Provision of Annualised Advance and Estimated Annual Consumption Data to LDSO

Description:
Currently Annualised Advance and Estimated Annual Consumption Data is provided by Data Collectors to Suppliers and Non Half Hourly Data Aggregators through use of the DTC data flow D0019. Modification Proposal P43 was raised by Western Power in January 2002 proposing that these should be provided to LDSOs. This proposal was rejected. At the time one of the key reasons for rejection was the lack of support. However, it appeared to be acknowledged that this was an issue that could be revisited at a future date if circumstances changed.

We believe circumstances have changed.

At the time of the proposal business separation was still being undertaken and business attention was focussed elsewhere. However, all LDSOs are now operating as completely separate entities and no longer receive site specific consumption information in respect of customers trading under the supercustomer mechanism. Therefore, it is appropriate to review the value that such information has to LDSOs.

New LDSOs have entered the market. Typically, such distributors connect their networks to the distribution systems of the ex-PES LDSOs. Ex PES DNOs and IDNOs are exploring solutions that avoid the use of boundary metering to ascertain use of system. One potential solution involves the IDNO providing aggregates of settlement data to the ex-PES LDSO for the purpose of billing DUoS. This would in essence replicate the current mechanism for billing of DUoS to suppliers. By IDNOs providing the data to the LDSO no changes to the BSC systems and products are required. However one of the concerns raised by DNOs is that they need to understand maximum demands on IDNO connections on a site by site basis for network planning and operation reasons. The solution proposed is for the DTC dataflow D0019 to be provided by the data collector to the relevant LDSO.

Justification:
All LDSOs (both DNOs and IDNOs) need to understand the consumption on their networks so that they can ensure economic and efficient operation of their respective distribution systems. Over engineering a system results in inefficient design, operation and additional costs. Under engineering reduces the resilience of distribution networks and increases the risk of disturbance to end consumers. Electricity consumption provides a useful proxy for demand. Whilst DNOs receive copies of meter readings the data may be two years out of date and has to be cleansed for it to have value. Although DNOs can request Suppliers to provide information on an adhoc basis, by its very nature handling these specific request is likely to be expensive.

Additionally, the Electricity Networks Association is facilitating a work group comprising of IDNOs, DNOs to look at alternative solutions to boundary metering. In considering solutions parties have identified that the provision of the D0019 flow could form part of the solution in that it would enable consumption, and therefore demand, to be assessed at each connection boundary. Ofgem also attend this working group

We believe that such information assists in the planning of distribution systems and facilitates the economic and efficient operation of distribution systems. In the future distributed generation is expected to play a bigger part in the operation of the UK electricity industry. If future solutions rely on the netting off of generation and demand at different distribution nodes then such information will be essential.