

CP Assessment Report

CP1525 'Improving the involvement of the LDSO in the fault resolution process'

ELEXON



Committee

Supplier Volume Allocation Group

Recommendation

Approve

Implementation Date

24 June 2021 (June 2021 Release)



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About This Document

This document is the Change Proposal (CP) Assessment Report for CP1525 which ELEXON will present to the Supplier Volume Allocation Group (SVG) at its meeting on 3 March 2020. The Committee(s) will consider the proposed solution and the responses received to the CP Consultation before making a decision on whether to approve CP1525.

There are three 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 SVG's initial views on the proposed changes and the views of respondents to the CP Consultation.
- Attachment A contains the proposed redlined changes to deliver the CP1525 solution.
- Attachment B contains the full responses received to the CP Consultation.

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1 Why Change?

What is the issue?

The Half Hourly fault rectification process is not clear on the responsibility of parties involved. Further, the associated timescales for engaging the support of Licensed Distribution System Operators (LDSOs), where needed, are not well defined. [BSCP514 'SVA Meter Operations for Metering Systems Registered in SMRS'](#) is not clear on who is responsible for addressing faults found on Metering Equipment owned by an LDSO.

This can cause challenges and delays to resolving faults, as the Meter Operator Agent (MOA) may struggle to obtain access to equipment owned by LDSO, meaning the fault cannot be resolved in a timely manner, which poses a risk to Settlement. As the Metering Equipment owner, the LDSO is best placed to investigate and resolve faults on Metering Equipment which it owns.

Background

What is the fault rectification process?

The fault rectification process is used where a fault is identified with Metering Equipment that prevents accurate metered data being entered into Settlement. Faults are usually identified by the Half Hourly Data Collector or Supplier, who raise the fault with the MOA to investigate and resolve.

As the Party Agent assigned to a Metering System, the MOA has overall responsibility for maintaining the Metering Equipment. However, in some instances, it may require support or additional information from the Supplier or LDSO, particularly where faults occur on Metering Equipment owned by the LDSO.

Ensuring that identified faults are resolved efficiently and in a timely manner is essential to making sure that Suppliers can achieve their Meter read targets so that only accurate metered data is used in the Settlement Calculations.

Issue 73

[Issue 73 'Review of fault management and resolution timescales'](#) was raised by SSE on 12 October 2018. The Issue Group was established to review the recommendations of the Fault Investigation Review Group, and determine whether any amendments should be made to the proposed solutions to ensure that changes were still reflective of best practice. The Issue Group also considered when the LDSO should take responsibility for resolving faults to ensure the process was clear for all involved. The Issue Group recommended three CPs (including this CP1525) to progress changes to the Half Hourly fault rectification process. This CP seeks to implement changes to the involvement of LDSOs in the fault rectification process. The two other CPs are:

- [CP1524 'Improving the communication methods in the fault rectification process';](#) and
- [CP1526 'Introduction of Service Level Agreements for rectifying Meter faults.'](#)

While the maximum benefit will be obtained from all three CPs together, the Issue Group believed that this CP1525 would bring benefit by improving the accountability of LDSOs in the Half Hourly fault rectification process



Fault Investigation Review Group

The Fault Investigation Review Group met throughout 2015 to review the fault rectification process and propose changes. Due to the large-scale changes to Commissioning, that used much of the same resource, the proposals were not immediately progressed.

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Proposed solution

Rectification process

CP1525 seeks to clarify that, where a fault is found on Metering Equipment owned by the LDSO, that LDSO will be responsible for rectifying the fault. This approach is consistent with the approach to Commissioning introduced by [P283 'Reinforcing the Commissioning of Metering Equipment Processes'](#), which placed the responsibility for the Commissioning of Metering Equipment owned by the LDSO on the Metering Equipment owner.

To support the enhanced involvement of LDSOs in the Half Hourly fault rectification process, a new process will be introduced to describe how faults will be raised to the LDSO and how the LDSO will provide progress updates to interested parties.

Where a MOA identifies a fault with LDSO-owned Metering Equipment as part of its investigation of a Half Hourly fault, it will escalate to the Supplier who has a relationship with the LDSO. The Supplier will subsequently raise the fault with the LDSO. The fault will remain open in the MOA's systems until resolved. However, the MOA will have no responsibility to resolve the fault and no non-compliances will be raised against the MOA while the LDSO undertakes its investigation. Once the LDSO has resolved the problem, the fault will be passed back to the MOA, who will confirm that the fault is resolved and send a resolution flow to the Supplier to close the fault.

