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Uncontrolled Gas Flow Rate – recommendations

This guidance document provides details of recommendations and recommended actions in relation to Uncontrolled Gas Flow Rate (UGFR). The guidance provides recommendations on the following two areas:

1. UGFR – recommended settings at Manufacture; and
2. recommendations for suppliers’ literature, which builds on the agreed approach on UGFR settings at the point of manufacture.

1. Uncontrolled Gas Flow Rate – recommended settings at Manufacture

Uncontrolled Gas Flow Rate (UGFR, SMETS 4.6.4.33) is defined as ‘flow rate in units of volume per unit time used in the detection of uncontrolled flow of gas on Enablement of Supply’. Service Request (SR) 6.7 ‘Update Device Configuration (Gas Flow)’ enables the Uncontrolled Flow Threshold parameter to be set in integer values of m³/h (and noting that other parameters unrelated to UGFR are set in the same SR). UGFR needs to be set in multiples of 0.001 m³/h (litres/hour) and a SEC Modification Proposal ([SECMP0023](#)¹) has been raised by Industry to implement this. In advance of this modification being implemented, TSIRS agreed that Suppliers are recommended to purchase GSMEs with initial values for UGFR (set at manufacture). The following initial values were confirmed by Suppliers and gas meter manufacturers at the June 2016 TSIRS meeting (and are reflected in the minutes):

Uncontrolled Flow Threshold	0.05 m ³ /h
Stabilisation Period	10s
Measurement Period	60s

Note: In advance of SECMP0023 being implemented, if these values are subsequently changed by the Supplier through Service Request 6.7 (which also includes parameters not related to UGFR), then it will not be possible to revert to these initial values using any Service Request (until SECMP0023 has been implemented in DCC systems). If a Supplier wishes to retain these ‘at manufacture’ values, then the Supplier should not send Service Request 6.7.

2. Uncontrolled Gas Flow Rate – recommendation for suppliers’ literature

Energy UK and the HSE’s Health and Safety Laboratory has carried out further work to assess the appropriateness of the TSIRS recommended UGFR value above. The work considered review input from Energy UK members, and representatives from gas meter manufacturers and BEIS. The work concluded there is nothing to suggest the TSIRS proposed value is unreasonable, therefore having this value adopted by industry is preferable. The work also proposed a practical recommendation for Suppliers; this recommended that Suppliers make clear in their smart metering and smart prepayment literature the need:

¹ SECMP0023 - Correct Units of Measure for Uncontrolled Gas Flow Rate

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- For consumers to ensure that boilers are turned off prior to initiating the test for supply re-enablement; and
- To advise consumers that once the test for supply re-enablement is complete and the supply has been re-enabled, then the boiler can be turned back on – therefore an unexpected flow of gas will be because of another appliance being left on.