

## Approval of Data Licences and the Reclassification of P114, P30 and P315 Data Licences due to P398 Open Data Requests

### BSC Panel

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### Summary

**BSC Modification P398 'Increasing Access to BSC Data' led to Elexon's Open Data Request service. This service requires four new Data Licences for the classification of approved Data Requests; Open, Public, Shared and Closed. This paper is seeking BSC Panel approval of the new Data Licences to allow Open Data Requests to be processed. This paper is also seeking BSC Panel approval to consult industry on classifying the data flows held under P114, P30 and P315 licensing arrangements under the Elexon Open Data Licence.**

### 1. BEIS/Ofgem Energy Data Taskforce

- 1.1 In 2018, BEIS and Ofgem established the Energy Data Taskforce (EDTF) to advise Government, Ofgem and industry on how to unlock value from data within the energy system. The increased value will benefit consumers by delivering greater competition, driving innovation in new products, services and business models, and ultimately producing a more efficient, cost-effective energy market.
- 1.2 In 2019, the Energy Data Task Force (EDTF) 2019 Report '[A Strategy for a Modern Digitalised Energy System](#)' made five recommendations. Recommendation 2 'Maximising the Value of Data' stated that "Government and Ofgem should direct the sector to adopt the principle that:
 

*'Energy System Data should be Presumed Open, using their range of existing legislative and regulatory measures as appropriate, supported by requirements that data is 'Discoverable, Searchable, Understandable', with common 'Structures, Interfaces and Standards' and is 'Secure and Resilient'.'*
- 1.3 The [Open Knowledge Foundation](#) (a global non-profit organisation focused on realising Open Data's value to society by helping civil society groups access and use data to take action on social problems) defines Open Data as "data and content that can be freely used, modified and, shared by anyone for any purpose". Similarly, the EDTF report states "Open Data should be Discoverable, Searchable, Understandable, adopt a sensible approach to Structures, Interfaces and Standards and ensure that it supports a Secure and Resilient Energy System."
- 1.4 In order to meet the criteria of Open Data, data must be both free from overly restrictive licence conditions and must be in a format that is easily understandable by the user. A number of the P114, P30 and P315 data flows do not meet these criteria.
- 1.5 The report also found that access to Open Data assists progress to net zero by supporting innovators in developing new products and services. They also outlined a clear and transparent process for assessing requests for Open Data.

## 2. Elexon's Open Data Requests

- 2.1 On 24 June 2021, Elexon launched the Open Data Request service following the implementation of [BSC Modification P398 'Increasing Access to BSC Data'](#). The service allows any user to request Elexon to publish BSC Data openly. Data is 'Open' when it can be accessed by anyone, is usable (free in a common understandable format) and licensed to be used without restriction. Following a data request, Elexon will assess, triage and classify requested data sets. If approved by the BMRS Change Board (BCB), the data would then be published on the Elexon website, Elexon Portal and BMRS website.
- 2.2 The service looks to progress the availability of BSC data influenced by the recommendations of the EDTF. The advantage of data being made available through the data request process is that:
- a BSC modification is not required to make the data available;
  - the entire data request process is transparently set out in a Code Subsidiary Document (CSD) that will be reviewed every two years to stay up to date with best practice; and
  - the published data can be reviewed as and when required.
- 2.3 The [CSD 'Process for requesting BSC data'](#) outlines the process for accepting Open Data Requests. After data is triaged to determine the 'openness' of the data requested if the data were to be released in its existing format, the request enters a 'Classification' stage detailed in section 2 of the CSD. The request will fall under one of four classifications: Open, Public, Shared and Closed. These four Classifications require Data Licences to cover the data published from an Open Data Request.

## 3. P398 Data Licences

- 3.1 A separate Licence governs and facilitates attributes of each of the four classifications:
- **Open** – Available for all to use, modify and distribute subject to the conditions in the Open Data licence e.g. BMRS data license.
  - **Public** – Publicly available but with some restrictions on usage.
  - **Shared** – Available to a limited group, possibly with some restrictions on usage.
  - **Closed** – Only available within a single organisation.
- 3.2 Attachment A to this paper contains the four Data Licences for Panel approval. The licenses have been drafted to be simple to follow and, (within Public, Shared and Closed classifications), allow for the addition of restrictions on usage and limit license holders. Having the licensing information available also contributes to the transparency of Elexon's Open Data Request process.
- 3.3 Subject to Panel approval, the four Data Licences would be published on the Elexon website. Publishing these licences and directly linking them to each approved Open Data request will ensure users are aware of licensing arrangements applying to the BSC Data.

