

Change Proposal – F40/01

CP No: 1061

Version No: 1.0

Title *(mandatory by originator)* **Rationalisation of Interface Documents**

Description of Problem/Issue *(mandatory by originator)*

The Balancing and Settlement Code (the 'Code') currently specifies the requirements for documenting interfaces between Parties and central systems. ELEXON has reviewed the existing set of documents which discharge these obligations and identified several opportunities for improved efficiency in this area.

The NETA Data File Catalogue (NDFC) currently contains all files for communication between BSC Agents and Parties (or their Party Agents) defined as a consequence of NETA by any of the central service providers other than the Supplier Volume Allocation Agent (SVAA). It does not include SVAA interfaces, which are specified in the SVA Data Catalogue, and it does not include communications between central service providers.

In most cases the NDFC outlines communications with BSC Agent services currently provided by the Logica Central Service Agent (CSA). As such, the majority of information within the NDFC is available in the Logica Interface Definition and Design (IDD) Part 1. However, some communications included are not within the scope of the Logica IDD (for example Transmission Company flows/data items). The NDFC currently contains a detailed description of each report/data item, which, in most cases, is a duplication of, and is derived from, information contained in the Logica IDD.

The Reporting Catalogue is currently a stand alone document which outlines the data items within each of the reports in Section V of the Code. The Reporting Catalogue also covers other items which are reported, for example Code parameters set by the Panel and available on the BSC Website.

The Reporting Catalogue performs two main functions. Firstly, the Reporting Catalogue provides a high level summary of the reporting requirements in the Code (the scope of this differs from that of the Data Catalogues, as it includes, amongst other things, BSCCo reporting and Panel set parameters). Secondly, the Reporting Catalogue provides a link between Code reporting obligations and data items (although actual flow references are not currently provided). Much of the information contained in the Reporting Catalogue is a high level duplication of information in the NDFC and IDD.

In terms of CSA communications, there is currently a significant duplication of information between the NDFC, Reporting Catalogue and Logica IDD Part 1 (see Attachment 1 for an example). This results in a duplication of effort by ELEXON when changes to reports/data items are required (as the NDFC, Reporting Catalogue and IDD must all be updated). In addition, Parties are required to maintain and cross review to ensure consistency between each of the documents. Reducing any duplication of information between the NDFC, Reporting Catalogue and Logica IDD Part 1 would offer an efficiency benefit (both in terms of the maintenance effort required by Parties and reduced central system implementation costs for reporting changes). It is ELEXON's understanding that Parties use the Logica IDD as the primary source of CSA interface information.

Having reviewed the existing set of interface documents ELEXON presented its findings to the Imbalance Settlement Group (ISG) (Paper ISG 39/002, Attachment 2). The ISG endorsed the raising

Change Proposal – F40/01

CP No: 1061

Version No: 1.0

of a Change Proposal to consider further changes in this area. ELEXON's view that Parties currently utilise the IDD as the primary source of CSA interface information was supported by the ISG (noting that industry consultation during the Change Proposal process should identify any issues in this area).

Proposed Solution(s) *(mandatory by originator)*

The proposed solution is summarised here, for further detail please refer to Attachment 1.

The Code requirements for documenting interfaces between Parties and central systems would be unchanged.

The NDFC would continue to contain all files for communication between BSC Agents and Parties (or their Party Agents) defined as a consequence of NETA by any of the central service providers other than the SVAA. SVAA interfaces (which are specified in the SVA Data Catalogue) and communications between central service providers would remain outside the scope of the NDFC. Information within the NDFC that is available in the Logica IDD Part 1 would be removed and replaced with an incorporative cross reference. For those communications which are not within the scope of the Logica IDD Part 1 no changes would be made (i.e. detailed flow information would remain).

The Reporting Catalogue would be retained as a stand alone document. However information within the Reporting Catalogue available in the Logica IDD Part 1 would be removed and replaced with an incorporative cross reference. For those reports not within the scope of the Logica IDD Part 1 no changes would be made (i.e. the lists of data items would remain). The addition of flow references would provide a complete link between Code reporting obligations and defined flows and data items.

As a consequence of the inclusion of incorporative cross references in the NDFC and the Reporting Catalogue, relevant sections of the IDD would effectively become part of the NDFC/Reporting Catalogue (NB: only the particular sections of the IDD that are directly referred to would gain this status i.e. the detailed flow information). As a result of being included in a Code Subsidiary Document, the relevant sections of the IDD would be required to comply with Section 3.1 of the Code (which sets out change management procedures for Code Subsidiary documents). The impact of this is minimal as the IDD is currently a configurable item and subject to the same change management procedure as a Code Subsidiary Document.

Justification for Change *(mandatory by originator)*

It is considered that rationalisation of the current interface documentation would offer efficiency benefits both in terms of central implementation costs and individual Party's change management processes.

It has been estimated that, since NETA Go-live, ELEXON has spent 60 man days effort (equivalent to £24,000) updating the NDFC and the Reporting Catalogue in order to keep these documents aligned with the IDD. This includes 8 system releases requiring changes to the NDFC and 9 requiring changes to the Reporting Catalogue.

The cost of progressing and implementing the identified solution has been estimated as 30 man days effort (equivalent to £12,000) on behalf of ELEXON. It has been estimated that, in terms of central system costs, the proposed solution would pay for itself after two large releases of the BSC Systems (in which both the NDFC and Reporting Catalogue are impacted).

Please note this analysis has not taken account of any potential savings to Parties associated with

Change Proposal – F40/01	CP No: 1061 Version No: 1.0
rationalisation of the interface documentation.	
Configurable Items Potentially Affected by Proposed Solution(s) <i>(optional by Originator)</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neta Data File Catalogue, • Reporting Catalogue; and • Logica Interface Definition and Design. 	
Impact on Core Industry Documents <i>(optional by originator)</i>	
None Identified	
Related Changes and/or Projects <i>(mandatory by BSCCo)</i>	
None Identified	
Requested Implementation Date <i>(mandatory by originator)</i>	
Most cost efficient Release.	
Reason:	
The change is proposed in order to realise a cost benefit, this will be maximised if the change is implemented in the most cost efficient manner.	
Agreed Release/Implementation Date <i>(mandatory by BSCCo)</i>	
Originator's Details:	
BCA Name	Tom Bowcutt
Organisation	ELEXON
Email Address	thomas.bowcutt@elexon.co.uk
Date	07/06/04

Change Proposal – F40/01

CP No: 1061

Version No: 1.0

Attachments: Y-

Attachment 1: Current Interface Document Structure and Changes Proposed under CP1061

Attachment 2: ISG Paper 39/002-'Review of Interface Documentation'