

Change Proposal – F40/01	CP No: 1067 Version No: 1.0
Title:	Amendments to BSCP601, 'Metering Protocol Approval and Compliance Testing' following operational review.
Description of Problem/Issue: (<i>mandatory by originator</i>):	<p>BSCP601 provides assurance that new Metering Systems comply with the Codes of Practice (CoP) (Compliance Testing) and that Settlement data can be appropriately retrieved from them (Protocol Approval).</p> <p>A review of BSCP601 was conducted by a review group who convened three times in consideration of how improvements could be made to the document and the processes it details. It was agreed that any processes to be established should not be retrospective. A number of defects were identified in its current provisions that are addressed in this CP. The defects addressed are outlined below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No process exists for clearly ensuring that a Data Collector is tested for its ability to communicate correctly with the Metering Systems it reads. This should be incorporated into procedures and reflected in appropriately modified reporting of approvals. 2. No process exists for ensuring that where meters are subject to firmware updates that it is established whether these have any impact on the Approved Protocol, and if so, that appropriate testing for a revised Protocol Approval takes place. 3. The existing compliance test schedules are broken down by CoP. This is leading to duplication of documentation such as test schedules. 4. No process is identified for revoking existing approvals should subsequent operational experience suggest the Compliance and/or Protocol Approval issued was flawed. 5. Additionally, any opening up of BSCP601 under a Change Proposal to consider the aforementioned defects should also be taken as an opportunity to ensure that all other aspects of it are reviewed for clarity and completeness. As an example of minor areas for improvement that should be captured by such review, the document introduction does not make it clear that this procedure covers both Central Volume Allocation and Supplier Volume Allocation metering and this should be clarified.
Proposed Solution(s): (<i>mandatory by originator</i>):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Incorporation of procedure for approval of Data Collector, with appropriate cross-referencing of

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Compliance Test and Protocol Approvals

BSCP601 shall provide that a Data Collector will be approved when tests are conducted to the Panel's satisfaction with one or more Metering Systems that already have compliance approval. The approval will only extend to the meter types tested and approved. For clarity, a Data Collector may only retrieve data from Metering Systems when satisfactory tests have been conducted under BSCP601 to prove that the data retrieval methods used are appropriate.

The current Protocol Approval processes shall be amended to include the approval of new, and changes to existing, Data Collector retrieval systems as well as the approval of new Metering Systems. Provision shall also be made to allow for deviation from the test schedules to accommodate reduced testing where appropriate such as minor changes to Meters or retrieval systems. An applicant will apply for approval that will ensure that appropriate communications take place between either:

- The meter with an Accredited Data Collector; or
- An Accredited Data Collector with an approved meter.

Where there is a change to a Data Collector's data retrieval system and such change affects communications, a further approval may be required. Notification shall be provided to BSCCo in all cases of the change. For clarity, a change to the data retrieval system may not require approval if it is not relevant to a protocol and evidence of the impact will accompany the application.

The procedure for applying for Protocol Approval for a new or amended Metering Systems or a Data Collector shall reflect the steps set out in Annexes 1 and 2 and should be reflected in sections 2.1 and 2.2 of the BSCP.

Compliance Test and Protocol Approvals should be cross-referenced in order to clearly identify whether a combination of Data Collector and Meter has been approved as acceptable for use in Settlement. It should be made clear which communication method(s) was used in the testing.

A proposed matrix shows this cross-referencing and is shown in Annex 3¹.

2. Firmware updates to meters

BSCP601 shall provide that where a firmware update is made to a meter type by a manufacturer, the applicant shall notify BSCCo of this change and confirm whether it affects the current Protocol Approval.

Where the change does not affect Protocol Approval, BSCCo shall confirm and update the approval list for that meter type. This will require consequent changes to the list of data retrieval systems approvals. (i.e.

¹ It is noted that as approvals are published to the BSC Website that changes to the approvals list will ordinarily be made without the requirement to raise a Change Proposal. In this instance, as proposed changes encapsulated within this CP modify what is being approved, not simply how this approval is presented, the suggested new reporting format has also been shown in order to aid reader understanding of proposed new processes and reporting outcomes.

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where a Data Collector has approval for that Meter prior to the update that Data Collector will receive a new approval for the updated Meter type).

Where the change does affect Protocol Approval, the Meter shall proceed to appropriate testing as agreed with BSCCo under the application process. This procedure is also shown in Annex 2 and should be reflected in sections 2.1 and 2.2 of the BSCP.

