#### 4.7 Issue Form

# Issue Form - BSCP40/04 Issue Number (mandatory by BSCCo)

**Issue Title** (Mandatory by originator)

Erroneous Consumption volumes following a Change of Supplier event

**Issue Description** (Mandatory by originator)

#### **Summary**

A difference in supplier processes is resulting in a proportion of Smart Metering Equipment Technical Specification 1 (SMETS1) Meters being dummy meter exchanged because no Change of Supplier (CoS) opening or closing read can be agreed. This is resulting in both Excessive and Negative advances being entered into Settlement risking the accuracy of Settlement

There may be a cost-reflective solution that suppliers could agree to use to resolve the issue between now and the completion of Enrolment and Adoption of SMETS1 into the DCC at which point <u>P302</u> 'Improve the Change of Supplier Meter read and Settlement process for smart Meters' becomes mandatory.

#### **Background**

Block tariffs and Time of Use (ToU) tariffs are far more flexible when using a smart Meter. A smart Meter can be organised, labelled and used according to the registered Supplier's preferences. A smart Meter can record consumption in 48 parts of its digital memory (for clarity in this issue I shall refer to these as dials). The dials can be organised in either ToU or block tariff style or both, but only up to 48 dials.

In cases where more than one of the 48 dials in a Meter is used, the gaining Supplier will not know whether the Meter was set up in a block tariff or ToU style (other than Standard Settlement Configuration). Equally, volume can be recorded in any of the 48 dials. It need not be the first dial (if you assume a single rate, flat tariff). The gaining Supplier will apply its chosen tariff to the Meter which will configure the chosen dials within the Meter. These may not be the same dials that were active during the previous supply period.

Utilita has analysed the issue and identified that where a Supplier uses 2 dials and the gaining Supplier uses 1 dial, both dials are not accounted in the CoS read and it is not possible to agree the CoS read.

The example below is an illustration of what happens. The meters are run in a block tariff format, with the volumes recording usage at different prices. The prices will change after a certain amount of power used and may happen at any point in the day or not at all:

First date  $1^{st}$  Aug 18 Total kWh = 1000 Rate 1 = 800 Rate 2 = 200

Second date  $31^{st}$  Aug 18 Total kWh = 2500 Rate 1 = 2000 Rate 2 = 500

We enter 1000 kWh into Settlement on 1<sup>st</sup> August as this reflects all the consumption used. We then lose the supply to another Supplier on 1<sup>st</sup> September. The new Supplier operates with just a single price point in their tariff.

The new Supplier reads Rate 1, 2000 kWh, and enter this as the CoS read, rather than 2500 kWh. As a result, we incur a negative advance. The same occurs in reverse and we experience a very large Annualised Advance (AA) to the first Meter read we submit.

The P302 process is designed to resolve this issue by obligating Suppliers to submit all 48 dials to the data collector (DC). The DC is then able to settle on the used registers and allow for the new set-up of the Meter by the new Supplier. However, P302 is only obligated for Meters operated through the Data Communications Company (DCC) or via mutual agreement between the Parties.

### **Justification for Examining Issue** (Mandatory by originator)

This is resulting in dummy Meter exchanges, the use of which increases the likelihood of the manifestation of error relating to BSC Risk 008 '*Processing of Metered Data*'.

## Potential Solution(s) (Optional by originator)

Potential Solution(s) (Optional by originator)
Potential solution(s) to be discussed during the course of the Issue process.
Proposer's Details
Name
Andy Knowles
Organisation
Utilita
Email Address
andyknowles@utilita.co.uk

## Telephone Number

07392 197 760

### Date

15 April 2019

#### 4.8. Issue Form Guidelines

These guidelines are to be used to assist in the completion of the Issue Form, contained in Appendix 4.7. The guidelines state who should complete each item on the form and whether it is mandatory or optional. They also give a brief description of the information that should be given for each item. For further guidance please contact your BCA / PACA. Once completed this form should be submitted to BSCCo for inclusion on the relevant Panel Committee agenda.

- **Issue Number** –mandatory to be completed by BSCCo once the proposed issue has been received. This is a unique number.
- **Issue Title** mandatory and is completed by the originator at the time the issue is raised. This should be unique where possible.
- **Issue Description** mandatory and is completed by the originator. The description should include as much detail as possible of the issue being encountered.
- **Potential Solution(s)** optional by originator This is to be completed where the originator has potential solutions that they want to be discussed as part of a potential solution to the issue.
- **Justification for Examining Issue** mandatory by originator details of the business case for examining the issue. This section should also include a brief assessment of the risk associated with leaving the problem/issue unresolved, in terms of materiality and probability of occurrence.
- **Proposer's Details** mandatory completion by originator the name, organisation, email address and telephone number of the proposer.