

BEAMA Submission to SG1 regarding Services Requirements  
21 September 2010

ID	Service	Change category	Suggested change wording	Justification (short description)	BEAMA Members Comments
1.53	Registration of Smart Meter	substantive	Registration ack for each device within 15 mins and within 5 minutes for 90% of sites assuming WAN service has already been connected.	Installation time too long - registration must take place whilst workforce are on site and they cannot wait for 2 hours	BEAMA are concerned that a service level of within 2 hours for acknowledgement from the DCC for 90% of installations would cause a great delay in the roll-out of smart meters. If the majority took 1 hour to acknowledge this would seriously reduce the number of meters installed per day or conversely would increase the workforce engaged in installation. Also the potential security implications on the installation of the HAN it would be expected that the WAN connection needs to be established before the installer leaves site therefore a much short response time would be expected.
1.54	Check Accuracy of Master Clock Data	substantive			In normal operation the clock synchronisation should occur on any normal communications session therefore it should not be necessary to synch all clocks within 2hrs (this would feel a very ambitious target as each meter would need to respond individually). The time/date of SM system clock should normally be checked during scheduled real-time data retrieval sessions.
1.55	Tamper Alarm Triggered	non-substantive			BEAMA believes that convictions for illegal extraction of energy can only be made if the person can be caught in the act. It is therefore concerned that an alarm within 60 minutes and the time taken to mobilise staff and police to apprehend a suspect will make the ability to detect fraud almost useless, although it does recognise this situation is much improved from existing provision of information. Also, unwanted reverse-running alarms from electricity meters may arise where microgeneration has been connected. An alternative tamper alarm method is then needed.
1.56	Meter Fault Alarm Triggered	non-substantive	Upgrade of any or all of the system devices at one SM site shall be completed within 60 minutes?	The overall process is technology dependent but the requirement should be for each meter to be 'out of action' for a maximum period	BEAMA has no comment
1.57	Firmware/Software Upgrade				
1.58	Diagnostics				BEAMA has no comment
1.59	Test Meter Communication Line				BEAMA has no comment

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	1.6 Service Life Notification	substantive			Not clear – MID meters would stay out until in-service sample testing indicated otherwise. But other functions or devices may have service limits – e.g. from battery life/condition – is this the intention here?
	1.61 Message to Consumers to the IHD				BEAMA has no comment
	1.62 Download/Clear all Existing Data from Meter	substantive			Separate purge commands are then needed for Elec, Gas, Utility IHD, and any Microgeneration and Water data – see also DS.6 and HA.17. [how long after the CoS process until the delete command is actioned?].
	1.63 Remote Configuration of Settings	non-substantive			not clear – this seems to relate to customer-specific settings and reconfigurations – but bulk tariff changes (including prices) would be under 1.72. See also PC.8.
	1.65 Meter Read (import & export)	non-substantive	Should there be a specific requirement for meter read success rates?		Clarify with reference to DS.2: i.e. 12 months of HH data for import and also export (only when present?).
	1.66 Energisation Status	non-substantive			Does “energisation status” need to be differentiated from “supply fault/outage” for smart metering sites?
	1.67 Remote Enablement/Disablement of Supply	non-substantive			Customer-specific for debt management. May require broadcast groups for smart grids or emergencies.
	1.68 Consumer Meter Interaction	non-substantive			BEAMA has no comment
	1.69 Switch Between Credit and Prepayment	non-substantive			Detailed requirement is dependent upon method of debt recovery employed, see PC.4 and PC.6.
	1.7 Prepayment	non-substantive			It appears from the service description that the credit balance would be calculated centrally (by the supplier?) and then sent to the meter, but the requirement for a local interface for emergency top-ups means that the balance must be calculated in the meter. Only the payment value is communicated to the meter. After the meter calculates and displays the new credit balance the result may also be used to update the IHD – see 1.71.

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1.71	Credit Balance Update	substantive	Continuous display?		There should be a clear requirement to display the credit balance on the electricity or gas meter too. See also IH.2 and DS.4 and 1.70. [Who initiates the request?].
1.72	Tariff Update	non-substantive			Clarify that tariff structures including charge calculation methods are required for prepayment metering, as implied by PC.8.
1.73	Supply Fault Alarm Triggered	substantive			This service depend upon the outcome of the need for the requirement. ENA discussion expected 22/23 September We suggest that experience from advanced metering in similar electricity distribution networks should also be taken into consideration – e.g. Victoria, Australia.  See also 1.66 above, and OP.3.
1.74	Maximum Demand Read	non-substantive			This does not appear to be related to a functional requirement or an application (unless to GS.9 or DI.1 – exceeding extreme levels). The period for maximum demand assessment needs to be defined - is it the billing period, or a calendar month; what happens on change of customer or change of supplier; is storage of and remote access to previous max demands also needed? Are MDs also needed on export and gross generation? [Note that MDs are not currently used for billing with profile classes 1 to 4].
1.75	Notification of Failure to Obtain Reading	substantive	what reading? Does this mean data collection?		The requirement appears to be based on a specific design approach. E.g. a gas meter might send a failure notification to the DCC, but may not be able to receive an acknowledgement for more than 10 minutes (if its HAN only wakes up every 15 minutes).
1.77	Gas Calorific Update	non-substantive			Requirement for monthly CV update needs co-ordination with domestic gas billing calculations.

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1.79	Read Distributed Generation Data	non-substantive			See also HA.17 – must any microgeneration (and/or water) data be stored in the SM system, or just transported through to the DCC? [Noted that there is no other reference to water data or diagnostics in the Functional Requirements tables nor in the services – should there be?].
1.8	Feed in Tariff Update	non-substantive			Clarify whether allowance is needed if Feed-in Tariff Updates will only be required where the consumer is actually claiming the FIT payments – i.e not in cases where the landlord or another organisation is claiming the microgeneration FITs?
1.83	Electricity Quality Read	substantive	needs to be more prescriptive. What "Quality" reads. What does etc. cover?		Can we be clear on what we understand and are able to provide with regard to "Quality Reads"? I am a little concerned re the "etc." which is not specific enough. Remember we are to provide a meter at £43 to match the DECC Impact Assessment. The performance level on this is much higher than any other, it should be reduce to say 90% in 1hr.
1.89	Load Management	non-substantive			This has significant security implications for the WAN and HAN that will affect design options and implementation. See ES.13 also.