Thursday 30 July GRCF Workshop

Morning session 10:30am-1:00pm AEST (8:30am-11:00am AWST)

Deadlines for the Q4 2021 bundle release and introduction.

Topic 1 - IN026/15 – (Add new Job Enquiry Codes (JEC). Proponent AGL

Topic 2 - IN010/20 (Service Order Request: Add new element - Reason Code). Proponent AGL

Afternoon session 3:00pm-5:00pm AEST (1:00pm-3:00pm AWST)

Deadlines for the Q4 2021 bundle release Topic 3 - IN002/15W (New Service Order Job Enquiry Code (JEC) for Disconnecting/ Reconnecting a Delivery Point (TCI and TCR)) Proponent ATCO. Topic 4 - IN009/19W (Meter Status in MIRN Discovery Response) Proponent AGL.

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Deadlines for the Q4 2021 bundle release:

- AEMO internal project deadline to finalise Gas Life Support (GLS) requirements and the "adds-on" discussed at the February bundled workshop is now overdue.
 - To mitigate any further slippages, AEMO has set a industry deadline for the "add-on". That deadline is the formal consultation (first stage PPC) <u>MUST</u> be published on AEMO website by <u>Monday 17 August 2020.</u>
 - To meet the above formal consultation, any pre consultation (GMI) feedback / decision <u>MUST</u> concluded on <u>Monday 10</u> <u>August 2020</u>.
 - Failure to meet these dates, will mean the "add-on" initiative will not form part of the Q4 2021 bundle release.
 - Noting the above the Q4 2021 bundled release currently comprises:
 - IN003/20 Add Gas Life Support transaction including schema uplift to r38, (east coast)
 - IN011/20 Modify CDN trans and add CDR trans (east coast)
 - IN003/20W Add trans CND and CDR including schema uplift to r38 (west coast)

Introduction:

- At June GRCF meeting AEMO tabled its findings on the pre-consultation feedback (GNMI) for IN026/15 (Add new Job Enquiry Codes (JEC)). AEMO recommendation was to withdraw this initiative largely based on,
 - insufficient support from Distributors and
 - insufficient benefits identified by participants that would provide confidence that the changes in the initiative to satisfy the National Gas Objective.
- The GRCF opposed this recommendation and supported this idea that workshop should be held to explore ways that new JECs could be developed as a means of addressing IN010/20 (Service Order Reason Code) changes.

<u>Why discuss IN026/15 – (Add new Job Enquiry Codes (JEC) before IN010/20</u> (Service Order Request: Add new element - Reason Code)?

- There is a possibility that the existing JEC format with the addition of some new JECs can resolve the issues raised in the GMI IN010/20 which proposed adding either a new gas reason code element or adopting the electricity reason codes (but with additions).
- Reminder about the JEC format
 - The field is only used in gas
 - It is 4 character field
 - Maximum value range (AAAA to ZZZZ). In other words over 300,000 combinations
 - It is aseXML enumerated table there will require a aseXML scehme version changes to release the updated table
 - Currently this table around 60 assigned values. For Victoria these are Participant Build Pack 1 (PBP1) – Table of Transactions¹
 - One of those uses all 4 characters (MFXA) which is the only 4 character value.
 - There is plenty of scope for a further 300,000 allowable values.

<u>Issue</u>: Service Order Request (SOR) lacks sufficient granularity. This lack of granularity has <u>three</u> implications.

- 1. The current data elements that make up a gas SOR² and the links to backoffice systems and processes are not intuitive when it comes to processing certain types of field work.
 - The current format lends itself to treating certain Job Enquiry Codes (JEC) like "AML" (Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Debt) in a uniform fashion and on a "first in, first serviced" basis because of the limited content within the core data elements with the transaction. Also the description in the technical protocol causing issue as the narrative only accommodates a single cause. Example: AML description just mentions "debt" yet unknown customer may be a cause to raise a "AML".
 - Its current format isn't user-friendly when comes to providing important additional information to the Distributor. At the moment this information is provided in the SORDSpecialComments/CommentLine as a free-format text field. The information often contains information about the driver behind the request which can have a big impact on how the request is managed

Issue: Service Order Request (SOR) lacks sufficient granularity . This lack of granularity has **three** implications. *(continued)*

- 2. Current data elements that make up gas SOR are no longer in-sync with regulatory reporting.
 - These regulatory reporting provisions are described in the reporting required by the AER and ESC.
 - This includes monthly reporting (which forms part of the regulators annual retail data gathering) and more recently de-energisation reporting as a result of the AER 'Statement of Expectations'.
 - The Regulators require Monthly and Quarterly Performance Reporting from Retailers on Disconnections and Disconnection Reasons.
 - With the impact of COVID and the release of the AER 'Statement of Expectations' weekly reporting is now required on Disconnections.

