

UMSUG paper – Changes to the Standard Inventory Format

1. Purpose

This document is suggesting some changes to the Standard Inventory Format published at paragraph 8 of the Operational Information Document (OID) that will clarify the requirements placed upon customers and ensure consistency in Unmetered Supply Operator's (UMSO) treatment of customer's inventories.

2. Rationale

While providing a Meter Administrator (MA) service to our customers we have become aware of some customers encountering issues with rejection of inventories on the grounds that the inventory format does not strictly comply with the Standard Inventory Format.

This particularly affects “national” customers with inventories in more than one UMSO area, where an inventory format may be accepted by one UMSO, but rejected by another. One of our customers has had inventory submissions rejected by one UMSO for five months on the grounds of unacceptable formatting of some fields, whilst all other UMSOs have accepted regular monthly updates in the same format. This paper is suggesting some changes to clarify the formatting of the fields within the Standard Inventory Format.

There have also been other suggestions made to us by some UMSOs and they are included in the changes proposed.

These suggested changes should also be considered having regard to the proposed DCUSA changes to the Unmetered Supplies National Terms of Connection.

3. Changes Suggested

This paper is suggesting some changes to Section 8 of the OID, and those changes are shown in the attached appendix as a redlined version of Section 8 of the OID attached. A brief explanation of the reasoning behind each suggestion is given below.

- Para 8.1 – The changes suggested here bring forward from para. 8.2 the statement that the inventory is to be provided by attachment to email. The second part is a generic statement about leading zeros and field lengths, and the need to consult the notes at 8.3.
- Table in para.8.2 -Field 17 – The introduction of an optional sub-meter field where the customer has requested that the energy consumption is split for costing purposes.
- Para 8.2 – Removal of last sentence as considered to be no longer required.
- Para 8.3 –Field 7 – Emphasises that as per BSCP520 the CMS Unit Reference shall not have a leading “H” or “T”.
- Para 8.3 –Field 8 – The Charge Code field must have a leading zero if required and must not be blank.
- Para 8.3 – Field 9 – No. of Items must not be blank.
- Para 8.3 – Field 10 – As with the Charge Code, the Switch Regime must have a leading zero and must not be blank.
- Para 8.3 - Field 11 – If no controls are installed, the No. of Controls field can either be zero or blank. This note has also been amended to recognise that a Control Host code was introduced for feeder pillars that only contain the control device.

- Para 8.3 – Field 12 – If no controls are installed, the Control Charge Code can be either zero or blank.
- Para 8.3 – Field 14 – Not all Customers are able to provide this detail, the fields should be optional. It is suggested that if grid references or latitude & longitude are to be provided the degree of granularity should be specified.
- Para 8.3 – Fields 15 and 16 – Headings added for consistency with other notes.
- Para 8.3 – Field 17 – A new field added to enable customers to enter a sub-meter ID if they have agreed with their MA for the HH energy data to be split by sub-meter of the Equivalent Meter.

4. Recommendation

The UMSUG is invited to:

- Consider the suggested changes to the Standard Inventory Format,
- Invited to highlight any further changes that may clarify the minimum requirement for a Detailed Inventory submission by a customer,
- Recommend a way forward to progress changes to the Standard Inventory Format in the next update of the OID.

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08 December 2020