Communication flows

To support the new process proposed by CP1525, a new data flow will be implemented in the Data Transfer Catalogue. This flow will mirror those required by the [CP1524 'Improving the communication methods in the fault rectification process'](#) solution. The New flow will be used by the MOA and Supplier to raise a fault with the LDSO. The LDSO will use the flow to provide updates on the resolution of the fault, and to notify when it has addressed the issue. The sending of the new flow will not follow rigid timescales. Instead, when an update is provided, the LDSO will also advise when it expects to send a subsequent update (where the fault is not resolved).

Change of Agent or Supplier

In addition to clarifying and improving the communication methods used in the fault rectification process, this CP will add clarity to the Change of Agent and Change of Supplier processes to ensure relevant parties are aware of any open faults when the Supplier or appointed Party Agent changes. The conventions will follow other information (such as Meter Technical Details) that is passed between participants on Change of Supplier or Agent such that:

- If there are faults open with the LDSO, on a concurrent change of Supplier and MOA, the New Supplier will inform the LDSO who the new MOA is so that they can respond appropriately.



CP1524

CP1524 is one of the three CPs recommended by the Issue 73 Group. It seeks to improve the way updates are communicated in the fault rectification process to ensure that relevant parties are kept informed, allowing faults to be resolved in a more timely and efficient manner.

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Proposer's rationale

Faults that remain unresolved can potentially lead to an increased level of estimated (and potentially inaccurate) data entering Settlement. By ensuring that LDSOs take an active, accountable role in rectifying faults on Metering Equipment, the proposed processes will ensure that the BSC enables efficient rectification of faults.

The changes proposed will address the issues raised by the BSC Auditor and will address points raised during the [2013 Technical Assurance of Performance Assurance Parties \(TAPAP\) check](#), and implement the recommendations of the Issue 73 Workgroup.

Proposed redlining

CP1525 will require amendments to:

- [BSCP502 'Half Hourly Data Collection for SVA Metering Systems Registered in SMRS'](#);
- [BSCP514 'SVA Meter Operations for Metering Systems Registered in SMRS'](#);
- [BSCP515 'Licensed Distribution'](#)

Redlined changes to these documents can be found in Attachment A.

Please note: As we are proposing a new data flow, in order to reduce confusion in the draft redlining it is referred to as DAXYZ. The actual numbering of the data flow will be assigned by the Master Registration Agreement Service Company approximately 2 months before the Implementation Date and will follow the standard 'DXXXX' format (e.g. D0170 or D0215) format. DAXYZ is used as a placeholder in the BSC Configurable Items to allow the SVG to approve it before the actual flow number is available. The version of these BSC Configurable Items that become effective on the Implementation Date will contain the actual flow number.

3 Impacts and Costs

Central impacts and costs

Central impacts

Central Impacts	
Document Impacts	System Impacts
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BSCP502 'Half Hourly Data Collection for SVA Metering Systems Registered in SMRS'• BSCP514 'SVA Meter Operations for Metering Systems Registered in SMRS'• BSCP515 'Licensed Distribution'	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None

In addition to CP1525, a Data Transfer Catalogue Change Proposal will be required to implement the new flows to facilitate the solution. These Data Transfer Catalogue changes will also be needed to support CP1524.

Impact on BSC Settlement Risks

CP1525 will impact on Settlement Risk 005 'A fault with SVA Metering Equipment is not resolved, such that metered data is recorded incorrectly or cannot be retrieved'.

The Proposed changes will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the fault rectification process, which in turn will help mitigate this risk.

Central costs

The central implementation costs for CP1525 will be approximately £2760 to implement the necessary document changes, amend internal processes, and update the relevant guidance documents.

BSC Party & Party Agent impacts and costs

CP1525 will impact parties involved in the Half Hourly fault resolution process by implementing a new suite of data flows to provide updates and clarifying responsibilities of those involved in the process.

BSC Party & Party Agent Impacts	
BSC Party/Party Agent	Impact
Suppliers	CP1525 will amend the way parties provide updates on the rectification of faults with Metering Equipment.
Half Hourly MOAs	
Half Hourly Data Collectors	
LDSOs	

All 16 consultation respondent identified impacts they would incur as a result of CP1525. These impacts largely related to implementing changes to working practices and systems to support the proposed changes. Some respondents commented that the required changes would be relatively minor to ensure their training processes were up to date;

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others commented that they would require significant system changes to process the new data flows

Some respondents noted positive impacts that included the increased visibility of faults data they would receive following the change.

Participant costs

Of the respondents that identified impacts arising from CP1525, 13 commented that they would incur costs as a result of CP1525. These costs ranged from being described as medium to significant. Of those who provided approximate figures, these were in the region of £80,000-£100,000. The majority of respondents that identified costs, specified that these would be one off costs. Most respondents that identified costs commented that stated figures combined the costs of implementing CP1524, CP1525 and CP1526.

