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SECMP0015 Working Group Consultation

1. Purpose

This is the Working Group Consultation for SECMP0015 'GPF timestamp for reading instantaneous Gas values'. We invite you to respond to this consultation in order to help the Proposer and the Working Group in the development of this modification.

The draft Modification Report is included in this consultation pack, along with a response form containing the questions we seek your views on.

This consultation will close at **17:00** on **Wednesday 24 April 2019**. The Working Group may not be able to consider late responses.

2. Summary of the proposal

What is the issue?

A Gas Smart Metering Equipment (GSME) continuously updates its Consumption Register to reflect the volume of gas passing through its measuring element, which continuously updates the Meter Balance. GSMEs are designed to power on every 30 minutes to save battery life and when powered on the GSME reports instantaneous reads to the GPF. The GPF keeps a copy of what is reported so that these copied values can be read from the GPF directly rather than from the GSME itself, again saving GSME battery life.

The instantaneous values read from the GPF will be from a time in the past. Normally these periodic updates happen every 30 minutes but sometimes they happen less frequently (e.g. due to local radio interference on the Home Area Network (HAN)). There is currently no way of knowing the date or time of the last instantaneous value meaning the information could be misleading (especially if there has been no update from the GSME for an extended period). This could have an impact on a Supplier's interactions with a customer and could also provide an out-of-date picture of consumption and meter balance to customers via In Home Displays (IHDs) or Prepayment Interface Devices (PPMIDs), without it being obvious that the position is out-of-date. A discrepancy between the real position and a Supplier's perception could also have a detrimental impact on aspects such as billing and Direct Debits (which will be of particular concern for prepayment customers).

What is the Proposed Solution?

This SEC modification aims to allow Remote Parties and Devices reading the instantaneous values from the GPF to know the time on the GSME's Clock when those values were provided. Similarly, IHDs and PPMIDs will also be able to determine (and display) the time of the last update.

Will I be impacted?

SECMP0015 is expected to impact the following SEC Parties:

- All Supplier Parties
- Gas Network Parties
- Other SEC Parties
- DCC

Full details of how this modification may impact you can be found in the Modification Report.

3. Contact

If you have any questions on this modification, please contact **Harry Jones** on 020 7081 3345 or email sec.change@gemserv.com.