## 4. P114, P30 and P315 Data Licences

- 4.1 Non-BSC Parties are required by BSC Section V3.2.7 to sign a licence for access to the data specified in BSC Section V3.2 as a result of Modifications P30, P114 and P315. The licences are complex and place significant restrictions on the uses of the data.
- 4.2 Elexon provide delivery of BSC data through standard packages detailed on the [Data flows available from BSC Systems](#) webpage. Companies can apply for a P114, P30 and P315 licence and applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis. Elexon provide a company-specific data licence for each successful request.
- 4.3 For information, I have summarised the three data licences in **Table 1**.

**Table 1**

Data Licence	Cost (per annum)	Data Flows	Data Delivery
P114	£1,500+VAT	SAA-I014(2); CDCA-I029; CDCA-I030; CDCA-I042.	Elexon Portal Access
P30	1. £407+VAT 2. £869+VAT 3. £429+VAT	1. D0269; D0270. 2. D0018 3. Historic D0018	Elexon Portal Access

P315	£1,500+VAT	P0276 'BSCCo GSP Group Consumption Totals Report' P0277 'GSP Group Market Matrix Report'	Elexon Portal Access
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- 4.4 Appendix 1 provides further information on the data flows covered by these arrangements.
- 4.5 The datasets provided under these licenses have been requested through Elexon's Open Data Request process. The requests seek for Elexon to make the data open but also to improve the delivery of the data. The details of these requests have been provided in Attachment B to this paper.
- 5. Assessment of P114, P30 and P315 Data Licences and Proposed Reduction in Annual Charge**
- 5.1 Elexon has previously looked into the three data licences. The BSC Panel has approved [BSC Modification P398 'Increasing Access to BSC Data'](#) that allows data within these licences to be requested to be published openly and the approval of [BSC Panel Paper 294/16 'Cost of Access to Data'](#).
- 5.2 The first stage of assessing an Open Data Request is to determine if the data is accessible to the BSC. These data flows are accessible but are subject to licensing agreements. As a result, the current licensing arrangements are considered as a blocker to classifying the datasets as Open.
- 5.3 Building on previous work relating to these datasets, Elexon looked for any reason the data cannot be considered Open. On discussing these licences with Elexon's Legal Counsel, Elexon determined the datasets subject to P114, P30 and P315 licences are solely restricted because of the cost of delivering these datasets. Restrictions are not attributable to the data held within the datasets.
- 5.4 Elexon assessed the cost of delivering the datasets through discussions with Elexon's Finance team and the service provider who delivers the data.
- 5.5 Elexon assessed the current cost of supplying the data within the licences. In discussions with Elexon's Finance team and with the service provider used to deliver the data, Elexon determined that there is no significant cost to providing data under the licences.
- 5.6 BSC Section V3.2.7 relates to access to these data flows by a non-Party by stating that "*the payment or periodic payment by such person to BSCCo of a sum (established and revised from time to time by BSCCo) representing the reasonable costs of providing such data to that person.*" With the current costs of providing these datasets determined to be £0, Elexon propose to reduce the annual charge for Elexon to send data to non-Parties from the associated costs in Table 1 to £0.
- 5.7 With the datasets supplied under P114, P30 and P315 data licences having a cost of £0, companies will still have to follow the current process for data provision and have a signed company-specific licence in order to receive these datasets.
- 5.8 In addition, Elexon looked into reimbursement for license holders who have currently paid the annual charge for P114, P30 and P315 data licences. For the reimbursement, Elexon considered dividing the annual charge paid by a current licence holders by 12, and multiplying this by the month's remaining in the annual period they have paid for. Using this methodology, the total reimbursement would amount to around £4,000. The operational cost to calculate and deliver the reimbursement would likely exceed the total reimbursement amount.
- 6. Open Data Classification for datasets held within P114, P30 and P315 Data Licences**
- 6.1 In the event the BSC Panel approve the reduction of the annual charge of providing P114, P30 and P315 data to £0, the restrictions outlined in the data licenses (which are attributed to the annual charge) will no longer be required.
- 6.2 In this case, and in the case the BSC Panel approves the Elexon Open Data Licence classified in BSC Modification P398, Elexon are requesting to consult industry on our recommendation to classify the data subject to P114, P30 and P315 licenses to be licenced under the Elexon Open Data Licence.
- 6.3 The benefits of Licensing these datasets under the Elexon Open Data Licence include:
- meeting the criteria of Open Data by freeing the datasets from restrictive licence conditions;
  - reducing BSCCo administrative effort and cost to process data licences; and

