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MP148 'IVP Extension for pre-SMETS2 v4.2 Devices'

Request for Information responses

Annex B

About this document

This document contains the full non-confidential collated responses received to the MP148 Request for Information.

Question 1: Approximately how many meter assets did you have in stock/in the supply chain as of March 2020?

Question 1		
Respondent	Category	Response
OVO Energy	Large Supplier	310,000
Stark Utility Funding Ltd.	Other SEC Party	1200
E.ON	Large Supplier	The full details are provided in the RED version of this document.
Bulb Energy	Large Supplier	Bulb's supply chain contained a substantial number of devices as of March 2020, plus committed volumes from manufacturers that were in production or transit at the time of the first national lockdown.
EDF	Large Supplier	The full details are provided in the RED version of this document.

Question 2: Approximately how many meter assets did you have in stock/in the supply chain as of December 2020?

Question 2		
Respondent	Category	Response
OVO Energy	Large Supplier	277,000, of which 124,000 are on Release 1.
Stark Utility Funding Ltd.	Other SEC Party	1341
E.ON	Large Supplier	The full details are provided in the RED version of this document.
Bulb Energy	Large Supplier	The full details are provided in the RED version of this document.
EDF	Large Supplier	The full details are provided in the RED version of this document.

Question 3: Approximately how many pre v4.2 SMETS2 meter assets would be scrapped if the existing IVP date of 27 April 2021 is not changed?

Question 3		
Respondent	Category	Response
OVO Energy	Large Supplier	34,700 meters (both Gas and Elec) and 43,700 PPMIDs will need reflashing to R2.
Stark Utility Funding Ltd.	Other SEC Party	0
E.ON	Large Supplier	The full details are provided in the RED version of this document.
Bulb Energy	Large Supplier	<p>This is difficult to predict with the uncertainty of changing restrictions across Great Britain, including the recently announced stricter restrictions in Scotland which have impacted suppliers' activities there in the near term.</p> <p>It is unknown at present how the circumstances in England, Scotland and Wales could evolve and the impact this could have on customer behaviour towards installation bookings.</p>
EDF	Large Supplier	The full details are provided in the RED version of this document.

Question 4: Do you agree with the proposed length of time to extend the IVP end date by?

Question 4			
Respondent	Category	Response	Rationale
OVO Energy	Large Supplier	No	Although we agree with the logic used to establish the extension, the recent lockdown and suspension of installations altogether in Scotland means the period suggested will not be long enough. Either this Mod factors that, or a further Mod might be required, which is not a situation any wish to be in. The date stated was defined prior to these being imposed and the overall reduction in rates of installations being faced by all. We recommend pursuing further thought into a more realistic time scale for the extension based on where we are now.
Stark Utility Funding Ltd.	Other SEC Party	Yes	For suppliers with stock, it is reasonable to use stock by that date
E.ON	Large Supplier	No	E.ON appreciates that the modification was raised by ourselves and the original time frame proposed was six months. However, based on; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The early effects of the current lockdown on our install rates, 2. The uncertainty of any future lockdown(s)/tightening of restrictions and what impact that has on customers willingness to book an appointment 3. Having to adapt our strategy to limit the impact to our customers of HAN Stability, whilst also waiting for resolutions from the relevant stakeholders. We propose that the length of time be extended from six months to 12 months to give the industry enough time to recover and provide contingency for future uncertainties.
Bulb Energy	Large Supplier	Yes	We fully support extended the IVP for pre SMETS4.2 devices being extended to 27 October 2021.

Question 4			
Respondent	Category	Response	Rationale
			Given the ongoing impact of Covid19 on the rate of smart meter installations and delays that industry has experienced with SMETS4.2 devices being delivered into supply chains, this is an appropriate and pragmatic modification. An extension of 6 months allows for suppliers (and MAPs, manufacturers) to continue to review their stock levels.
EDF	Large Supplier	N/A	The full details are provided in the RED version of this document.

Question 5: Will your organisation incur any costs and/or realise any cost savings in implementing DP148?

Question 5			
Respondent	Category	Response	Rationale
OVO Energy	Large Supplier	Yes	The costs incurred will be minimal but the savings will be made in us not having the reflash any devices and scrap those that we can no longer install due to no fault or our own making.
Stark Utility Funding Ltd.	Other SEC Party	No	As all pre 4.2 meters will be installed by end February 2021
E.ON	Large Supplier	Yes	The full details are provided in the RED version of this document.
Bulb Energy	Large Supplier	No	
EDF	Large Supplier	Yes	There would be no costs to implementing DP148 for EDF Energy. There would be benefits amounting to the costs of the stranded assets being saved rather than scrapped.

Question 6: Please provide any further comments you may have

Question 6		
Respondent	Category	Comments
OVO Energy	Large Supplier	As identified in response to Question 4 – the date proposed of the 27th of April may not be feasible under the restrictions and suspensions set out after this Mod was raised. We want an extension, but we do not feel we can remove all impacted devices from our asset channels in 3 months under the current government restrictions. Especially with a customer base in Scotland such as ours.
Stark Utility Funding Ltd.	Other SEC Party	None
E.ON	Large Supplier	None.
Bulb Energy	Large Supplier	The impact of Covid-19 on smart meter installations continues to evolve, so we feel the 6 month extension is pragmatic at this stage, but it is quite possible that further extensions may be required in the future.
EDF	Large Supplier	We fully support this proposal