Recommended Implementation Date

The Implementation Date for CP1525 is **24 June 2021** as part of the June 2021 BSC Release. This Implementation Date will allow sufficient time for the associated Data Transfer Catalogue CP and new data flows to be fully developed and implemented, and align with the implementation of CP1524.

The majority of consultation respondents agreed with the proposed implementation approach for CP1524, agreeing that the lead time was sufficient for industry participants to prepare their processes and systems for the change. More detail on respondents views on implementation can be found in Section **Error! Reference source not found..**

SVG's initial views

The SVG considered CP1525 at its meeting on 7 January 2020 ([SVG227/05](#)).

An SVG Member believed CP1525 would lead to cross code conflicts with the Meter Operation Code of Practice Agreement (MOCOPA). They commented that the MOCOPA had a requirement for MOAs to inform LDSOs of faults, and considered that the proposed BSC requirement for MOAs to inform LDSOs via the Supplier could cause confusion.

Another SVG member commented that they agreed with the principle of CP1525 and believed that the rationale for improving accountability of LDSOs in the rectification of faults on Metering Equipment was justified.

Post SVG meeting update

ELEXON attended the MOCOPA Review Panel on 13 February to discuss whether the proposed changes would introduce irregularities or confusion. The MOCOPA Panel agreed with ELEXON that the implementation of CP1525 would not create a confliction between the BSC and the MOCOPA. It did however note the potential overlap and agreed to work with ELEXON to minimise any risk of confusion or duplication of effort by market participants.



What is the Meter Operation Code of Practice?

The [Meter Operation Code of Practice Agreement](#) is an Agreement between Distribution Businesses and Meter Operators. Parties enter into the Agreement to regulate their relationships regarding the safety, technical and business interface requirements surrounding the provision of meter operation services, and to assure compliance with the requirements of the Agreement.

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6 Industry Views

We received 16 formal responses to the CP Consultation which are summarised below, and one email comment (not included in the below table). You can find the full responses in Attachment B.

Summary of CP1525 CP Consultation Responses				
Question	Yes	No	Neutral/ No Comment	Other
Do you agree with the CP1525 proposed solution?	11	5	0	0
Do you agree that the draft redlining delivers the intent of CP1525?	14	1	1	0
Will CP1525 impact your organisation?	16	0	0	0
Will your organisation incur any costs in implementing CP1525?	13	3	0	0
Do you agree with the proposed implementation approach for CP1525?	11	5	0	0
Do you have any further comments on CP1525?	5	11	0	0

Solution

11 respondents agreed with the solution proposed by CP1525. They commented that the formalised process for involving LDSOs in the fault rectification process would ensure consistency with how Suppliers and MOAs approached faults on LDSO owned Metering Equipment. Respondents also agreed that the increased transparency would benefit market participants.

The minority of respondents disagreed with the CP1525 solution, believing that it duplicated an existing process in the Distribution Connection Use of System Agreement. The respondent acknowledged that the BSC process was focussed on risks to Settlement rather than safety aspects covered in other industry processes, but believed that a combined process would be more effective than two distinct processes. ELEXON believes that while there are similarities with other industry processes, the solution does not create any conflicts, and notes that members of Issue 73 wanted to create a formalised BSC Process relating to fault rectification. ELEXON has agreed to work together with the MOCOPA Review Panel to ensure minimal duplication between differing industry processes where possible.

One respondent believed that by not extending the scope to include Non Half Hourly Meters, the solution would not realise the full benefit. They commented that their portfolio had many thousands of Non Half Hourly Meters that used measurement transformers. ELEXON notes that under the Licence condition for Meters with measurement transformers to be Advanced Meters, and the requirement for Advanced Meters to be settled Half Hourly, then this portfolio should significantly decrease before the implementation of CP1525.

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Implementation

11 consultation respondents agreed with the proposed implementation approach for CP1525, agreeing that the lead time was sufficient for industry participants to prepare their processes and systems for the change. Other respondents who disagreed with the implementation approach gave varying reasons for their opinion. These included alignment with the Faster Switching Programme, which aims to be implemented in November 2021.

Additional response

In addition to the responses captured above, we received one email response from a network operator. They believed that:

- There should be a rejection process in place in the instance that we are not:
 - The correct I/DNO party to contact; or
 - Responsible for the issue
- There should be a contact provided at the Supplier/MOA and LDSO, so the issue can be discussed and hence resolved in a timely manner. This will be especially useful where we need to meet on site to undertake a joint investigation/testing element.