Other noteworthy issues included:

- The need to have more granularity in managing and requesting disconnections, for instance:
 - Regulated activities (e.g. non-payment etc) have specific rules around disconnection dates and processes and intense regulator oversight;
 - Non-regulated activities (e.g. move out) do not have the same issues around disconnections, although there is interest in reconnections

Issue: Service Order Request (SOR) lacks sufficient granularity . This lack of granularity has three implications. (*continued*)

- 3. Over utilisation of JECs "OTH" (Other)
 - JECs were first utilised in Gas and Fuel system dating back to the early 1980s. Presumably the JEC "OTH" was put into the allowable values as a way to record non-routine and highly specified technical field work (very infrequent request).
 - They were then adopted into the B2B transactions set when Full Retail Contestability (FRC) commenced in Victoria 2003 and has subsequently been pick up in other jurisdiction when they introduced FRC.
 - The existing set of JECs have remained largely unchanged yet some infrequent request are now more routinely requested via OTH.

There is also an issue with the brief description for some JECs as currently defined in the technical protocol. They are

- AML = Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for **Debt**
- DSD = Disconnect Service in Street for <u>Debt</u>

These JECs are used not only for "debt" but for raft of other uses including (but not limited too) Unauthorised Usage , Customer Requested, Move Out, Safety etc

- Workshop check point 1: Evaluate whether the GRCF has consensus that the Service Order Request transaction lacks granularity with respect to the following three items:
- 1. Lack of intuitiveness and over use of special comments field,
- 2. Out of sync with regulatory reporting requirement
- 3. Overuse of "OTH". (GRCF Agree, Disagree etc)

Benefits: Increasing granularity has the following benefits:

- Process management can be made more efficient with increased information
 - Example: Prioritisation of disconnect and reconnection can be enhanced by both participants by differentiating the reason the request is being made by specifying the disconnection reason and reconnection reason, either a retailer or a network has the ability to prioritise different service orders to meet limited resource availability without creating regulatory issues for both the network and retailer. For instance, a Debt disconnection can be prioritised ahead of a Move out disconnection
- Regulatory Process management can be enhanced with increased information; and
- Regulatory Reporting can be simplified with increased information
- A <u>1 minute</u> savings across 51,000 AMLs
 = 1.56 FTEs <u>per annum</u> across industry

Annual Service Orders		120,000		
With Special Instructions		Savings in min		Savings in FTE
	87%			
104,400			3	3.15
			1	1.05
With Special Instructions		Savings in min		Savings in FTE
	43%			
51,600			3	1.56
			1	0.52

• Workshop check point 2: - Evaluate the level of GRCF consensus on the benefits

<u>Materiality</u>: AGL case study: The following is a summary of the AGL data used to prepare this case study.

- Date range : 2019
- Sample size: The sample comprised a total of 19,000 AML SOR Requests from one Victorian DB and confirmed against 3 other DBs

	AML	DSD	MRM	
No Text	13%	31%	No Text	0%
Debt	22%	20%	Demolition	58%
Identification	14%	5%	Abolish	32%
Move Out	1%	0%	Renovation	0%
Unauthorised	32%	9%		
do not engage		14%		

AML = Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Debt, DSD = Disconnect Service in Street for Debt, MRM = Meter Remove, No Text = SSORDSpecialComments/CommentLine field not filled in

• 95% of Service Orders sent under 'Other" are for Regulator Changes

<u>Materiality</u>: AGL case study: The following is a summary of the AGL data used to prepare this case study *(continued).*

- The analysis undertaken of the use of AML and Other indicate that a large number of the requests have Special Instructions simply to differentiate the reason the SO is requested, eg:
 - Other has substantial usage of special instructions for regulator (52%) and investigate (9%)
 - AML has substantial usage of special instructions (87%) simply to differentiate the SO reason eg 'disconnect for debt', 'disconnect for unknown customer';
- The use of special instructions simply to differentiate the SO reason, incurs a productivity cost impact on both the network and retailer with no additional benefit provided (such as site information)
- Therefore clarifying the SO reason should remove the need to include this information as special instructions which would lead to an ongoing productivity improvement for both participants.
- 95% of Service Orders sent under 'Other" are for Regulator Changes

<u>Materiality</u>: AGL case study: The following is a summary of the AGL data used to prepare this case study *(continued).*

- A high level analysis shows that there are in the order of 120 000 AML JECs being raised annually
- Of these 87% have additional text, generally to confirm that the AML is for debt or for another reason
- The pie chart provides some indication of the usage



Materiality: Regulatory Report. Labour intensive.

