

Introduction



Editor's Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of the MRA Newsletter and a Happy New Year!

2021 is a key year for the MRA as it will be brought to a close on 31st August 2021 and be subsumed by the go live of the Retail Energy Code (REC) on 1st September 2021. In this edition you will get an update on the future of the MRA Standing Groups, Ofgem's confirmation on SCR timelines and expectations, the Ofgem Switching Programme – Data Cleanse, a message from the REC Manager and many more important topics.

We always like to hear from you, and we welcome feedback on this edition as well as any topics you would like covered in future editions. Feel free to contact us via Support.MRA@gemserv.com.

I hope you enjoy the read, and as we progress into this New Year remember “This is the beginning of anything you want”.

Michelle Awosoga – MRA Governance and Communication Manager

MRASCo News

Ofgem Switching Programme Update - Data Cleanse

The Data Cleanse figures for Plot to Postal reports are increasing, the target for Smart Prepayment Meter Timeswitch Code (MTC) is yet to be met and progress for Related Meter Point Administration Number (MPAN) reports has slowed down.

Parties have been reminded that cleansing work feeds into the upcoming Switching Programme 'L3 DA306 - Related MPAN and Plot to Postal Data Quality checkpoint 1 milestone' in January 2021. Ofgem will be engaging with several Suppliers in relation to their progress against these data cleansing issues.

Ofgem presented their decision to include an additional cleanse target for Related MPANs with an Unrestricted Standard Settlement Configuration (SSC) to Data Working Group (DWG), which was approved. This will result in a new cleansing requirement for Suppliers as part of the Switching Programme.

The new issue was identified and discussed via the Related MPAN subgroup and highlighted that there are approximately 212k MPANs with a Relationship Flag and an Unrestricted SSC. If unresolved prior to CSS go-live, this is likely to result in switching issues and an increased risk of Erroneous Transfers.

Parties are reminded to continue working on the Data Cleanse reports to avoid volumes increasing and to build on the good progress that has been made to date.

MRASCo News

Future of MRA Standing Groups

As a result of Ofgem's letter to code bodies in December 2020 setting out Ofgem's expectations on code change over the coming months, the MRA change process after February 2021 should only be used for urgent legal changes or where the change can be handed over to the REC Code Manager for implementation.

MRA Executive Committee (MEC) agreed at its January 2021 meeting, the future of the MRA Standing Groups. MEC decided that the last meeting where the MRA Development Board (MDB) is likely to decide on changes is at its meeting in February 2021. Beyond this point the business for MDB is likely to be minimal and probably could be handled by MEC. As a result of this, MDB will be stood down after the conclusion of its February 2021 meeting and made available should the need arise for urgent changes to be progressed.

The meeting dates will remain available for MDB as per the released schedule, this will enable parties to focus on other key areas as the MRA transitions to the REC. The relevant 'For Information' papers will still be made available to MDB members through Huddle on the usual meeting schedule.

The Issue Resolution Expert Group (IREG) and Green Deal Expert Group (GDEG) meetings will continue to hold until 31st August 2021 – subject to enough meeting content, as these meetings address developing changes or resolving issues that could be handed over to the REC Code Manager.

If you have any concerns or queries, please get in touch via support.MRA@gemserv.com.

MRASCo News

February 2021 Release

The next planned MRA Products Release is due on Thursday 25th February 2021, the first release of 2021 will include updates to the MRA Products detailed below:

MRA DTC Release

The following changes will be included within the DTC v13 release:

- [DTC CP 3572 - Changes to the D0268 \(Half Hour Meter Technical Details\)](#)
- [DTC CP 3578 - Sending UMS HH data from the Meter Administrator to HHDC](#)

The planned release documents are available to preview on the [View Annex](#) page of the [MRASCo DTC website](#).

DTC Release Update

Due to the implementation of DTC CP 3572 (D0268 changes), updates to DTC Annex C are being implemented to the notes for the Communications Address Data Item (J0385 and its alias J2266), to ensure the format of the IPV6 IP address population includes square brackets. These characters are not currently available to use within the DTN valid character set, detailed in the Data Transfer Network User File Design Specification document.

Consequentially, 'DTC CP 3581 - Add Square Brackets as valid category set to Annex A' has now been raised to add Square Brackets as a valid category set to Annex A of the DTC for the Communications Address Data Items to align with the agreed DTS solution. The change has been submitted to the MRA Development Board to determine an impact assessment period with a view to a June 2021 implementation. A parallel change will be raised to implement the proposals to the DTN rules via the DTS User Group.