3. Compliance test schedules

The existing Compliance Test approvals, which are CoP specific, shall be replaced by one generic schedule covering CoPs 1, 2, 3 and 5. This should be published to the BSC Website.

4. Creation of a process for investigating and revoking existing approvals where defects identified

BSCP601 shall contain a process for investigating complaints against the appropriateness of existing approvals. Both the complainant and the affected approval users (whether meter manufacturer, Data Collector or both) shall have the opportunity to provide supporting information that will allow the Panel to determine whether the existing approval remains fit for purpose or should be revoked.

The suggested procedure is shown in Annex 4.

5. Review of overall terminology/clarity

Additionally, any opening up of BSCP601 under a Change Proposal to consider the aforementioned defects should also be taken as an opportunity to ensure that all other aspects of it are reviewed for clarity and completeness. As an example of minor areas for improvement that should be captured by such review, the document introduction currently does not make it clear that the procedure covers both CVA and SVA metering - this should be clarified.

This CP proposes significant alterations to current processes. It is important that the information surrounding these processes, such as the introductory section of the BSCP, is tailored to the agreed solution. This section of the BSCP should be reviewed for clarity and completeness, with appropriate changes made, once the solution to other issues is finalised.

Justification for Change (mandatory by originator)

BSCP 601 is a key Code Subsidiary Document, as it provides appropriate assurances that Metering Systems used within Settlement adhere to the Codes of Practices and can be communicated with correctly by Accredited Data Collectors. It therefore seeks to ensure the integrity of Settlement data, upon which the market is founded.

It is currently considered to be defective in a number of areas, which are detailed in the 'Description of Problem/Issue' section of this Change Proposal. Particularly important is the lack of appropriate processes to ensure that a particular combination of Data Collector and Metering System have been tested for their ability to appropriately communicate in order to ensure that correct Meter data continues to be retrieved for use in Settlement. The lack of appropriate assurance on this may expose Parties to the risk of material inaccuracies in metered volumes.

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This Change Proposal also identifies a number of areas where processes are currently poorly detailed or inefficient and improvements can be made. It is understood that the processes within BSCP601 were written at a time when only one data collection system existed and therefore does not currently support competition in this area.	
Configurable Items Potentially Affected by Proposed Solution(s)	
None identified.	
Impact on Core Industry Documents	
None identified.	
Related Changes and/or Projects	
No interdependencies have been identified between this CP and other live changes/projects. However change to BSCP601 may be required after the implementation of CoP10.	
Requested Implementation Date	
First available scheduled release, probably February 2005.	
Reason:	
BSCP601 underpins the integrity of Settlement Data by ensuring that Metering Systems adhere to the Codes of Practice and can be communicated with correctly by Accredited Data Collectors. It would therefore appear that the business risk of failing to address significant current deficiencies within it would be high.	
In addition, industry feedback suggests that current BSCP601 provisions are badly communicated and often inefficient. A significant business benefit both to industry participants and to BSCCo would appear likely to result from making its processes more robust, comprehensive and comprehensible.	
Agreed Release/Implementation Date (mandatory by BSCCo)	

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Originator's Details:

