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MP140 ‘CH Stock Transfer’ Conclusions Report – version 1.0

About this document

This document summarises the responses received to the Modification Report Consultation and the decision of the Change Board regarding approval or rejection of this modification.

Summary of conclusions

Change Board

The Change Board voted to approve MP140 under Self-Governance. It believed the modification did better facilitate SEC Objective (a)¹.

Modification Report Consultation

SECAS received five responses to the Modification Report Consultation. They all believed that the modification should be approved. They considered the modification better facilitated facilitate SEC Objective (a).

¹ Facilitate the efficient provision, installation, operation and interoperability of smart metering systems at energy consumers' premises within Great Britain.

Modification Report Consultation responses

Summary of responses

All five respondents (three Large Suppliers, one Small Supplier and one Network Party) believed the modification should be approved. Respondents noted that because of Covid-19, many Suppliers have installed fewer Smart meters than forecast over the past two years, resulting in excess Communications Hub stock levels. Conversely, other Suppliers are experiencing a shortage of Communications Hubs, due to global supply chain issues. They added the benefit of MP140 introducing a means of allowing SEC Parties to exchange Communications Hub units between themselves directly, which has the potential to introduce efficiencies and cost savings.

One respondent added the issue is one that needs addressing sooner rather than later. They recommended an interim manual solution between now and November 2022 if an earlier implementation date is not feasible, so that parties can benefit at the earliest opportunity.

Another respondent added that MP140 would increase their flexibility both in terms of under- and over-ordering Communications Hubs. They noted a previous trial of Communications Hub stock transferring in 2021 which they were able to take advantage of.

A respondent raised concern about the lack of a Communications Hub transfer disputes process being in place from the targeted implementation date. However, they recognised the desire to implement MP140 as soon as possible.

Change Board vote

Change Board vote

The Change Board voted to **approve** MP140 under Self-Governance.

The vote breakdown is summarised below:

Change Board vote				
Party Category	Approve	Reject	Abstain	Outcome
Large Suppliers	6	0	0	Approve
Small Suppliers	2	0	0	Approve
Network Parties	2	0	0	Approve
Other SEC Parties	1	0	0	Approve
Consumer Representative	0	0	0	-
Overall outcome:				APPROVE

The Consumer Representative was not present for the meeting.

Views against the General SEC Objectives

Objective (a)

The Change Board believed that MP140 will better facilitate SEC Objective (a) as it would provide a more efficient provision and installation of smart metering Devices. Also, it would give Supplier Parties a means of exchanging Communications Hubs between each other rather than returning them to the Data Communications company (DCC) and incurring refurbishment and returns costs. This would allow an alternate more efficient means for Supplier Parties who have built up an excess of Communications Hub stock to offload it to a willing recipient.

Change Board discussions

The Change Board had no further comments on the Modification Proposal.