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MP285 'Radio Teleswitch Service switch off'

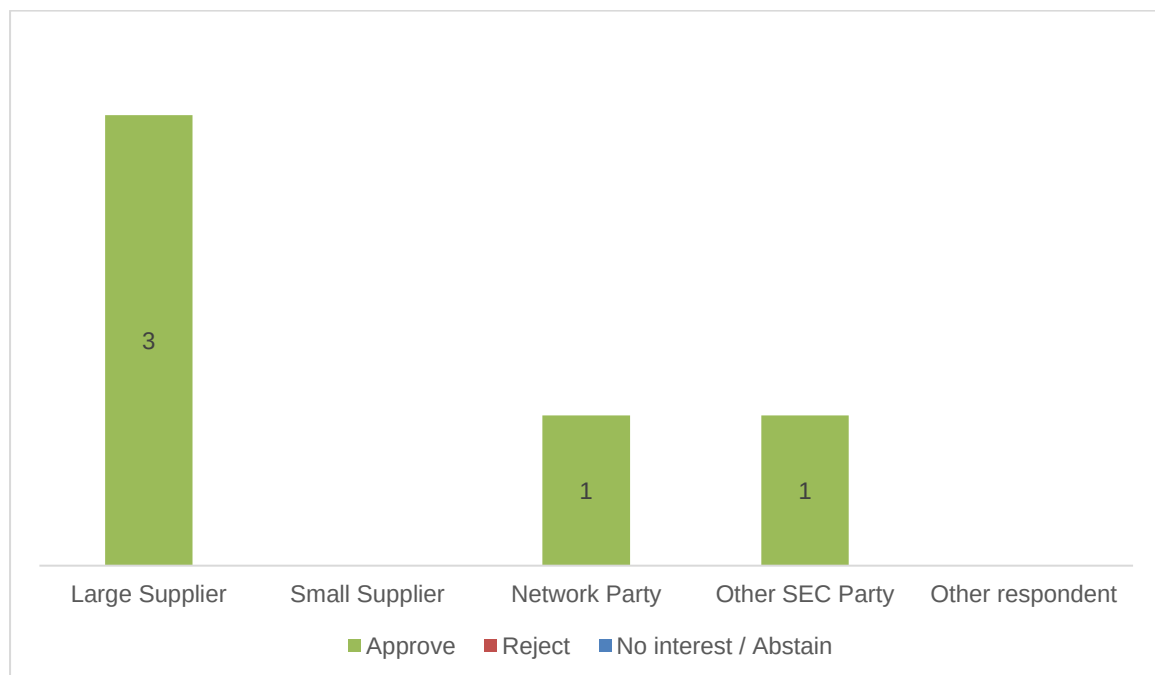
Annex B

Modification Report Consultation responses

About this document

This document contains the full collated responses received to the MP285 Modification Report Consultation.

Summary of responses



Question 1: Do you believe that MP285 should be approved or rejected?

Question 1				
Respondent	Category	Response	General SEC Objectives	Rationale
EON	Large Supplier	Approve	(a), (c) and (g)	Suppliers should be providing the best possible service to customers using the available technology. The Arqiva solution in CSP-N has not provided the contractual WAN coverage, so the additional option of using cellular technology will assist in providing a one-visit working customer solution.
National Grid Electricity Distribution	Network Party	Approve	(a)	-
OVO	Large Supplier	Approve	(a)	This restrictions set out in the SMWAN Checker to not allow for DCC provided Communications Hubs in the North does not, without this change, for the efficient provision of a working smart meter in the North due to the issues being encountered in the North region. This will allow, in many circumstances, the optionality to attempt an alternative CH where there is No WAN or issues with the WAN at the meter location.
British Gas	Large Supplier	Approve	(a)	Necessary to protect customers' heating and hot water following the RTS switch off, for customers with RTS meters in no WAN areas.
Calisen Asset Management Ltd	Other SEC Party	Approve	(a)	-

Question 2: Please provide any further comments you may have.

Question 2		
Respondent	Category	Comments
EON	Large Supplier	1. EON strongly supports the use of the more generic term “Cellular Comms Hubs” rather than calling out 2G, 3G or 4G Communication Hubs when installers are checking for WAN signal at a consumer’s property. 2. EON strongly supports removing any restriction on the use of “Cellular Comms Hubs” solely to RTS replacements. Non-RTS customers should be able to have access to the most suitable WAN technology at their premise, regardless of whether they are an RTS or a non-RTS customer. The statement that “The DCC estimate of costs to support cellular Communication Hubs in the North Geographical Region for RTS replacement only will cost an estimated £2m-3m per year” suggests unreasonable costs. This figure needs itemisation, justification and detailed scrutiny. One could argue that this should be virtually zero overall, as it is an offset from supporting Arqiva CHs to supporting cellular CHs.
National Grid Electricity Distribution	Network Party	-
OVO	Large Supplier	The legal text does not describe what RTS is correctly as defined in the RTS Agreement – At this time we feel what is written suffices but may need, when not as urgent, for the wording to be updated accordingly. This has no bearing on the need to progress and implement this modification. We fully support the need to be able to fit cellular in the North and feel this is the first step in resolving that challenge all Suppliers face. We welcome the next steps in having confirmation from the DCC as to how these CH’s will be maintained once commissioned and any issues encountered where WAN is not available but should be is tackled. At this time, due to the urgency upon us due to the signal being switched off, we must enable the ability to fit communications hubs that enable access to the DCC Services.
British Gas	Large Supplier	Is it possible to give a bit more detail on the £2-3m per year cost estimate from the DCC. Is this for 4G or 2G/3G or both?

Question 2		
Respondent	Category	Comments
Calisen Asset Management Ltd	Other SEC Party	We are supportive of this change as this will allow smart metering installers to take appropriate action to replace RTS meters and provide consumers with effective and communicating smart meter systems. We need to provide all options to allow the successful replacement of RTS meters within the defined timescales and this change will assist with this.