

Representation

Draft Modification Report

0430: Inclusion of data items relevant to smart metering into existing industry systems

Consultation close out date: 07 February 2013

Respond to: enquiries@gasgovernance.co.uk

Organisation: British Gas

Representative: David Speake

Date of Representation: 08 February 2013

Do you support or oppose implementation?

Support

Please summarise (in one paragraph) the key reason(s) for your support/opposition.

British Gas

Are there any new or additional issues that you believe should be recorded in the Modification Report?

No.

Relevant Objectives:

How would implementation of this modification impact the relevant objectives?

Where a customer with a smart meter changes supplier, the subsequent operation of that meter in dumb mode is against the interest of the customer, the supplier and the UK as a whole. Implementation of the modification will provide an essential reference point for all suppliers to better serve the requirements of customers with smart meters, delivering against the government's benefits case.

The availability of the proposed data items makes it easy for all suppliers to source the information they need to decide how to treat a new customer with a smart meter. It means that where a customer is disadvantaged by the loss of smart functionality on their meter, it will be as a result of the new supplier's choice, and not their inability to best serve the customer. This furthers competition between relevant suppliers.

Impacts and Costs:

What analysis, development and ongoing costs would you face if this modification were implemented?

Full development requirements will only be clear once related work under UK link has been completed. We anticipate the following development requirements:

- A one-off exercise to back-populate the new required data items against all existing smart supply points (anticipated to be 750,000 records)
- The development of systems functionality to recognise and use an additional child file(s) during the registration process
- The creation of several new fields on our own database
- The recognition, creation and processing of amended RGMA flows

We have not estimated related costs at this stage.

Implementation:

What lead-time would you wish to see prior to this modification being implemented, and why?

The implementation of the modification is proposed in two stages. We would expect the initial stage (supporting foundation) to be implemented as soon as possible in line with the suggested timescales. The enduring requirements would require at least 9 months due owing to busy development schedules in our internal systems development. Note that these timescales will be confirmed when the UK link work provides a full picture of the solution.

Legal Text:

Are you satisfied that the legal text will deliver the intent of the modification?

Yes.

Is there anything further you wish to be taken into account?

Please provide any additional comments, supporting analysis, or other information that that you believe should be taken into account or you wish to emphasise.

No.