BCA Name.....Richard Hall

Organisation.....ELEXON

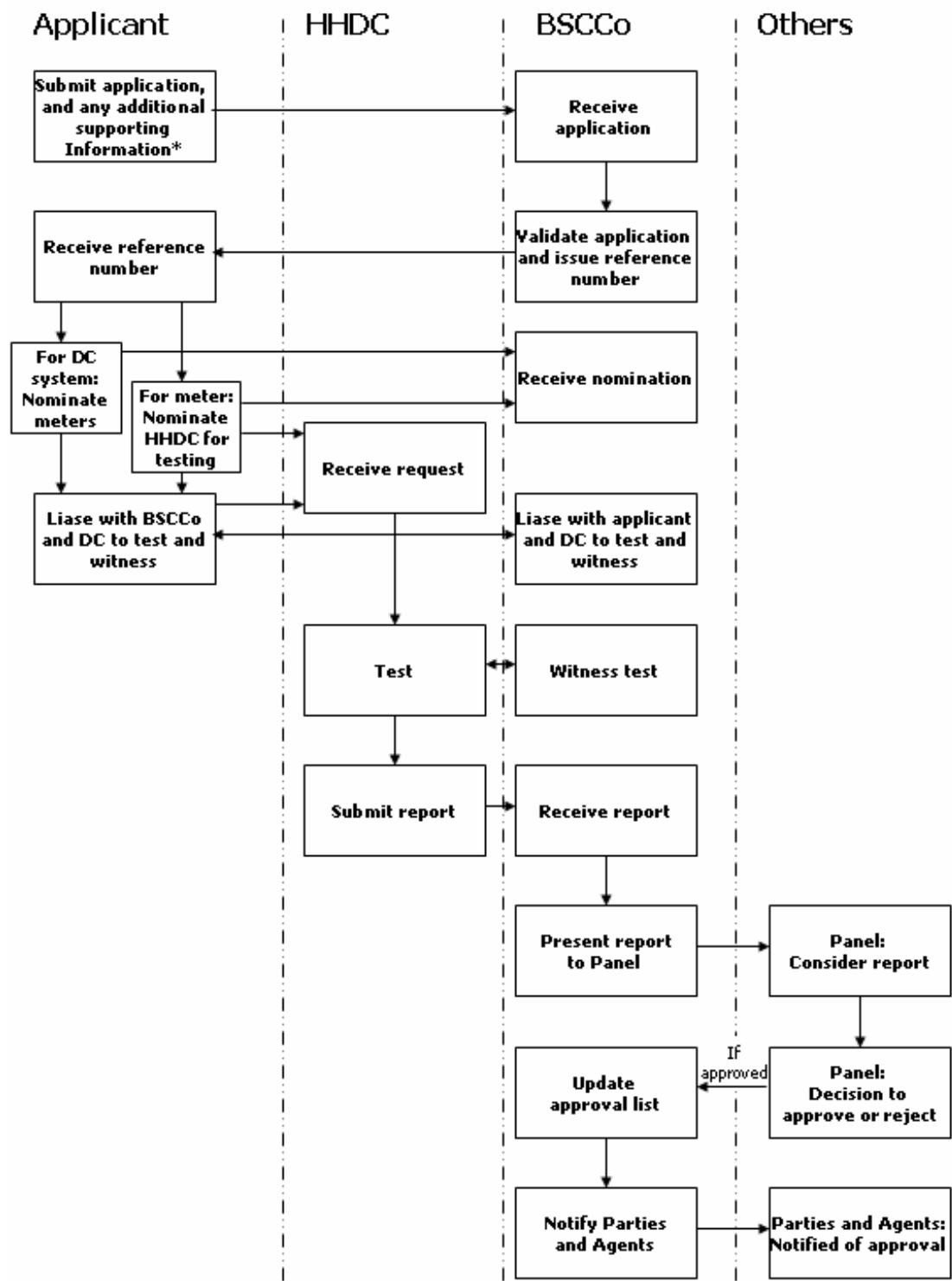
Email Address.....Richard.hall@elexon.co.uk

