

*Gas Network Innovation Competition Full Submission*  
**Supplementary Answer Form**

## Project: Real-Time Networks

Tick if this answer has been provided verbally: ☐

Project code	SGN_GN_03	Question Number	17
Question date	10 Sep 2015	Answer date	14 Sep 2015
Submission section question relates to	Section 5.1 (page 27)		
Topic	Smart meters		
Question	Do you have any view on the materiality of the smart meter benefits that may be forgone if SM data is not available?		
Notes on question	NIC criterion a) Environmental and consumer benefits		
Answer	<p>The issues surrounding smart meter data were identified early on during the development of the real-time networks proposal so the absence of smart meter data does not have a material impact on the project or the benefits as submitted. If smart meter data could be made available, it would have a positive impact on the project as the need to install data loggers would be reduced (provided the data granularity were available at 6 minute intervals and the sample of consumers were representative of Medway and GB). Installation of these data loggers will cost in the region of ██████.</p> <p>A further blocker to the use of smart meter data concerns a communication issue between the meters and the data centre that currently exists. This would prevent the project from using smart meter data unless a lot of (very expensive) work was done to enable the secure flow of data. The cost of setting up a link to the secure system is estimated to be ██████, a figure identified by DNV-GL and based on the purchase of the proprietary software required to link with DCC data. Even then with the current levels of SM implementation, a very limited number of meters would be compatible and the link may not yield the representative sample needed for model development.</p> <p>Only if significant uptake of downstream renewables that had integrated metering and potentially controls would the absence of smart metering data be relevant.</p>		

Attachments	
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