- Screenshots are used provide evidence when responding to a regulator request of SOR raised to affect a de-energisation of a customer's premises.
 - Unless a retailer is actioning the de-energisation for non-payment (debt) the reason cited deenergisation gas service order does not correspond for any other type of de-energisation raised. For example, AGL has had to produce screenshots to a regulator where it had raised a de-energisation for non-identification, however, the details of the service order indicated that the reason was "for debt".
 - This may create an additional layer of confusion or back and forth with a regulator where we have to explain the circumstances and reasons to staff of the Regulator or the Commission;
 - It is not factually accurate.
- Unlike with electricity service orders, there are additional challenges involved in getting the accurate layer of granularity and insight for the reasons why a gas de-energisation service order has been raised.

<u>Materiality</u>: Regulatory Report. Labour intensive (continued).

 As part of performance indicator reporting, energy retailers are required to report the number of customers de-energised for non-payment, and accordingly, retailers are unable to rely on gas service orders raised to substantiate or verify this number. While there are internal ways to overcome this, the process would be substantially simpler and more easily verifiable if the service order categories were expanded similar to match those used in electricity.

Workshop check point 3: - Is AGL's measure of materiality the same for other retailers?

Workshop check point 4: - What are the material issues (if any) impacting distributors in light of the issues raise by AGL?

Proposed Way forward

1. Involves a better utilisation of the existing JEC field rather introducing a new field in the SOR.

- Additional JECs is to use the existing 3 letter JEC as the base (parent), and then add a 4th letter (child) at the end to identify the reason.
 - AML example:

These are mentioned in the NRR

E	ENQUIRY CODE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
F	AML	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Debt
F	AMLN	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Non-Payment
	AMLU	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Unknown Customer
A	AMLC	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Breach of Contract
A	AMLI	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Illegal Usage
A	AMLC	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Customer Request
A	AMLM	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Move Out
A	AMLS	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Safety
A	AMLW	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Site Works
A	AMLO	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Other

COLOR CODE LEGEND

= An existing parent JEC. This parent JEC is already in the aseXML JEC enumeration table and already defined as an allowable value in the technical protocol document.

= Proposed new child JEC to be added to the aseXML JEC enumeration table and defined as a allowable value in the technical protocol document and it has an existing parent JEC.

Proposed Way forward (continued)

1. Involves a better utilisation of the existing JEC field rather introducing a new field in the SOR *(continued)*.

• Participants back office systems could use the brief description in any drop down menu list



• In addition to AML, similar use of the 4th letter would also apply to the following

/		BRIEF DESCRIPTION
/	DSD	Disconnect Service in Street for Debt
	MRF	Meter Refix
	MRM	Meter Remove
Ν		Remove Locks/Plugs to Meter for Debt

Proposed way forward (continued)

2. Add new JEC to remove the over use of "OTH".

- New JEC are
- ENQUIRY
CODEBRIEF DESCRIPTIONDMSDowngrade Meter SizePRUPressure UpgradeRCHRegulator Change

3. Keep some "spares" to avoid the need for a schema release to add JECs

ENQUIRY CODE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
www	This is reserved for future use without the need for a schema release for it to be implemented.
WWWA	This is reserved for future use without the need for a schema release for it to be implemented.
WWWB	This is reserved for future use without the need for a schema release for it to be implemented.
ZZZ	This is reserved for future use without the need for a schema release for it to be implemented.
ZZZA	This is reserved for future use without the need for a schema release for it to be implemented.
ZZZB	This is reserved for future use without the need for a schema release for it to be implemented.

4. Adding new JECs to the aseXML enumeration will mean participants need to adopt an aseXML schema version greater than r38.