ELEXON believes that if a fault is incorrectly raised with the LDSO, it will be able to close the fault down (noting that it is not responsible) as it will not be able to take any rectification action. We also note that the proposed new data flows allow a greater quality of information to be passed between participants to support the timely rectification of faults. The value of having a specific contact will vary between organisations depending on internal processes and so this was not included as standard in the solution.

Comments on the proposed redlining

14 respondents agreed that the proposed redlining would deliver the CP1525 solution. 1 respondent disagreed and one did not provide a view. Some noted minor corrections and clarifications that should be made prior to approval.

Comments on the CP1525 Proposed Redlining		
Document & Location	Comment	ELEXON's Response
BSCP502 3.4.3.A.3	Typo – resolve not resolve	We have corrected this.
BSCP502 3.4.3.A.4&5 BSCP514 5.4.2.4.A&B BSCP515 3.15.4&5	Refers to days rather than working days (WD). Presume should be WD? Repeated in 514 and 515.	We have corrected this.
BSCP502 3.4.3.A.6	There is reference to 5.4.2.3.B. This does not exist.	We have amended the reference to 3.4.3.A.5
BSCP502 3.4.3.A.6	If challenging Expected Action Date... Is "Expected Action Date" a	Yes, we have corrected this to read 'Expected Action Date'

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Comments on the CP1525 Proposed Redlining		
Document & Location	Comment	ELEXON's Response
	defined term and is it the same thing as "expected resolution date" as referred to in 3.4.3.A.5? If so change one or the other for standard terminology. Repeated in 514 and 515.	
BSCP502 3.4.3.A.10	We believe the HH Data Collector should also be notified at this point	We have added the HH Data Collector as a recipient.
BSCP502 3.4.3.A.12	Once the fault is fixed, the actions refers you back to Go to 3.4.3.this doesn't seem to be the appropriate ref.	This is the correct reference, it loops back into the MOA process for the MOA to confirm the fault is resolved and close down.
BSCP502 3.4.3.A.6 BSCP514 5.4.2.5 BSCP515 3.15.6	"If challenging Expected Action Date provided by HHMOA within 2WD of 5.4.2.3.B". The HHMOA will not have provided the Expected Action Date where the LDSO is responsible for the metering equipment. The reference to "5.4.2.3.B" is an invalid reference.	We have corrected this to read 'LDSO' and amended the reference.
BSCP502 3.4.3.A.10, BSCP514 5.4.2.9 BSCP515 3.15.10	Typo "Notify that the fault remains unresolved. And provide a revised expected resolution date." Remove full stop and amend to lower case "a".	We have corrected the grammar here.
BSCP515 3.15.12	"Go to 5.4.1.4.C". This is an invalid reference.	This step should be removed from the Distributor process; they are no longer involved.

7 Recommendations

We invite the **SVG** to:

- **AGREE** the amendments to the proposed redlining for BSCP502, BSCP514, and BSCP515 for CP1525 made following the CP Consultation;
- **APPROVE** the proposed changes to BSCP502, BSCP514 and BSCP515 for CP1525; and
- **APPROVE** CP1525 for implementation on 24 June 2021 as part of the June 2021 Release.

Appendix 1: Glossary & References

Acronyms

Acronyms used in this document are listed in the table below.

Acronyms	
Acronym	Definition
BSCP	Balancing and Settlement Code Procedure
CP	Change Proposal
CPC	Change Proposal Circular
LDSO	Licensed Distribution System Operator
MOA	Meter Operator Agent
MOCOPA	Meter Operation Code of Practice Agreement
SVA	Supplier Volume Allocation
SVG	Supplier Volume Allocation Group (<i>Panel Committee</i>)

DTC data flows and data items

[Data Transfer Catalogue data flows](#) and data items referenced in this document are listed.

DTC Data Flows and Data Items	
Number	Name
D[XYZ]	Fault Rectification Communication (<i>New flow being introduced</i>)

External links

A summary of all hyperlinks used in this document are listed in the table below.

External Links		
Page(s)	Description	URL
2	Issue 73 on the BSCCo Website	https://www.elexon.co.uk/smg-issue/issue-73/
2	CP1526 on BSCCo Website	https://www.elexon.co.uk/change-proposal/cp1526/
2, 3	CP1524 on BSCCo Website	https://www.elexon.co.uk/change-proposal/cp1524/
3	P382 on BSCCo Website	https://www.elexon.co.uk/mod-proposal/p283/
2, 4	BSCPs on the BSCCo Website	https://www.elexon.co.uk/bsc-and-codes/bsc-related-documents/bscps
4	2013 TAPAP report	https://www.elexon.co.uk/reference/performance-assurance/performance-assurance-techniques/technical-assurance-performance-assurance-parties-within-performance-assurance-framework/
8	SVG227	https://www.elexon.co.uk/meeting/svg227/

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