out by the LDSO.

Option 2:

A review of MOA processes regarding when they request a D0215 is undertaken. MOAs should only request the D0215 where there is value in them receiving it and not on receipt of every D0142.

Option 3

Reducing the number of fields required in the D0215 data flow, such as the optional items. This change would ensure the relevant data is available to the MOAs and Suppliers. It would also reduce the volumes of D0215 data flows being sent/received, enabling BSC Parties and Party Agents to process the ones they do receive more effectively and better utilise the data.

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Proposer's Details	
Name	
Dawn Matthews	
Organisation	
UK Power Networks	
Email Address	

dawn.matthews@ukpowernetworks.co.uk

Telephone Number

07875 110931

Date

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