Proposed Way forward (continued)

Next steps

- If there is overwhelming majority support that additional JECs will resolve the issues and this proposal will result in a net benefit to industry as a whole[#], then
 - Finalise the list of additional JECs (RBS and DBs) no later than Friday 7th Aug
 - Raise ASWG change request to add the new JEC to the enumeration table (AEMO).
 - Commence consulting on technical changes and those changes be implemented with IN003/20 (GLS) and IN011/20 (CDN/CDR) (AEMO). No later than the 17th Aug.
 - Recommend that AGL withdraw the IN010/20 (Service Order Request: Add new element - Reason Code)

Workshop check point 5: - General discussion about the proposal.

Workshop check point 6: - Gauge support and net benefit thoughts to determine if the proposal move to the formal consultation stage.

Topic 2 - IN010/20 (Service Order Request: Add new element - Reason Code).

• Can this initiative be withdrawn?

Workshop check point 7: - Question for AGL. Can IN010/20 initiative be withdrawn.

Time for Break

Afternoon session 3:00pm-5:00pm AEST (1:00pm-3:00pm AWST) Deadlines for the Q4 2021 bundle release Topic 3 - IN002/15W (New Service Order Job Enquiry Code (JEC) for Disconnecting / Reconnecting a Delivery Point (TCI and TCR)) Proponent ATCO. Topic 4 - IN009/19W (Meter Status in MIRN Discovery Response) Proponent AGL.

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Topic 3 – IIN002/15W (New JEC for Disconnecting / Reconnecting a Delivery Point (TCI and TCR)) Proponent ATCO.

• ATCO Gas has proposed the addition of the following two Job Enquiry Codes (JECs):

•	Work Type	Description	Used in the following jurisdictions	Proposed JEC
	Trailing Air Coupling Installation	New Disconnection Method - Trailing Air Coupling	WA only	TCI
	Trailing Air Coupling Removal	New Reconnection Method	WA only	TCR

 This will necessitate a move to an aseXML schema version beyond r38—i.e. the new job enquiry codes are not part of r38, so industry would have to move to a further schema with them included (IN003/20W, which is currently under consultation, only requires moving to r38)

Topic 3 - IIN002/15W (New JEC for Disconnecting / Reconnecting a Delivery Point (TCI and TCR)) Proponent ATCO.

- All feedback to the GMI was supportive of the overall technical design
- AGL, Alinta Energy, and Simply Energy expressed that the benefits would exceed the costs. Origin Energy expressed that the costs would exceed the benefits.
- Workshop check point 7: Do WA participants believe there is sufficient consensus on costs and benefits to proceed with a formal consultation on this initiative, given that a WA schema uplift is likely as part of IN003/20W?

Topic 3 – IIN002/15W (New JEC for Disconnecting / Reconnecting a Delivery Point (TCI and TCR)) Proponent ATCO.

• AGL proposed for WA to adopt that the TCI / TCR job codes have the same extended enumerations as the proposed east coast changes, e.g. TMIN (TMI for non-payment), TMIU (TMI for unknown customer), and so on (see table below for reference to the relevant east coast codes)

ENQUIRY CODE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
AML	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Debt
AMLN	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Non-Payment
AMLU	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Unknown Customer
AMLC	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Breach of Contract
AMLI	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Illegal Usage
AMLC	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Customer Request
AMLM	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Move Out
AMLS	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Safety
AMLW	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Site Works
AMLO	Attach Locks/Plugs to Meter for Other

Topic 3 - IIN002/15W (New JEC for Disconnecting / Reconnecting a Delivery Point (TCI and TCR)) Proponent ATCO.

 Workshop check point 8: - Do WA participants want to adopt the sub-enumerations, as in the proposed east coast changes, to allow for additional granularity to be conveyed in the transaction?

Introduction:

The proponent AGL initially submitted a GMI to include the Meter Status field in MIRN Discovery Response and also introduce new values for Meter Status.

AGL subsequently submitted another GMI to include the Meter Status field only and proposed adding new Meter Status values separately.

AEMO analysed the GMI's provided by AGL and presented its outcome at the GRCF June 2020 meeting.

Following discussion on AEMO's analysis, AGL was requested to prepare a paper outlining scenarios for various Meter Statuses for disconnection and reconnection.

Following slides present scenarios prepared by AGL.

2. Click here to view the SA/WA FRC B2B System Interface. Page 103 to 114 contains details about the current format of the MIRN DiscoveryResponse transaction

Process Diagram showing how Meter Status assists the Retailer



passed to the retailer

• Workshop check point 9: - Evaluate the level of GRCF consensus on the present scenario.

<u>Issue:</u>

WA MIRN Discovery provides various pieces of information including MIRN Status. When the MIRN Status is De-Commissioned it indicates that the Meter has been disconnected in some fashion.