Date.....01/07/2004

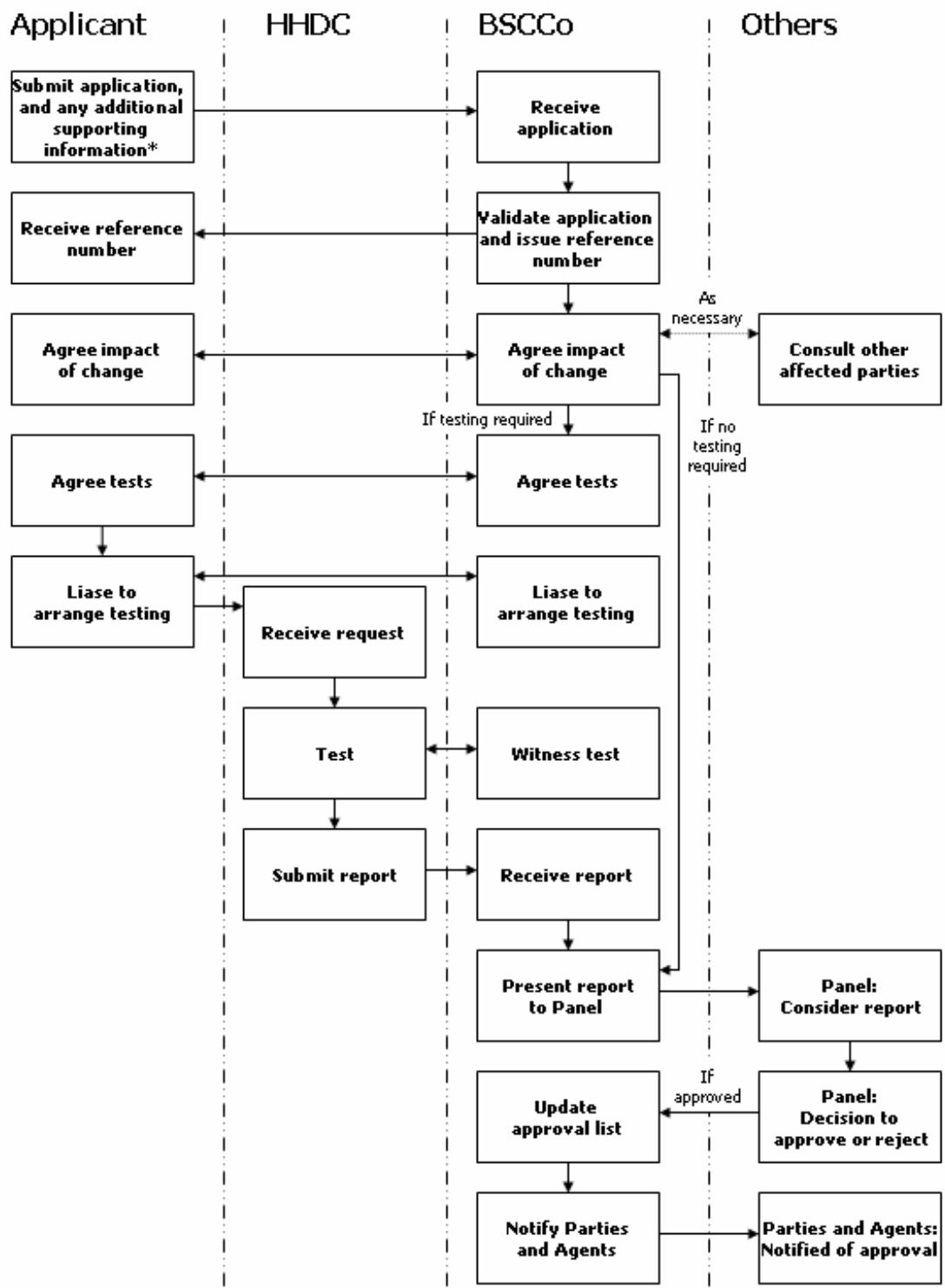
Attachments: Y (If Yes, No. of Pages attached: 4)

(*delete as appropriate*)

Annex 1: Process for Protocol approval – new meter or Data Collector



Annex 2: Process for approvals – amended meter or data retrieval system



* For the avoidance of doubt, such information may include details of the protocol to be tested

Annex 3: Suggested style of Compliance Test Approval / Protocol Approval matrix

		CoP COMPLIANCE APPROVALS				PROTOCOL APPROVALS				
DEVICE	TYPE	CoP1	CoP2	CoP3	CoP5	AGENT 1	AGENT 2	AGENT 3	AGENT 4	AGENT 5
Device A	i	✓abce dd/mm/yy				✓ abce dd/mm/yy	✓ abe dd/mm/yy		✓ ace dd/mm/yy	
Device B	i				✓abcdf dd/mm/yy		✓ abcdf dd/mm/yy	✓ abdf dd/mm/yy		✓ acdf dd/mm/yy
Device C	i			✓abc dd/mm/yy		✓ abc dd/mm/yy	✓ ac dd/mm/yy	✓ ab dd/mm/yy	✓ bc dd/mm/yy	✓ abc dd/mm/yy
Device D	i		✓abcf dd/mm/yy				✓ abc dd/mm/yy	✓ abf dd/mm/yy		

A superscript letter(s) against an Outstation (separate or integral) indicates the communication method(s) against which compliance and/or protocol approval has been tested. This list will be subject to periodic change in order to ensure it remains in line with the appropriate Codes of Practice:

- (a) Switched telephone networks e.g. PSTN or CTN;
- (b) Public data networks e.g. PSN;
- (c) Radio data networks e.g. Paknet or any equivalent;
- (d) Customer own network;
- (e) Mains signalling / power line carrier;
- (f) Low power radio;
- (g) Satellite; and
- (h) Cable TV.

The letter used within the type column indicates the nature of the device tested:

- (m) Meter
- (o) Outstation
- (i) Meter with integrated Outstation

Annex 4: Process for revoking approvals