MRASCo News

Non-DTC MRA Release

MRA Products to be updated due changes being implemented 25th February 2021:

- MAP 08 - The Procedure for Agreement of Change of Supplier Readings and Resolution of Disputed Change of Supplier Readings
- MAP 10 - The Procedure for Resolution of Erroneous Transfers
- MAP24 - Smart Prepayment Change of Supplier Exceptions Process

The approved change being implemented on 25th February 2021:

- [MAP CP 0337 - Differentiating between Residential and Business queries received via SDEP](#)
- [MAP CP 0338 - Application of UTRN process for SMETS1 meters enrolled in DCC](#)

The updated documents will be live on the [MRASCo Website](#) under 'MRA Products' on 25th February 2021.

Electricity Central Online Enquiry Service (ECOES) Release 6.2

The ECOES Release 6.2 will be deployed on the 25th February 2021 with the following changes:

- Pending MDB Decision - Separation of Archiving on SDEP
- [MIF 331 - Amendments to SDEP User Reporting](#)
- [MIF 326 - New Mandatory Fields in SDEP Processes](#)
- [MIF 332 - Bulk assigning and adding filters in SDEP](#)
- [MIF 336 - SDEP Data Cleanse and MPAS Processes](#)
- [MIF 335 - MSN History Details to be made available to Suppliers](#)

If you have any queries, please get in touch via support.MRA@gemserv.com.

MRASCo News

Did you know...?

United Kingdom Revenue Protection Association (UKRPA) National Conference 2021

In light of continued COVID-19 impacts, the [2021 UKRPA Revenue Protection Conference](#) has been rescheduled to **Wednesday 16th – Thursday 17th June 2021**. The event will be held at [Highgate House, Creton, Northampton](#). The provisional programme for the two-day event has been released and we are excited to confirm that Laura Sandys, Independent Director at SGN and former Chair of the European Movement UK and Energy Systems Data Taskforce, will present as Keynote Speaker.

To receive further information or to book your place, please contact UKRPA@Gemserv.com.



Industry News

Message from the REC Manager

2021 is the year in which the digital, dual-fuel Retail Energy Code (REC) will become fully operational. The Code Manager has been mobilising since October 2020 and plans are well underway to design, build and test the systems, processes, interactions and documentation needed to enable a smooth transition to the new arrangements for all Parties.

As part of our preparatory activities, and to ensure we can engage with you as REC parties as effectively as possible, we will shortly be in touch to ask for contact information for people responsible for certain functions within your organisation.

This is likely to include your REC Contract Manager and appropriate contacts to discuss performance assurance, change management, data provision and IT.

So, look out for this in the first week of February 2021 for you to complete and send back within two weeks to enable us to commence communications with the relevant individuals.

Industry News

Ofgem's Confirmation on SCR Timelines and Expectations

Ofgem wrote to code bodies in December 2020 to confirm its expectations on code change over the coming months.

Ofgem confirmed that until 28th February 2021, code modification processes can continue as normal, and changes that have been approved by 28th February 2021 can have an implementation date of any time after that so long as these changes are not inconsistent with the direction of travel in the REC.

Ofgem asked code bodies to discuss changes as soon as it is identified with Ofgem and the Retail Energy Code Company (RECCo) where an MRA or SPAA change approved by 28th February 2021 that has an implementation date after 1st September 2021, so that they may consider how this is best handled in the REC drafting. Ofgem will discuss these cases with RECCo and the REC Manager.

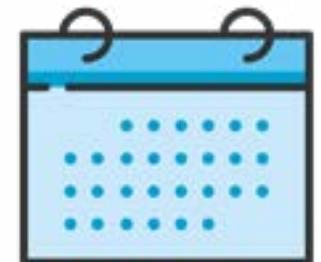
Ofgem advised that after 28th February 2021, change processes should only proceed where there is an exceptional or urgent need, or where it is thought that work that is undertaken now will be capable of being handed over to the REC Manager for implementation. In these cases, the changes should be discussed with Ofgem and RECCo as early as possible.

Finally, Ofgem confirmed that after 18th June 2021, new changes that have not been agreed before 28th February 2021 can only be implemented where there is an urgent legal requirement (e.g. Health and Safety issues). This is because the SCR text will be fixed at this point, and any further changes that need to be reflected in the REC from 1st September 2021 will require an alternative change process. If any changes fall into this category, they should be discussed with Ofgem as soon as the need for change is identified. Ofgem will discuss these changes with RECCo and the REC Manager.

Key Dates

Date	Event
10/02/2021	IREG
11/02/2021	ETPAB
23/02/2021	MRA Forum
23/02/2021	MEC & Board
25/02/2021	MDB
25/02/2021	February Product Release

Date	Event
10/03/2021	IREG
10/03/2021	GDEG
11/03/2021	ETPAB
23/03/2021	MEC & Board
25/03/2021	MDB





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Contact Details

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Next MRA newsletter is due on 31st March 2021.