When Meter Status is provided, the combination of MIRN Status and Meter Status can indicate the method used to disconnect a site (noting the inconsistency in MRM).

By including Meter Status an incoming Retailer can determine the method used to disconnect a site, and therefore the cost of the job to reconnect the site.



Impact:

The inclusion of Meter Status allows the retailer to ensure that the customer is prepared to pay the reconnection costs without a manual communication cycle with ATCO to determine the disconnection method.

This issue impacts a portion of the customer transfers and causes cancellations and delays in customer transfers until the matter is resolved with the incoming customer.

Workshop check point 10: - Is AGL's summary of the issue and impact the same for other retailers?

Proposed Way forward

Inclusion of Meter Status in MIRN Discovery

- Meter Status field exists within the current schema format (r13) adopted by WA. The field format comprised the following enumeration values
 - Turned on
 - Turned off
 - Plugged
 - No meter
- Add existing field 'Meter Status' in MIRN Discovery Transaction (Note this field exists within the SA Market)
- Consultation required
- Changes required:
 - AEMO: Procedure Change, Modify the pre-production/certification environment responders to support updated format of the MIRN Discovery Response transactions
 - ATCO:
- Include Meter Status field in MIRN Discovery Transaction sent
- Participants: Receive Meter Status field in MIRN Discovery Transaction received

Benefits:

Clarity of information in MIRN discovery which removes the need for manual intervention when sites are disconnected which reduce gives

- Improved customer experience (quick/accurate information)
- Reduced number of transfer cancellations (re-en method / cost known)

Workshop check point 11: - Is AGL's benefits the same for other retailers?

Workshop check point 12: - General discussion about the proposal

Workshop check point 13: - Gauge support and net benefit thoughts to determine if the proposal move to the formal consultation stage.

Secondary Issue

- Meter Status enumeration used following Meter Removal service order
- WA currently Uses 'Turned Off' following a Meter Removal
- Build Pack 1 (eastern markets) specifies 'No Meter'
- AGL also proposes that the Meter Status following MRM (Meter Remove) JEC be changed to 'No Meter' to ensure unique combinations are used in the WA Market



Introduction

This document is an explanatory note to help understand the relationship between various $M\!RN$ and Meter statuses.

Relationship between the MIRN and Meter states

The following diagram illustrates the relationship between the ${\rm MRN}$ and the Meter statuses and their valid combinations.



Current WA Relationship between JEC, Meter Status and MIRN Status



Click here to view B2B Service Order Specifications Part 1.

Click here to view the Victorian Participant Build Pack 1 (PBP1) – Table of Transactions. JEC tab. In WA this is know as B2B Service Order Specification Part 2

Topic 4 - IN009/19W (Meter Status in MIRN Discovery Response) Current WA Relationship between JEC, Meter Status and MIRN Status



Change Meter Status resulting from MRM



<u>AGL proposes New Meter Status – 'Trailer air coupling isolation device'</u>

- To support unique combinations AGL proposes that a new enumeration be added to Meter Status – 'Trailer air coupling isolation device'
- This will necessitate a move to an aseXML schema version beyond r38—i.e. the new Meter Status is not part of r38, so industry would have to move to a further schema with them included

Topic 4-IN009/19W (Meter Status in MIRN Discovery Response) Impact of TAC

- TAC is a new disconnection method
- It will have separate Job Codes
 - to request a TAC disconnection (TCI)
 - To request customer reconnection (TCR)
- It is undertaken by a different field crew
- It has a separate charge for installing and removing from other disconnection methods (eg plugging or meter removal)

NEW JEC's being introduced in WA for TAC disconnection and reconnection



Workshop check point 14: - General discussion about the secondary points (MRM - Meter Remove changed to 'No Meter' Mater Status) (Add new Meter Status 'Trailer air coupling isolation device')raised .

Workshop check point 15: - Gauge support and net benefit thoughts on both points to determine if the proposal move to the formal consultation stage.

Proposed Timelines for WA

- IN003/20W IIR to be issued on Thursday 13 August 2020
- Assuming that the GRCF is supportive of the initiatives, AEMO proposes jointly issuing PPCs for IN002/15W and IN009/19W and a joint set of track-changes technical protocols on Monday 17 August 2020, with feedback due 31 August.
 - This will ensure that AEMO can meet the required deadlines to confirm schema change requirements with sufficient time for participants to perform all required builds and testing
- Workshop check point 16: Any questions?