Change Proposal – BSCP40/02	**CP No: 1424**
	Version No: 0.1 *(mandatory by BSCCo)*

Title (mandatory by originator)

Amending the requirement for Data Aggregators to perform annual Full SMRS refreshes

Description of Problem/Issue (mandatory by originator)

Non Half Hourly (NHH) and Half Hourly (HH) Data Aggregators have expressed concern around the ongoing mandatory requirement for annual Supplier Meter Registration Service (SMRS) refreshes and their associated performance impacts. Participants believe that overall data quality has improved to the extent that Full SMRS refreshes deliver limited benefit to Settlement. The level of inconsistencies between NHHDA/HHDA databases and SMRS is such, that most inconsistencies can be addressed more efficiently by Selective (i.e. Metering System-specific) Refreshes. Refresh instructions are often too large to send over the Data Transfer Network (DTN) and have to be sent on CD-ROM, which may entail additional work for some Supplier Meter Registration Agents (SMRAs). When applying a refresh instruction, Data Aggregators are also required to suspend all other instruction processing from the point at which the SMRA issued the file.

This CP has been considered by the Software Technical Assurance Group (STAG) following ELEXON's concern that the SMRS refresh process introduces significant delays for Data Aggregators in normal instruction processing. ELEXON notes that at the point where the SMRA generates the D0209 'Instruction(s) to Non Half Hourly or Half Hourly Data Aggregator' flow, Data Aggregators have to suspend all other instruction processing until the refresh has been received, tested and applied. This means that subsequent 'business as usual' D0209 flows from that SMRA received after the refresh date have to be queued until after the refresh has been applied, in order to preserve the correct sequence of instructions. Where a refresh is too large for the DTN and has to be sent on CD-ROM, this can mean a suspension of D0209 flows processing for a period of two weeks or more, and means that Settlement is likely to drift out of alignment until the backlog of unprocessed instructions has been cleared.

ELEXON has asked SMRAs to comment on the views expressed by Data Aggregators and offer their own estimates of time and cost. The majority of SMRAs do not face the same operational disruption as Data Aggregators, because once the data for the refresh has been produced, normal sending of D0209 flows can continue. However, SMRAs have observed that the number of recipient Parties has increased significantly over the past ten years, and acknowledged that the overall quality and accuracy of Settlement data has improved in all areas over that period, but argued that SMRS refreshes have contributed to this improvement.

Proposed Solution (mandatory by originator)

ELEXON proposes that, rather than refreshes being performed for all agents and all SMRAs at regular intervals, indicators of material Settlement errors will be the trigger instead, such as D0095 'Non Half Hourly Data Aggregation Exception Report' flows and D0023 'Failed Instructions' flows. Analysis to date has shown that, for one recent party agent, close to 98% of the changes made by the refresh instruction were non-material, resulting only in minor changes

to the effective from dates of certain fields (mainly Grid Supply Point (GSP) Group and Line Loss Factor Class (LLFC)). Therefore, a shift to monitoring material errors is more in keeping with other forms of performance assurance carried out by ELEXON.

The new approach will be similar to the conditional application of the Dispute Final Run (DF) process for erroneously large Estimated Annual Consumption (EAC)/Annualised Advances (AA) disputes, where refreshes will be mandated only where the level of error in a particular GSP Group or SMRA area is considered to be excessive. SMRAs can raise concerns about the quality of SMRS data held by Data Aggregators and propose a refresh, although the final determination as to whether the requirements have been met for exiting or invoking mandatory SMRS refreshes will be made by ELEXON and the Performance Assurance Board (PAB).

SMRAs and Data Aggregators will still be able to agree bilaterally to do periodic refreshes at a time that is convenient to both parties. ELEXON or the PAB may also request a refresh on an ad-hoc basis if there are indications through the observed number of D0095 flows or D0023 flows that there may be inaccuracies in the underlying SMRS data. In transitioning to the new arrangements, ELEXON will aim to ensure that Data Aggregators and SMRAs are satisfied that the data is sufficiently aligned prior to cessation of mandatory SMRS refreshes.

Justification for Change (mandatory by originator)

ELEXON supports the view of Data Aggregators that the current mandatory process has led to an increase in the time required and level of operational disruption caused by applying full SMRS refresh instructions, particularly for those agents operating in multiple SMRA areas. There is also reasonable evidence that the level of material benefit to Settlement resulting from SMRS refreshes has steadily reduced over time.

ELEXON has previously investigated a proposal to reduce the time taken to process the refresh file by optimising instruction processing within the Data Aggregator application. However, it was concluded that this would offer limited benefit because it would only reduce one part of the process and not address the wider operational impacts of system support time, costs and constraints on test databases, all of which increase as agents settle across multiple GSPs/SMRAs.

To which section of the Code does the CP relate, and does the CP facilitate the current provisions of the Code? (mandatory by originator)

Section S 'Supplier Volume Allocation'

Estimated Implementation Costs (mandatory by BSCCo)

One ELEXON man day of effort to implement the redlined changes. One ELEXON man day equates to £240.

Configurable Items Affected by Proposed Solution(s) (mandatory by originator)

BSCP501 'Supplier Meter Registration Service'
BSCP503 'Half Hourly Data Aggregation for SVA Metering Systems Registered in SMRS'
BSCP505 'Non Half Hourly Data Aggregation for SVA Metering Systems Registered in SMRS'

Impact on Core Industry Documents or System Operator-Transmission Owner Code (mandatory by originator)

None identified.

Related Changes and/or Projects (mandatory by BSCCo)

None identified.

Requested Implementation Date:

Requested implementation for **25 June 2015** as part of the June 2015 BSC Systems Release.

Reason: Next available Release.

Version History (mandatory by BSCCo)

Version 1.0 of CP1424 was issued on 8 December 2014.

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Attachments: Y̶/N