- c) enabling improvements to the delivery of these datasets as they can be provided without restrictions.
- 6.4 Through this approach, companies will not have to submit company details for the license and no company-specific licence will need to be drafted. The party will request access to the data through the BSC Service Desk for data supplied through the Elexon Portal.
- 6.5 Following industry consultation, responses will be presented to the BCB. Provided there are no objections, the datasets will then be covered by Elexon's Open Data Licence.
- 6.6 Elexon will then move the Open Data Requests associated with these datasets to the 'Triaged' stage. Work will continue to improve the delivery of this data to meet Open Data criteria and meet EDTF recommendations.
- 6.7 Under this new classification, Elexon can freely assess the delivery methods of the datasets. This will allow Elexon to maximise the value of the datasets.

## 7. Recommendations

- 7.1 We invite the Panel to:
- a) **NOTE** the Open Data Requests received relating to data subject to P114, P30 and P315 data licences;
  - b) **APPROVE** the Open, Public, Shared and Closed BSC Data Licences to facilitate the Elexon Open Data Requests service;
  - c) **APPROVE** the cost of P114, P30 and P315 be revised to a cost of £0; and
  - d) **APPROVE** Elexon to seek industry feedback through a two-week industry consultation on classifying the datasets within the P114, P30 and P315 data licences under the Elexon Open Data Licence.

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## Attachments

Attachment A – Open, Public, Shared and Closed BSC Data Licences

Attachment B – Open Data Requests subject to P114, P30 and P315 Data Licences

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## For more information, please contact:

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## Appendix 1

### 8. Market Domain Data (MDD) – provided under ‘P30’ licence arrangements

8.1 MDD is the central repository of Supplier Volume Allocation (SVA) market information and is essential to the operation of the SVA arrangements. ELEXON provide the ‘D0269’ or ‘D0270’ data flows upon request, which include critical parameters such as Standard Settlement Configurations, Profile Classes, Grid Supply Point (GSP) Groups and market participant information.

### 9. Profile Coefficient Data – provided under ‘P30’ licence arrangements

9.1 In the Non Half Hourly (NHH) market, energy prices are based on predicted consumption using ‘load profiles’ that vary both geographically and between different types of customers (Profile Classes). Information on load profiles (Profile Coefficient data) is essential for Suppliers and buyers to accurately compare market price quotes and for demand forecasting.

### 10. Reports provided under ‘P114’ licence arrangements

10.1 SAA-I014 (subflow 2)

10.1.1 This report contains everything that happened in the Settlement systems on a particular day, broken down into half hour Settlement Periods. This includes System Buy/Sell Prices, information on trading activity and charges for each Balancing Mechanism Unit (Party), Metered Volumes and Settlement cash flow information. It also has the all the information needed to re-calculate the System Buy and Sell Prices.

10.2 CDCA-I029

10.2.1 This report provides the energy consumption by each regional Grid Supply Point (GSP) Group in Great Britain. By interpreting this report you can find out where the demand is and when.

10.3 CDCA-I030

10.3.1 This report includes the volume of energy that was metered at each Distribution System Connection Point for each Settlement Run per day. This can be used to determine the areas of demand and generation in the distribution networks and the line losses that can be expected as these are factored into Suppliers’ tariffs. This is essentially the aggregated metering flows report (CDCA I029 above) broken down into specific connection points in the GSP Group.

10.4 CDCA-I042

10.4.1 This report from the Central Data Collection Agent tells you the Metered Volumes of energy for each BM Unit for each aggregation run per day. This describes exactly what each individual BM Unit has consumed or generated, and whether this is an estimated or actual value.

### 11. Reports provided under ‘P315’ licence arrangements

11.1 P0276 ‘BSCCo GSP Group Consumption Totals Report’

11.1.1 A BSCCo version of the D0276 ‘GSP Group Consumption Totals Report’, which is a report of Consumption Component Class totals for each GSP Group. It is produced daily for the SF, RF and DF Settlement Runs for all runs performed on or after the 30 June 2016, as well as for historical SF and RF runs for Settlement Dates from 1 July 2014.

11.2 P0277 ‘GSP Group Market Matrix Report’

11.2.1 This report is an aggregated (market-level) version of the D0082 ‘Supplier Purchase Matrix Report’, which is a report for each Supplier per GSP Group containing the details of the Supplier Purchase Matrix rows used in the calculation of a Settlement Run. The P0277 is produced by summing the data in the D0082 across all Suppliers and Data Aggregators, for all Settlement Runs performed on or after the 30 June 2016 other than the II run.